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Title:

Comments: I am writing this letter to express my passionate opinion against opening the Tongass National Forest to additional road construction and logging operations. The Tongass National Forest is a treasure of this great nation, and should be respected as such. The engines of industry and economics do not outweigh the need for ecological consistency and conservation, especially in a region of the country that would not benefit from any additional logging.

Not only would the proposal to remove Tongass National Forest from protected status harm the natural environment, it would also harm taxpayers. Logging the Tongass has NEVER been and never will be profitable. In fact, it has already cost American taxpayers over \$1 billion dollars. It would be an absolute tragedy to ruin the pristine forest that so many people love and adore all for the sake of a few tawdry dollars.

Do not ruin our country's landscape - no one wants more logging. NO ONE! We do NOT need more timber - what we need is old growth forest to help combat climate change. It is imperative that we protect our country's natural environment and preserve it for generations to come. There are too many examples of humanity destroying beauty for the sake of progress. But Tongass National Forest is more than just beautiful - it's essential to the well-being of this planet, and our country especially. Please protect it.

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