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Comments: As a forty year resident of southeast Alaska, a father and grandfather of the next generation of Alaskans, I write this letter to urge the Forest Service to adopt the "No Action" alternative regarding the Draft EIS of the Central Tongass Project.

If nothing else, the Forest Service needs to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and provide site specific information about where road construction and logging is to occur, so the public can at least evaluate more accurately what the impacts will be to fish and wildlife. The proposed "condition based" analysis is vague, leaving the public with no specific information with which to analyse the true impacts of road construction and logging. The backlog of blocked culverts that impede spawning salmon needs to be addressed. We have sacrificed more than enough salmon habitat to the saw. Mitigating this destruction with hatcheries only further imperils the wild stocks we have left.

More importantly, we are nearing the end of the warmest summer ever recorded in southeast Alaska. Conversely, we have not had any significant sea level snow events in Sitka in over a decade of winters.

Having fished the waters of the gulf every summer for the last forty years, I've seen a great crash in King salmon, seen sea bird populations plummet, algae blooms up and down the coast that have turned the waters of the bays and inlets a turquoise green, and the worst drought ever to hit our rain forest archipelago, reducing America's rainiest city (Ketchikan) to supplementing its hydro power with diesel generators barged up from Seattle.

Everyone knows the Tongass sequesters more carbon than any other forest in America. Alaska is the tip of the spear of climate change. You can deny human caused impacts on global climate change all you want. Meanwhile, by any measure, it is happening at an ever increasing rate. Our grandchildren will write the history books long after we are gone.

The Tongass has already seen the best of it's old growth habitat cut. Our archipelago is long over due to be managed in as near its natural state as is still possible, and most certainly not opened up to another 250,000 million board feet of old growth logging. I urge the Forest Service to take no action on this Central Tongass Project, and cease all large scale old growth logging projects altogether.

Sincerely,
Christopher Carroll