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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I object to removing the Tongass National Forest from the 2001 Roadless Rule for a variety of reasons. First, it is America's largest forest- that in itself has large intrinsic value. Second, in the age of climate change (which the Trump Administration has admitted will exceed 9 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the century if no action is taken), this forest acts as a carbon sink, sequestering carbon from the atmosphere and helping to mitigate the effects of climate change. In fact, the Tongass National Forest is actually a rainforest which stores more carbon per acre than most other forests. Which is why it needs to be protected-in its entirety- now more than ever. Thirdly, logging provides less than 1 percent of the regions jobs, whereas tourism and fishing provide over 25 percent. By removing the Tongass National Forest from the Roadless Rule and permitting logging, local ecosystems, rivers and fisheries will be jeopardized- impacting nearly a quarter of the regions economy. Similarly, over a million tourists visit the park each year, a number that will surely drop if it is opened to logging. For these reasons, I support Option One (no action).

[Position]