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First name: Barb

Last name: Drake

Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Barb Drake and I live in Seattle, Washington.

Timber companies are killing people, wildlife, and the planet. Deforestation is the major killer of our planet's atmosphere and reeks pure devastation which will lead to human extinction if not stopped. Timber companies should be heavily regulated even more to stay away from ALL rainforests and lands with ancient trees and water, and where abundant wildlife and people live. They must curb their appetite for more and more consumption of our planet's lands and trees, more money, more, more, more. They must become stewards of the land instead of capitalists who care little for the purity of the land and water and ways of life of indigenous peoples. Stop this madness. Change the laws. Nature and people have rights to live long and happy lives without threat of suffering and death.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Barb Drake

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