

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/8/2019 9:00:00 AM

First name: Karen

Last name: Salama

Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Karen Salama and I live in New York, New York.

I am not clear on why the Trump administration's goal is to destroy the natural beauty that is our land. With a world of problems, this administration has done nothing but focus on internal destruction. "Making America Great Again" should never have been a death wish for our land and those who live on it. I am ashamed of the politicians who lack the empathy and sensitivity, the patriotism and support of our country. Those who believe in greed and will systematically destroy for money, directly or indirectly, are not politicians. They are home bred terrorists who terrorize our home and country. Absolutely shameful.

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, Karen Salama

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