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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Trump administration Tuesday proposed allowing logging on more than half of Alaska's 16.7 million-acre Tongass National Forest, the largest intact temperate rainforest in North America.

The President instructed federal officials to reverse long-standing limits on tree cutting at the request of Alaska's top elected officials, on the grounds that it will boost the local economy. However, protections under the "roadless rule" are critical to protecting the region's lucrative salmon fishery and tourism operations.

While the Forest Service had initially planned to make more-modest changes to nearly 9.5 million acres where roads are prohibited, the administration's "preferred alternative" is that the entire area would be open for development.

Reversing the limits on tree-cutting would constitute a grave misuse of these virgin public lands. I categorically oppose this plan to expand logging.

[Position]