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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Alaskan Roadless Rule

Please choose alternative 1 on the Alaska roadless rule.

Decide to maintain the established Roadless Rule. Reasonably established two decades ago, the roadless rule protects important fish and wildlife habitat on federal lands, provides clean drinking water, and creates recreation and business opportunities which are crucial to Alaska's communities and economy.

The proposed changes to the Roadless Rule will negatively impact Alaska's Tongass National Forest, the largest old growth forest the United States has. This national forest holds exceedingly significant environmental and cultural significance, and once it is degraded it cannot be replaced. Changing or repealing the Roadless Rule will lead only to environmental degradation in the future. We have seen time and time again, the impacts that logging, even if relatively sustainable, can have on sensitive environments. This forest provides a healthy environment for many endemic plant and animal species, including various salmonids, who have been on a worldwide decline for decades now, and who are a vital to and are responsible for the productivity of these forests.

Across the U.S. we are putting effort toward improving and protecting our natural resources, because of the mistakes we have made and are learning from. Altering the roadless rule in a nearly untouched part of the world, is counterintuitive. As I am studying to be an aquatic biologist, I've learned a lot about all of the mistakes that we as humans have made over the past century, and all of the progress we have made toward fixing the mistakes of past generations. Don't be a part of the history that we look down on, be the part of it that continued to learn from our mistakes and kept this great, vast forest from being damaged.

Sincerely,

Joshua Fluor

[Position]