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First name: Daniel

Last name: Brindis

Organization: Greenpeace USA

Title: Forests Campaign Director

Comments: Dear United States Secretary of Agriculture George Ervin "Sonny" Perdue III,

On behalf of Greenpeace USA and millions of our members we strongly oppose the proposed exemption to the Roadless Rule in the Tongass as presented in Rulemaking #54511.

Almost 100,000 Greenpeace supporters have taken action in opposition to Rulemaking #54511 (84 FR 55522): 96, 247 individuals have signed a general petition and over 9,146 have submitted personalized comments.

The Tongass National Forest is of global importance, and opening it to logging or mining has permanent, detrimental consequences. This latest attack on wildlife and forests has been made under the guise that this will boost Alaska's economy, when only 1% comes from the logging industry, and isn't worth the permanent consequences.

The loss of old-growth forest will intensify the effects of climate change.

Attached are two files; a copy of the signatures and a separate compilation of individual comments.

Sincerely,

Daniel Brindis

Forests Campaign Director

Greenpeace USA

9,146 of the attached submissions included Form Plus letters. Unique substantive formal comment (beyond that submitted in the master form (above) is below. Substantive formal comment is defined as "within the scope of the proposal, have a direct relationship to the proposal, and include supporting reasons for the responsible official to consider" (36 CFR 219.62).

This forest has a much more and longer lasting value as a tourist attraction than an oil field.

This action indicates a profound lack of knowledge about old growth forests and forests in general. The trees one sees when looking at a forest is a mere 5% of what is actually there. There are hundreds, even thousands, of

animals and complementary plants dependent on an intact forest. Replanting clearcut forest is a start, but it won't replace a five hundred-year-old forest for, by definition, five hundred years. T

There will be a short-term net economic boost but unless investments are made to correct the damage and provide a long term sustainable economy, then this step will benefit a few but hurt a much larger number. Decisions should be made for the good of the majority and not for the benefit of a minority.

" Logging and road building will also have a huge negative impact on the salmon streams and fish runs that are counted on by indigenous people's who have counted on these resources for their existence."

Make money off the Tongass with guided Eco-Tourism, not destruction!

"The loss of old-growth forest will intensify the effects of climate change. Don't be the one that begins the end of the world by increasing Co2 in the world. That's all this will do. Co2 poisons the body which means your poisoning the people you care about. Co2 heats up the world and melts the ice caps, are you really willing to watch your loved ones drown in a ocean you helped increase?

There's only so many forests in our country and we're losing many in the world to fire, logging and mining. The wildlife in these forests get displaced and end up causing havoc in communities and usually end up dead. They die out of their environment from starvation and exposure.

The salmon industry is already downgraded. Doing this will make further loses.

Tourism and fishing are the real economic drivers for Alaska, and preserving the forests are essential to promoting fishing and tourism.

"There are just so many reasons to keep a forest such as the Tongass intact - air quality, CO2 sink, wildlife habitat, water quality, and more. It is a matter of global health, so much more than economy. It is of utmost importance to all living beings to keep this forest intact!"

"This directive has utilized junk science in a move that will only benefit the interests of a few, to the detriment of the rest of the USA. If this plan was sound, it should have no problem being placed into effect utilizing avenues that already exist, and not at the direction of presidential decree."

" <https://climate.nasa.gov/blog/2893/nope-earth-isnt-cooling/>"

I am mostly concerned with new road construction and proper construction of existing or closed / decommissioned ones for self draining contours instead of culverts that blow out.

"The proposed rollback on the Roadless Rule would give way for destructive logging and mining, all part of a broad attack on ecosystems and the climate throughout the country."

"[https://www.psychics-readings-for-free.com/message\\_video\\_haof106/url\\_id/8739/file\\_id/15461/affiliate\\_id/2529/off\\_er\\_id/10/source\\_id/310012/aff\\_sub1/US/advertiser\\_id/21/trans\\_id/10263348575\\_905af086ace6d37906d/params/](https://www.psychics-readings-for-free.com/message_video_haof106/url_id/8739/file_id/15461/affiliate_id/2529/off_er_id/10/source_id/310012/aff_sub1/US/advertiser_id/21/trans_id/10263348575_905af086ace6d37906d/params/)"

"We can not continue destroying the planet we live on. Yes I understand the means of resources needed to optimize our society, and our general day to day life.

But if there is no plan to bring regrowth to these parts of the land in a stable manner, there will be issues. We need to continue working towards bringing up the forests and the vegetation needed to thrive. "

"Opening up The Tongass will only enrich huge corporations, most foreign, who set up shell companies then file bankruptcy once they finish logging, mining or other resource extraction leaving long term pollution and habitat destruction. This harms fisheries and the fishing industry both native and commercial. Plus the government subsidizes this destruction by building roads that further disturb and destroy the environment. "

Not only will the old growth forests be damaged, there are medicinal plants that will perish and are used by the Natives for a multitude of ways, and the last frontier will have permanent scars.

96, 247 individuals have signed onto the following statement which is copy/pasted below from an attached letter.

Dear Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue

Protect the Tongass National Forest! (Alaska Roadless Rulemaking #54511)

The Tongass National Forest is of global importance, and opening it to logging, mining, or oil and gas has permanent, detrimental consequences. This latest attack on wildlife and forests has been made under the guise that this will boost Alaska's economy, when only 1% comes from the logging industry, and isn't worth permanent consequences. Trump's directive violates the process of the National Environmental Policy Act. NEPA ensures that major decisions affecting the environment are fact-based, consider alternatives, and are made with public opinion in mind. The loss of old-growth forest will intensify the effects of climate change. [Position]

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