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Comments: As a nearly 50-year resident of southeast Alaska and a forester by training, I understand full well the value of Southeast Alaska's old-growth forest as wildlife habitat. The Forest Service is required to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by analyzing the site specific impacts of the Central Tongass Project. Instead of the NEPA required site specific examination, the Forest Service used a new approach it calls a "condition based" analysis. This method contains wholly insufficient detail to analyze the site-specific impacts, not even disclosing in the DEIS where actual logging or road construction would take place, and making it impossible for the public to evaluate impacts to fish and wildlife populations and personal, sport, and subsistence uses. Nor does the DEIS provide sufficient information for informed decision-making or informed public participation.

I urge the Tongass National Forest to choose the Central Tongass Project's No Action Alternative. Too much is at stake to risk the huge impacts of yet another massive timber sale on the Tongass.