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First name: Stephen

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I respect the governments desire to boost economic output for the state of Alaska, but I oppose the opening of Tongass National Forest to logging or any sort of development. To allow man-made modification to this land will disrupt ecosystems at a time when we must do everything within our power to protect them in order to prevent the worst effects of climate change.

I also support the preservation of Tongass for its potential to help combat the behavioral health crisis that the White House and HHS have repeatedly and admirably prioritized in recent years. Many studies from around the world have demonstrated the powerful effects of nature on humans mental health, driving significant improvements in happiness, reductions in stress, and boosting resiliency, all of which can reduce peoples likelihood of engaging in violence and/or substance use. We must preserve this land so that it may continue to serve as a health-promoting refuge for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

[Position]