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First name: Ken

Last name: Sanford

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

It is time to stop opening more and more acres to the timber industry and instead bolster protections to the old-growth forests and wild areas on the Tongass. I urge you to select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest.

The Roadless Rule helps protect old-growth habitat for birds like the Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse and Northern Goshawk, as well as for mammals like wolves and deer. Opening road less areas to more logging and roads will fragment the forest and eliminate more of the big old trees that these animals rely on. Furthermore, intact, ancient forests are strongholds of climate resilience, and the Tongass is one of world's largest.

We cannot have wilderness that is crisscrossed with roads resulting in unnatural dust, noise, and vehicle lights at night. We spend millions of dollars a year to build and maintain these destructive roads that provide no monetary return. The logging industry says it creates jobs and materials for building of houses and other useful buildings. However, after the timber is gone, what is left? We have countless examples in the continental US of what remains after the logging industry moves to another virgin area. None of it is good.

We must maintain what limited natural areas we have and protect them for future generations.

I urge you to select 'No Action' and protect this area for future generations.

Sincerely,

Ken Sanford

[Position]