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Title:

Comments: I work as a wildland firefighter in Alaska so I understand logging's role for local economies as well as the ecological impact it has. There are an unbelievably high number of areas in the lower 48 that need to be logged for fuels reduction but this area is certainly not within that justification. Instinctually I would think that logging in the Tongass would make it more susceptible to burning with tightly packed regrowth. It also competes in the market with other places that need to be logged for the ecological health of the area.

The forest service's multiple use mandate requires the attempt to satisfy different stakeholders. The current roadless condition is fantastic for satisfying wilderness values. Much of the rest of USFS land is carved up and littered with roads. This area is unique for its lack of roads.

Additionally this area is a carbon sink. In the age of climate change, this economic gain doesn't justify the greater affect on the atmosphere and the severe world weather conditions.

[Position]