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First name: NFN

Last name: RENI

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Breathe Deep for the Tongass Temperate Rainforest

??Breathe Deep??, I say "NO ACTION on the USDA ALASKA ROADLESS RULE."

U.S. Forest Service "crown jewel" the Tongass is in the top Ten Largest rainforests on Earth. Tongass is Alaska's largest National Forest spanning 17 million acres of land. Tongass is one of the last remaining intact temperate rainforests on Earth. Tongass is one of the last remaining intact temperate rainforests on Earth. In more than a decade deforestation of the Amazon has reached its highest surge and could easily reach the tipping point of no return -- a Dieback. It could return as a savanna, but not a tropical rainforest as we know it today. We do not want that to happen to the Tongass.

Carbon Dioxide is at Earth's atmosphere record high and without these trees and plants making oxygen, there will not be a healthy environment on Earth. Compounds derived from tropical rainforest trees and plants for numerous medicines to treat various ailments including cancer supply a majority of people around the world. It's not just about preserving clean air, it's about preserving what we have in the United States for everyone's benefit. To me the Tongass is an invaluable sanctuary. Not only does the Tongass provide oxygen for all of us on Earth to breathe, the Tongass belongs to the trees, plants, animals, fish, the Indigenous / Native American / Alaska Tribes: Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian people, and everyone & everything who calls it home, and those who visit, and the United States. Protect your health by conserving our forest environment so potential pandemics from unknown deadly diseases transported by virus carrying rodents and other means cannot emerge from deforestation.

Hang in there if you're looking for life beyond Earth or hoping to live on Mars. Breathe deep -- you can't hold your breath forever. If you value life on Earth, and those who want to breathe clean air, you'll value the future of the Tongass.

[See attachment containing a picture of a woman standing in front of mountains and glaciers with the caption "NO ACTION on the USDA Roadless Rule"]

[Position]

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[Position]