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First name: Jayden

Last name: Sinju

Organization: Northeast Community College

Title:

Comments: See attached file(s)

The following text was copy/pasted from an attached letter. The system cannot display the formatting, graphics, or tables from the attached original.

Jayden Sinju

Dear USDA Forest Service,

With the new proposition from the trump administration, the Tongass National Forest is susceptible to losing its federal protections, allowing possible timber harvests and road construction in the largest national forest in the U.S. As usual of our government, economical gain is first and foremost, regardless of the consequences. While doing this allows us to gain in the now, what are we losing in the long-term? What is the younger generation going to do when the resources run dry? The Tongass area has 9.2 million acres of untouched roadless forest, opening this area for production materials could end improving Alaska's economy and could provide new development for communities. While this is a positive of opening the land, the negatives seem to outweigh the reasons for opening up the area. 9.2 million acres means tons of biodiversity (something our world is starting to lack) in this area. Animals, plants, and a diverse ecosystem will all slowly crumble if this area is opened up as human development is parasitic for untouched environments. We have very minimal areas that are untouched by humans, meaning we have to protect the very little amount we have. If we do not protect these almost extinct areas, our earth will proceed faster to its demise. This dilemma is like walking a thin line as timber is obviously needed in many forms of production, the area is also primed for energy production. What are we going to do though when we run this area dry as well? I think it is time to start thinking of an alternative, and preserve as much of the land as possible. As President Theodore Roosevelt once said, "To exist as a Nation, to prosper as a State and to live as a people, we must have trees."

Sincerely,

Jayden Sinju

[Position]

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