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First name: Matt Last name: Lessmeier

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I was born and raised in Juneau, AK, and I know how special the Tongass National Forest is. It was that land that shaped my character, and it was my parents who taught me to give such land it's due respect. I do not believe that logging has a place in those forests. They are some of the last pristine wilderness environments left on this planet. Logging has a much greater utility in the state I now live, Montana. Here and in similar climates, logging substantially reduces the protential for a rampant wildfire that could do damage to our own cities and towns, as well as significantly alter the ecosystem of our native plants and animals. This is where we need to extract our timber from, certainly not from the Tongass National Forest where we would be devastating the local ecosystem and the opportunity of future generations of new plants, animals, and humans alike to experience a little bit of the old world. By preserving such forests, we will be preserving a beautiful array of natural life and ensuring the survival of the lifestyles of outdoor recreation, hunting, gathering, and fishing that have become part of the people that call Southeast Alaska home. Please help save one of the last best places on Earth.

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