

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2019 8:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Alaska Roadless Rulemaking #54511

Roadless Rulemaking,

RE: Alaska Roadless DEIS Comment

Dear Secretary Perdue:

The best course of action is the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. Keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest protects the enormous ecosystem services provided by the Tongass. This forest is a carbon sink containing some of the largest intact old-growth temperate rainforest in the world, and its value in providing clean water for fish and wildlife habitat is essential to the economic and ecological health of Southeast Alaska.

Your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forest's roadless areas is reckless, irresponsible and wastes taxpayer money. The Roadless Rule not only preserve some of America's best fish and wildlife habitat, but also saves millions of taxpayer dollars that might otherwise be spent to subsidize money-losing timber sales. The value of the Roadless Rule in preventing environmentally damaging and economically wasteful road-building and logging is particularly relevant in the Tongass, where logging costs vastly exceed timber revenues and require unconscionable taxpayer subsidies.

kay levin

[Position]