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First name: Brenda

Last name: Wright

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Tongass roadless rule

Hello,

thank you for listening to the residents of our beautiful surrounding Tongass National Forest

Brenda Wright

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December 14, 2019

Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Tongass Roadless Rule

Dear Forest Service,

I very strongly urge you to choose the decision of alternative 1 for the Tongass National Forest Roadless Rule.

I was a fish biologist on the Tongass National Forest for 24 years with my specialty in fresh water habitat for salmonids. I can not stress strongly enough the massive loss of fish habitat I observed from road failures, culvert failures, and poor road design and culvert placement. I know that a tremendous number of miles of fresh water stream habitat are no longer available due to the over 5000 miles of road already in existence on the Tongass National Forest. I have measured the water temperature differences between clear cut areas, re-growth, and old growth forests. Old growth forests provide shade to keep our water cooler. As our temperatures increase with climate change, a simple difference in a few degrees in stream temperature will mean survival or death for our salmonid fishes.

Simple economics should also be used in deciding this very important decision on more road building or clear cutting. There are many more jobs available in fisheries and tourism than any logging or commercial lumber harvest.

Please allow the forest to supply us with cooler water, good salmon habitat, and fewer roads.

Climate change is coming very rapidly and we should be putting all our resources into protecting our existing fisheries by completing long overdue maintenance on the 1000's of miles of road already in existence.

Please move in favor of Alternative 1 (no action) to preserves the truly important functions of the Tongass National Forest.

Sincerely,

Brenda Wright

Retired fish Biologist Pacific NW Experimental Station

USDA Forest Service

[Position]