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Comments: I strongly oppose any effort by the Trump (mis)Administration to allow logging in the Tongass National Forest. Only a fool would support more roads in an area where logging and road construction already cost American taxpayers more than we receive in revenue.

I recently took a 20 minute hike into the TNF outside Juneau and counted more than 20 different species of mushrooms along a 0.25-mile trail, an incredible diversity in such a short distance. I could only imagine how many more species of trees, plants, wildlife, and fish were also nearby, sheltered by the forest, yet critical to a viably functioning ecosystem. Yet, all of this ecological richness would be lost if the roadless rule is weakened or ignored, as happens too frequently now.

It is time to prioritize environmental protection, not exploitation, and to acknowledge the greater profits provided by outdoor recreation in the Tongass, in contrast to the economic losses that American taxpayers must cover from indiscriminate logging and road construction.

As a member of a Federal agency Recreational Advisory Committee and a seasonal Alaska resident, I know first-hand how rich the Tongass is. It is time to fully protect the Tongass - if anything must be endangered or extinct, let it be the political arrogance and environment ignorance that is the hallmark of Trumpism and mismanagement of our public lands.

No logging, no roads.

[Position]

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