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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

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 is vital and must be preserved. The Roadless Rule protects old-growth habitat-large unfragmented swathes of big old trees-the very habitat that birds like the Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse, the Northern Goshawk, and innumerable other temperate rain forest plants and animals need to succeed and flourish.

Opening roadless areas to more roads and logging will fragment the Tongas and eliminate too many of these big old trees.

Also remember this-climate change is real, and intact ancient forests are invaluable strongholds of carbon capture and climate resilience. The Tongass is one of world's largest. It represents our human future. Yours, mine, ours.

And yet, 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, with ZERO return on investment. ZERO! And at the same time, these destructive activities degrade the naturally sustainable wealth of salmon, wildlife watching, and tourism opportunities.

It is time for us 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.

Again, I urge you to select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest.

Sincerely,

Michael Day

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