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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern -

As a resident of Juneau, I am intimately familiar with the Tongass Reserve. The beauty and majesty of these forests is inspiring. The cultural heritage of the interaction between these forests and the Native American cultures in the region is inspiring.

I have also worked for the UN Framework Convention for Climate Change for two years, and currently work in fisheries management. My background is in mathematics and computer science. I have a keen appreciation of the value of the Tongass reserve as an ecological reservoir - for terrestrial species, for support of salmonid streams, as a carbon reserve, and as a carbon dioxide capture mechanism. The contributions of this ecosystem are invaluable - a true world treasure.

Southeast Alaska has an ongoing and successful timber industry. The primary market for these timber products is for export - the vertically related industries of lumber/milling, construction, and carpentry derive limited benefit. The actual stewardship of living forests is limited - the methods employed in the logging are derived directly from the clear-cutting practices that destroyed the old-growth forests of the lower 48 states. Particularly in an environment of de-regulation, and curtailment of the EPA and DoI, drastic intrusions into the old growth forests.

Please retain the roadless rule. At the very least, limit initial implementation to a small pilot project, and demonstrate that limited, controlled timber harvesting can be conducted in Southeast Alaska without inflicting harm on this precious resource.

thank you for your attention,

Daniel "Dune" Rothman

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