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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Justina Vargas and I live in Port Richey, Florida.

As a member of the Evangelical Movement in the United States I urge our leaders and decision-makers of like faith and convictions to adhere to the Creator's mandate that we should be good Stewards of the Earth and care for the world that He gave us. Throughout Scripture all of God's promises to his people center on a verdant Paradise, teeming with life and an infinite variety of flora and fauna. Every tree that is killed and every inch of land that is left bare and fruitless is an act contrary to the force of Creation and a nod to destructive impulses in service to greed and profit; which the Bible condemns.

The present Administration and its supporters tend to wrap themselves in the flag and a code of moral superiority because they represent the Conservative movement and the "back to the Bible" religious right.

Yet, by their actions, which put short-lived profits ahead of long-term sustainability, they violate the very principles by which they acquired the power to conserve or destroy.

Be truly Conservative; truly Evangelical. Conserve the natural world that God entrusted into our care; and cherish it as the Creator does.

There is NO Planet B: and only God can make a tree.

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, Justina Vargas

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