Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/4/2019 9:00:00 AM
First name: Bonnie
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Roadless Rule comments from Wrangell

Please consider our comments as you decide on the fate of the Tongass National Forest.

Bonnie and Haig Demerjian

Wrangell, AK 99929

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

As residents of Wrangell in Southeast Alaska who live in close proximity to the Tongass National Forest we are writing to express our opposition to any changes in the Roadless Rule. As you are well aware, two-thirds of voters in this area oppose logging in the forest or allowing it only in previously roaded areas. Protecting the Tongass is essential to preserving our salmon as well as storing carbon.

The American taxpayers have born the costs of clearcut logging for decades while timber sales themselves have resulted in losses to the taxpayers of nearly $600,000 in just the past twenty years. How can you justify still further losses to build and maintain roads on yet more acreage? And the number of jobs created by such logging is miniscule compared with those in today's economy in tourism and fishing.

By abandoning the Roadless Rule you are willfully discarding the opinions of Indigenous communities, commercial fishermen, those who rely on the resources of the forest for subsistence and the majority of voters in Southeast Alaska as well as those who care across the nation. Show that you are listening to the deeply-held views of all of these groups by keeping the Roadless Rule in place for today and generations to follow.

Bonnie and Haig Demerjian

Wrangell, AK 99929

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