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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Keep 'Roadless Rule' Protections for the Tongass National Forest

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

The Tongass is far more valuable as a wild area than the timber that would be taken off of it. In a time when we are trying to slow climate change it is irresponsible to open this forest to roads and timber harvest. Our forests and oceans are the lungs of the earth. The oceans are warming and not as effective as sinks for carbon and phytoplankton are not as healthy. Keep this forest intact for the health of the planet!

I strongly oppose the Forest Service's plan to eliminate "Roadless Rule" protections for the Tongass National Forest and urge you to select the "no action" alternative instead.

Your proposal to open the door to clearcutting and bulldozing is irresponsible and fundamentally threatens these values. The Tongass belongs to all Americans and shouldn't be sacrificed to the timber industry, which provides a small fraction of the jobs and income in Southeast Alaska compared to tourism and fishing - both of which rely on intact forests to thrive. It's even more important to save these last remaining roadless forests because your agency has fragmented and logged so much of our national forests, harming wildlife and waters along the way.

Further, I oppose your plan to allow the agency to open any of the 5 million acres of roadless areas on the Chugach National Forest to bulldozing and clearcutting for logging.

Please - think of future generations by selecting the "no action" alternative to maintain "Roadless Rule" protections for the Tongass and Chugach.

Sincerely,

Christine Schomer

[Position]