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First name: Bruce

Last name: Hlodnicki

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

The Roadless Rule protects 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 roadless areas to even more logging and roads fragments the forest and eliminates more of the big older trees that these animals rely on. Furthermore, intact, ancient forests are strongholds of climate resilience, and the Tongass is one of world's largest old growth forests.

Shockingly, every single one of the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest. Logging roads and timber operations cost tens of millions of taxpayer dollars every year but provide exactly zero return on that investment. Meanwhile, these destructive activities damage the sustainable wealth of salmon, wildlife watching, and tourism opportunities. And this does not very consider the additional damage to our climate!

You must stop opening more and more acres to the timber industry destruction! You must instead bolster protections to the old-growth forests and wild areas on the Tongass.

I demand you select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain in effect for the Tongass National Forest--

Don't let Trump kill our nation's greatest temperate rainforest!

Sincerely,

Bruce Hlodnicki

Indianapolis, IN 46226