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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a private citizen, I am asking that USDA choose Alternative 1, and keep the Tongass NF in the roadless area. Logging and road-building are irrevocable decisions; once logged, a forest's ecosystem is seriously impacted for generations. The area in question is salmon habitat; southeast Alaska is one of the last remaining intact salmon breeding grounds in North America.

Myself and fellow citizens similarly situated would be impacted by logging and roads in the Tongass in the following ways:

I live in Seattle and dining Alaska salmon is a deliberate part of my cancer-prevention diet. I intend to visit Southeast Alaska and the Tongass and wish to see an intact forest, with salmon, bear, bald eagles, orca, and other wildlife. I do not wish to be a tourist in an area impacted by industrial logging. We have enough of that where I live in Washington State.

There is no pressing need for the timber. Why damage Alaska's fragile ecosystems for softwoods available elsewhere? To do so is an irresponsible use of what I remind you is our shared national natural resource, Alaska's forest. The needs of Alaska's timber industry are state-focused and specific; the forests are held in trust for all Americans who wish to visit Alaska.

The Forest Service's mission is for multiple, shared-use. Allowing intact forests to be cut up with roads and logged prevents other, recreational and environmental uses, and is therefore against the mission.

[Position]