

Michael Stainbrook
Previous Scoping Comments

September 24, 2018

Central Tongass Project

Comments from Mike Stainbrook

Thank you for taking my comments on the Central Tongass Project (CTP). I submit these comments earnestly and appreciate your diligence in regarding them for the CTP. Please include the entire letter and the attachments as comments for this process. There are three components in my letter.

Component #1: Multiple points that need to be presented or deleted in any proposed action or alternative action other than a no action alternative in the CTP:

- No commercial Old Growth logging in the CTP (Activity 06)
- No commercial young growth logging in any present (9.24.18) Roadless area within the CTP (activity 07)
- No new road construction, or road reconstruction, or temporary road construction in any of the present (9.24.18) Roadless Areas within the CTP (activity 09, 010)
- No Scenic Integrity Objectives (SIOs) amendments to be included or considered in this process. There should be no weakening of the SIOs. Please refer to the SE Conference document – Southeast Alaska by the Numbers 2016. See page 4. See chart 2015, SE Employment Related Earnings. The Visitor Industry is ranked 3rd and logging 13th. Clearly to lessen the SIOs would lessen the tourism potential i.e. more potential for harm than benefit to the “local economy”. Even if the visual impact is not seen by roadway or waterway it would be visible to flight seers. Hence the need to “do no harm” is a must for SIOs.
- All Red Pipes within the CTP should be repaired.
- The need for each proposed activity to be assessed with regards to the “best science” especially regarding climate science.

Component #2

- A copy of the letter submitted to Members of Congress (US State Senate and House of Representatives) dated January 26, 2018 and signed by a group of 220 Natural Resource Scientists. They state the need to retain the “Roadless Rule” on the Tongass, the importance of Old Growth, and the need to recognize the National significance of the Tongass as being “vital to containing climate change”. Please keep in mind Central Tongass Scoping Report August 2018, p. 4, stating that the Forest Service will consider the best available science and public input. This letter is both.

Component #3

- Two newspaper pieces regarding the letter that was sent to Congress by the 220 scientists
 - The opinion section of the Seattle Times dated 3.15.2018 written by two scientists
 - An article published in the Juneau Empire dated 1.26.2018

RECEIVED
SEP 16 2019

BY: JWA 4:25 PM

- Both of these pieces stress the scientific concern over the possible loss of protection that will threaten salmon runs and the need to retain the Tongass's capability to store carbon and mitigate climate change.

Thank you for taking my comments. Thank you for loving the Tongass. May the fish be with you.

Sincerely,

Michael N Stainbrook

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Michael N Stainbrook.