

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/31/2019 8:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support logging in the Tongass with specific mitigations and restrictions in place.

1. Will all rivers/creeks/wetlands have adequate buffer zones for tree/shrub cover for continued salmon/trout production?

2. Will potential steep slopes that could be landslide prone be protected so sediment will not crash and smother productive salmon spawning beds during rainy season?

3. Will appropriate sized bridges and culverts be utilized to cross rivers/creeks so as to not interfere with salmon spawning and production? Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Montana are spending large amounts of monies to replace outdated culverts with size appropriate culverts/open bottom culverts/bridges as to not impede salmon runs. Some culverts are priced at a million dollars each when taking into account design, engineering, placement, site recovery.

4. Will large woody debris, appropriate timber slag, downed trees that are not commercially viable be put into these streams for increased salmon enhancement?

5. Will older logging roads that cross rivers/creeks prior to the 2001 Roadless Rule be inventoried and culvert crossings be enhanced/replaced/removed for salmon passage? Mitigation opportunities here.

6. Will clear-cut areas be replanted with area appropriate trees (Sitka spruce, western hemlock, Douglas fir)?

Finally, I support logging in the Tongass, but please adhere to ethical logging for the 21st-22nd Centuries. Don't return to status quo of the 20th Century where people benefited from clear cut logging but salmon populations crashed. Do logging right this time. Set the standard right in the Tongass for others to model in their forestry practices. The USFS was correct in choosing Gifford Pinchot's forestry harvest model. I believe Pinchot would have wanted plentiful timber for Americans continued use while also having bountiful salmon runs. We need timber for homes and salmon to eat. The creatures in the Tongass need salmon to eat as well.

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