

**From:** [Case, Carey -FS](#)  
**To:** [Whitacre, Marina K -FS](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Central Tongass Project  
**Date:** Monday, September 16, 2019 9:17:11 AM  
**Attachments:** [Screen Shot 2019-09-16 at 1.35.13 AM.png](#)

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**From:** Karla Hart [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 16, 2019 1:59 AM  
**To:** Case, Carey -FS <carey.case@usda.gov>  
**Subject:** Central Tongass Project

Note, I attempted to use the linked form and got an error message (screen shot attached). I encourage extension of the comment deadline.

I missed that this project was open for review and have not had a time to carefully review the EIS. I have rowed and camped much of the shorelines of Kupreanof Island, Kuiu Island, east Wrangell Island, and Bradfield Canal, and spent time on Mitkof Island, including hiking in old clearcuts.

I strongly object to any additional targeting of old-growth. The ecological values of old-growth are not fully known. We should be protecting and defending all last remnants.

I strongly object to building any new logging roads into areas designated as roadless as of 1/1/2018.

I have volunteered on invasive weed pulls with the USFS/SEACC partnerships at Whitewater Bay and Gambier Bay on Admiralty Island. Those experiences lead me to be hyper aware of invasive plants and their spreading and impacts. On Chichagof Island in July I observed that reed canary grass had spread from the logging road hundreds of yards downslope through old clear cuts well out into a large muskeg meadow. Roads and trails are vectors for invasives. Vehicles, people, and wildlife spread them further. Areas where bears have tilled the beach fringe create disturbances that gives invasive species an extra foothold over beach rye and other native plants. About five miles from our project site I was hiking when we were waiting for weather and was inspired to look for our target invasive where a bear trail passed through the beach fringe. Invasive present. Just a couple of plants, that year. Almost impossible to see how it can be controlled once underway.

That said, I have serious concerns about the use of toxic herbicides to address invasive species. Hand pulling and tarping is intensive and difficult, which is why prevention is so critical. Until we have the resources to fix what has already been broken, do not break anymore. Keep roadless areas roadless and be cautious about building any new trails into wild areas as well.

Regards,

Karla Hart



## Central Tongass Project #53098

### Commenting on This Project

Comments, including anonymous comments, will be accepted at any time. However, comments posted during a designated comment period may not be able to be given full consideration. Anonymous comments and comments posted after the close of the final designated comment period will not provide the commenter standing for administrative review.

The Forest Service values public participation. Communications from the public regarding this project, including names and contact information, will become part of the public record.

Comments, or in some cases other expressions of interest, along with respondent's contact information during a designated comment period may be necessary to establish a respondent's eligibility to participate in an administrative review process and the eligibility requirements for that process. The date of the legal notice for public comment on this proposed action is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period. For projects with an Environmental Assessment, the legal notice announcing the comment period appears in the National Environmental Policy Act Register. For Draft Environmental Impact Statements, the Notice of Availability announcing the comment period appears in the National Environmental Policy Act Register.

Your comments are requested by 9/16/2019.



**Ecosystem Management Coordination**  
**CARA** | Comment Analysis and Response Application

### Application Error

An error occurred while processing your request - Error executing child request for handler '[System.Web.Mvc.HttpHandlerUtil+ServerExecuteHttpHandlerWrapper](#)'.

For more information about CARA, please visit the [support page](#).

You may also report this error to the CARA Admin at the following page:  
[eMNEPA Support](#)

Please include a brief description of repeatable actions which have generated this error.

Thank you,  
CARA Support team

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