

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/15/2019 9:00:00 AM

First name: Edward

Last name: Zukoski

Organization: Center For Biological Diversity

Title:

Comments: To the Forest Service:

Attached find a cover letter from the Center and numerous attachments submitting comment on the Alaska Roadless Rule. Specifically, the letter and attachments provide to the Forest Service numerous editorials, letters to the editor, and op-eds supporting the 'no action' alternative.

Because of the size of the attachments, we will provide these documents in three submissions. This is the first of three.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Edward B. Zukoski, Senior Attorney
Center for Biological Diversity, Denver, CO 80202

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

December 16, 2019

Ken Tu,

Interdisciplinary Team Leader Alaska Roadless Rule USDA Forest Service,

Alaska Region Ecosystem Planning and Budget Staff

P.O. Box 21628 Juneau, Alaska 99802-1628

Email: akroadlessrule@usda.gov;

Kenneth.tu@usda.gov

Via: www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54511; <https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=FS-2019-0023-0001>

Re: Comment on Alaska Roadless Rule

To the Forest Service:

On behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity (the Center), and its 1.4 million members and supporters, thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments on the draft EIS and proposed rulemaking concerning the management of roadless areas in Alaska. The Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Tucson, Arizona, with offices across the country. The Center is dedicated to protecting and restoring imperiled species and natural ecosystems. The Center uses science, policy, and law to advocate for the conservation and recovery of species on the brink of extinction and the habitats they need to survive. The Center has and continues to

actively advocate for increased protections for species (including grizzly bear, Alexander Archipelago wolf, Queen Charlotte goshawk, and other species native to the Tongass National Forest) and their habitats across North America. The Center is a signatory to other comments submitted this day on the Alaska Roadless Rule. We write separately here to provide the Forest Service with more than three dozens op-eds, letters to the editor, and editorials that have appeared in the media (many in Southeast Alaska outlets) supporting full protection for all of the inventoried roadless areas on the Tongass National Forest. We request that the Forest Service consider and respond to each one of these op-eds, letters to the editor, or editorials as separate comments and respond to each substantive point raised in each attachment in any subsequently prepared NEPA document. We also request that the Forest Service consider the weight of these many public statements in choosing among alternatives because the submissions demonstrate the wide and deep opposition to removing Roadless Rule protections for Tongass roadless areas. Thank you for your attention to this issue. 2

Sincerely, Edward B. Zukoski,

Senior Attorney Center for Biological Diversity

Denver, CO 80202

Encs. Letters to the editor, op-eds, editorials

[See attachment containing the following technical resource: The Washington Post article, "The Trump administration doesn't respect America's wilderness"]

[See attachment containing the following technical resource: Seattle Times article, "Stop the assault on Tongass forest"]

[See attachment containing the following technical resource: Seattle Times article, "National forests: Places of healing"]

[See attachment containing the following technical resource: Akron Beacon Journal article, "Trump Tongass and Seiberling"]

[See attachment containing the following technical resource: Seattle Times article, "Rainforest protection begins here in our region"]

[See attachment containing the following technical resource: The New York Times article, Protecting Our Wilderness, From the President"]

[See attachment containing the following technical resource: Seattle Times article "Tongass forest: Preserve our lands"]

[See attachment containing the following technical resource: The Washington Post article, "Tongass roads would be just another giveaway"]

[See attachment containing the following technical resource: The New York Times article, Trump to Miners, Loggers and Drillers: This Land is Your Land"]

[Position]

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