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Organization:
Title:
Comments: The current Roadless Rule should remain and protect all inventoried roadless areas on the Tongass currently protected under the 2001 Roadless Rule, including roaded roadless area. If a new Alaska Roadless Rule is passed, it should protect all inventoried roadless areas on the Tongass currently protected under the 2001 Roadless Rule, including roaded roadless areas.

These lands support healthy salmon populations and are essential for the fishing and tourism economies in Southeast Alaska. As such, they should not be logged or developed. I value the wild public lands in this area. The Tongass is a national and cultural treasure for all Americans. It is one of the last temperate coastal rainforests in the world. These are unique places that should remain pristine and protected.

The Forest Service should focus their resources on active watershed restoration activities rather than further old growth timber harvest. If the Forest Service wants to move ahead with a new Roadless Rule, first it should conduct a comparative analysis of regional revenue and employment from commercial fishing and visitor industries versus timber industry. It should also or alternatively conduct an analysis of the value of old growth forest stands left living vs when they are cut down (for example, carbon sequestration vs timber product).

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