

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/20/2019 8:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I urge the U.S. Forest Service to uphold the roadless rule, adopted with overwhelming public support, and to protect the Tongass National Forest from additional logging and development. The wealth of this area lies in the ecosystem services it provides (clean water, subsistence resources, carbon sequestration, and many others) as well as its recreational value for hiking, hunting, and fishing, which support many local jobs. The Tongass National Forest is an extremely important habitat for bears, moose, and numerous other species, including salmon that are vital to the regions economy.

The Tongass is one of the most pristine old-growth forests in the world and the countrys largest national forest. Stripping protections from it would irreparably damage the ecosystems and local economy it supports.

This plan doesnt make sense from a national economic perspective either. A report from Taxpayers for Common Sense shows that the Forest Service has historically lost money, an average of \$20 million per year over the last decade, conducting timber sales in the Tongass.

This plan is bad news for Alaskas environment, the states economy, and for all of us American taxpayers. Again, I urge the U.S. Forest Service to uphold the roadless rule and conserve key areas of the Tongass National Forest.

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