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First name: Janet

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Janet Torline and I live in Harrison, Idaho.

It is critically important that the USFS choose the "no Action" alternative on logging in roadless areas of the Tongass National Forest. It is abhorrent to the public, particularly in light of climate disruption and the importance of forests to sequester carbon, that environmental protections of roadless areas are being systematically slashed away. For the USFS to condone this erosion of proper forest management threatens the Public Trust and puts private interests above ecological protections for THE PUBLIC'S National Forests.

Make the right and responsible choice but enacting the "No Action" alternative.

Deeply concerned, Janet Torline

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 nation's 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, Janet Torline

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