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First name: Carol

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Alaska Roadless Rulemaking #54511

Roadless Rulemaking,

RE: Alaska Roadless DEIS Comment

Dear Secretary Perdue:

I strongly support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. It is important to keep the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. The Tongass 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

I also object seriously to your plans for reducing and removing protections from our national forest's roadless areas. The Roadless Rule is an excellent and popular land management policy from the Federal Government. It preserves some of America's best fish and wildlife habitat, AND saves many 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.

Carol Milano

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