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Organization: Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance
Title:
Comments: roadless rule PR comments 12.15.19

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Alaska Roadless Rule

USDA Forest Service

PO Box 21628

Juneau, AK 99802-1628

Docket Number: FS-2019-0023

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFA) is a multi-gear/multi-species non-profit membership organization representing our 330+ members involved in the salmon, crab, shrimp and longline fisheries of Southeast Alaska.

SEAFA recognizes that under any of the Alternatives to the Tongass National Forest Roadless Rule no additional timber will be harvested than under the current Roadless Rule. Also, ANILCA and the Timber Reform Act, as well as current policies developed under the Tongass Land Management Plan provides protections to salmon habitat such as buffers to streams. Commercial fishermen are concerned that the amount of harvest and the policy to move from old growth to young growth may change.

SEAFA supports protecting Alaska's salmon spawning grounds by selecting an alternative that provides flexibility as well as broadly protecting fish habitat as well as maintain the current levels of timber harvest and the transition from old growth timber to young growth. In addition, all roads on the Tongass must be built to the highest standards and culverts inspected yearly and maintained as part of any timber sale.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Kathy Hansen
Executive Director

[Position]