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First name: L

Last name: Kay

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Public Comment on AK Roadless Rule

Dear Secretary Perdue and Chief Christensen,

The Tongass is a critical national resource. It is the Forest Service's responsibility to the American people to ensure this resource remains viable.

As the largest national forest in the United States, it is imperative that the government practice delicate and intelligent land management. This land management must acknowledge each and every level of a complex system. This system embodies an interplay between the human and non-human world, between the many different humans that make up our landscape.

This forest contains old growth. This forest contains subsistence. This forest contains culture.

Our government, after seizing control over this land, owes it to the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian people who still live here to practice diligent, intentional land management. Our government owes it to the American people who depend on biodiverse forests for ecological services, spiritual stability, and resource security, to provide protection for our few last remaining wild places. These wild places, increasingly rare, are vital to our future stability, to our national security. The American people must feel safe knowing that there still exist inaccessible swaths of wilderness in our country. That there is still the hope of a piece of American soil that is not decimated by development. Our sense of place in our country depends upon this, the protection of our most sacred resources. Allow us this resource that has served us so well in the past and the present to continue to support us into the future.

Do not repeat your mistakes of the past by supporting un-profitable timber endeavors on the Tongass. Do not overwork the land right now. Get creative, think a few steps ahead, and focus on the future potential of this magnificent national resource.

Keep the Tongass roadless and select the "no action" alternative on the Alaska-specific Roadless Rule. Protect all inventoried areas on the Tongass under the 2001 National Roadless Rule.

Thank you

Reverance

Juneau, AK

[Attachment is a PDF version of the same comment above.]

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