

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/21/2019 8:00:00 AM

First name: Anonymous

Last name: Anonymous

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I oppose the USDA's move to exempt the Tongass Rainforest from the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Act. I'm deeply concerned about the negative impacts that an increase in logging and construction would have on the forest's ecosystems. When these trees are cut down, all the other trees and plants in the forest become more susceptible to damage from the sun and wind. Furthermore, the forest provides a habitat for 40% of the wild salmon in the Pacific, which generates \$986 million a year. In terms of impacts on the citizens of Alaska, many local businesses depend on the forest for hunting, gliding, and tours. While I appreciate the administration's attempt to revitalize the construction and timber industries, Alaska already has thriving salmon and tourism industries employing many Alaskans. Wouldn't we all be better off preserving their jobs and maintaining the largest holding of our federal forest system?

[Position]