

PUBLIC TESTIMONY BY DAVID LENDRUM
PRESENTED AT THE
JUNEAU COMMUNITY ROADLESS RULE PUBLIC MEETING
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DAVID LENDRUM: Good evening. My name is David Lendrum. I live in Juneau. L-E-N-D-R-U-M. I get my mail at 99803.

My worry about roads in the Tongass is that when you cut the trees down and you expose the ground, no matter what you might think that's going to grow back, the richness and diversity will never return. When they logged in the Adirondacks two centuries ago, there are plots laying next to each other, one of which was never logged, one of which was logged 200 years ago. The species diversity is incomparable between the two sites. Things that vanish will never be seen again. Things that are only allowed, only endemic to a particular area and the rules that determine how things adapt to their areas mean that the specific zone that something lives in and grows up in and is adapted to and evolves to fill, that may never be seen again. If these roads penetrate the forest, penetrate the forest fabric, and as a consequence areas become logged, that's what we're looking at. We are looking at a tremendous loss in species diversity.

I was the Southeast representative on the Invasive Species Council for several years, and part of my work there involved looking at the DOT network. And it's very, very clear that invasive species spread by road maintenance activities. If you look at the map showing an overhead view of where we have located invasive species concentrations, they're the nexus of roadwork operations. They can't get there without a road. That's something to always watch out for. The road doesn't just take us; other things go on it too. So I support Alternative 1.

Thank you very much.

Public Testimony recorded and transcribed by Glacier Stenographic Reporters, Inc.