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First name: Andrea

Last name: Kornbluh

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

THANK YOU for your stewardship of America's natural resources and the example you set for the world. I am sure you understand the intrinsic value of old-growth forest. Please think of it this way: Old-growth forest connects present-day human culture to our collective past. We have very little ancient forest left, and protecting what remains gives human a chance to reconnect and remember.

Old-growth forest also has ecological value that cannot be replaced. The fungi, plants, birds, and mammals that use old-growth habitat are part of a holistic system that we barely understand and do not have the right to destroy. Some of these species - Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse, Northern Goshawk, Marbled Murrelet, Brown Bear, Gray Wolf - may not survive if protections like the Roadless Rule are not maintained. Those of us who do not work in national land management rely on you to protect this resource on our behalf.

The Roadless Rule helps protect old-growth habitat by preventing logging and roads that fragment the forest. It is not fair to the forest or the taxpayers to allow timber operations to impact the forest and walk away, leaving problems that cost tens of millions of taxpayer dollars every year, with zero return on investment.

Yet, all of the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest.

I urge you to select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest. PLEASE protect our national treasures!

Sincerely,

Andrea Kornbluh

Fairlawn, OH 44334

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