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Organization: independent

Title:

Comments: I treasure the unique, irreplaceable, beautiful Tongass NF as a repeat eco-tourist visitor to the Tongass NF I support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. I urge you to respect indigenous rights of the Alaskan Native communities including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples who have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for many generations.

Our Tongass NF contains some of the largest intact old-growth temperate rainforest in the world, and its value in providing clean water for fish and wildlife habitat is essential to the economic and ecological health of SE Alaska. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forest's roadless areas. The Roadless Rule is one of the best and most popular land management policies the Federal Government has ever adopted. Not only does it preserve some of America's best fish and wildlife habitat, but it also saves millions of taxpayer dollars that might otherwise be spent to subsidize money-losing timber sales. The value of the Roadless Rule in preventing environmentally damaging and economically wasteful road-building and logging is particularly relevant in the Tongass, where logging costs vastly exceed timber revenues and require unconscionable taxpayer subsidies.

[Position]