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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Tongass needs managed

Hello and thank you for your time. I am writing you this email in support of the repeal of the roadless rule here in the Tongass. As someone who lives, works, hunts, fishes, and just plain loves the Tongass I truly hope you guys stick to your guns on repealing the rule. I'm nobody special. I'm just a regular guy who knows a thing or two about healthy forests. While at first glance the Tongass looks to be healthy, I believe it is getting sick. All over the Tongass you can look and see that for every green tree it has a dead standing neighbor. While old growth forests are beautiful and majestic places like all living things they have a lifespan. I support the repeal of the roadless rule because I believe management of the Tongass would make it a healthier more vibrant place. Being from down south originally and spending my entire life around the logging industry I know the benefits of sustainable forestry practices. I'd like to see more commercial thinning practices done in the Tongass, much like is done on state land in Oregon and Washington. Cull out the dead, dying, and over crowded trees. Maintain strict compliance and adherence to sustainable forestry practices such as buffer zones and riparian management zones. Make good roads and do our parts to maintain them for clean run off. I know I'm preaching to the choir here, you guys make the rules. As someone who is passionate about the area because his entire life relies on the health of the area I just want to throw my hat in the ring as one of the guys that is in support of the repeal of the roadless rule. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Dustin Timber Dethlefs

Ketchikan Alaska

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