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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Alaska Roadless Rule

I live in Southeast Alaska, and oppose the decision to exempt the Tongass National Forest from the Roadless Rule. No action is the preferred option.

The Tongass National Forest sustains us. From the water we drink and the air we breathe to the salmon, deer, and berries we eat, the forest fuels our bodies and our communities. The Roadless Rule protects over 9 million acres on the Tongass, including crucial areas that support our fishing and visitor industries, subsistence harvest activities, and opportunities for recreation. It conserves some of the last remaining old-growth on the Tongass, protecting the forests from industrial scale clear-cutting.

An overwhelming majority of Southeast Alaskans support the Roadless Rule. The Roadless Rule conserves prime areas of the Tongass that directly benefit our fishing and visitor industries, subsistence harvest activities, and recreation. Old-growth forests provide critical wildlife habitat and clean water, store carbon, and support our unique Southeast Alaskan way of life. We stand in support of a No Action alternative to keep the Roadless Rule in place on the Tongass.

Thank you.

Don Surgeon Sitka, Alaska

[Position]