Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/18/2019 8:00:00 AM
First name: Jean
Last name: Naples
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I am writing as an American who strongly supports full protection for our endangered wildlife and our Wilderness areas. The significance of the Roadless Rule is that it helps protect old-growth habitat for birds like the Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse and Northern Goshawk, as well as for mammals like wolves and deer. I very much oppose any opening of roadless areas because it will lead to more logging while these roads fragment the forest and eliminate more of the big old trees that these animals rely on.

Unfortunately, all of the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest. Please be aware that logging roads and timber operations cost tens of millions of taxpayer dollars every year, with zero return on investment. Meanwhile, please do not forget that these destructive activities degrade the naturally sustainable wealth of salmon, wildlife watching, and tourism opportunities.

I am writing because it is time to stop opening more and more acres to the timber industry and instead bolster protections to the old-growth forests and wild areas on the Tongass.

Thank you for your consideration of my letter and as an American who strongly supports full protection for our Wilderness areas, I very much urge you to select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest.

Sincerely,

Jean Marie Naples, MD-Ph.D.

Sincerely,

Jean Naples

[Position]

Suffern, NY 10901