

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2019 8:00:00 AM

First name: Kristine

Last name: Karnos

Organization:

Title:

Comments: There is no lack of evidence that the development of roads contribute to habitat fragmentation, impact hydrologic cycles, and introduce invasive plant and insect pests and the diseases they can carry. Roads admit and enable illegal activities along with the legal (poaching, illegal marijuana farming, etc.). Road development leads to other development and infrastructure that degrades the health of an intact (or formerly intact) ecosystem.

There are far too few remaining expanses of intact forest in our country, and the Tongass is among the world's best carbon sinks, as well as being important for the biodiversity it still supports. Old growth trees sequester a huge amount of carbon. You can't simply log out an old growth forest and expect that the regrowth in 10 or 20 years will stabilize the loss. And with the warnings we have through the IPCC reports, we cannot afford to be logging this forest now.

PLEASE take the NO ACTION option. We cannot risk the loss of THIS forest now. Alaska is already in big trouble due to increased warming, and the Tongass appears to be one of the more stable areas... please choose life.

[Position]

[Position]