

PUBLIC TESTIMONY BY LISA GREENOUGH
PRESENTED AT THE
JUNEAU COMMUNITY ROADLESS RULE PUBLIC MEETING
HELD: DECEMBER 16, 2019, JUNEAU, ALASKA

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LISA GREENOUGH: My name is Lisa Greenough, L-I-S-A G-R-E-E-N-O-U-G-H. And my zip code is 99821.

I'm here tonight to share with the Forest Service my views of the roadless rule, and I support Alternative 1 of keeping the Tongass free of roads that are not needed.

I am a lifelong Alaskan. My family moved here in 1963. And I have a young son who is 23, who has grown up here in Juneau, and has had the benefit of living his formative years in a beautiful national forest, which is truly a national treasure. And we should take care of it as such.

Last year, last summer in Southeast, we experienced a drought. NOAA did determine that the entire region was in a drought, and it's been in a drought for about the last four years. For those of us who live here we've seen the needles dropping from the trees. The carbon sequestration in the Tongass is critical. It may be the balance that is needed to be preserved so that we don't tip over into another horrible global, you know, warming. We already are experiencing climate change, but by preserving and protecting the Tongass by not having roads can prevent us from experiencing increased climate change. We need to really protect it for that reason.

Our family enjoys fishing and hunting for deer. All of my family members love to hike, so the recreation potential for the Tongass is really important for the residents of Southeast Alaska, but now we're discovering that it's desirable for just about everybody else in the world. We have visitors coming from all over the U.S., particularly the southern U.S., and they're coming here in the summers for some reasons to escape the heat in the Lower 48. So we need to think about the Tongass as our refrigerator that's helping to keep the rest of the northwest cool and keeping the quality of life that we have in Southeast preserved, especially for future generations.

And I don't have grandchildren yet, but I hope to someday have grandchildren, and I want them to be able to have the experiences that I enjoyed as a child. And I want your grandchildren to have those experiences as well.

So I support Alternative 1, no roads in the Tongass. We don't need them, and the people in the country don't want roads in Alaska. It's not just people here in Juneau or in other Southeast communities; the people in this country do not want roads in Southeast Alaska. Thank you.