

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/24/2019 8:00:00 AM

First name: Geo

Last name: Potter

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comment re Alaska Roadless Rulemaking #54511

Roadless Rulemaking,

RE: Alaska Roadless DEIS Comment

Dear Secretary Perdue:

I ask you to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. My entire family and I heartily support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections intact for the Tongass National Forest. As you likely know, the Tongass is an invaluable carbon sink, among the largest intact old-growth temperate rainforests on our planet, and its value in providing clean water for fish and wildlife habitat is critical to the economy and the ecological health of Alaska. We ask you that you keep in place the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections for our precious - and irreplaceable - national forests.

Frankly, we are outraged by your wrongheaded plans to gut and cut vital protections from our national forest's roadless areas!

The Roadless Rule is among the smartest policies the Federal Government has ever adopted. It preserves some of America's best fish and wildlife habitat (which draws untold numbers of citizens and other tourists to these precious places) and furthermore saves taxpayers millions of dollars that might otherwise subsidize money-losing timber sales and further harm our environment. 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. These subsidies destroy OUR lands - which are our common property, not owned by you or any other unelected or elected official - so you have no right to put the interests of for-profit companies over those of your fellow American citizens.

Please do the right thing for our nation and our nature!

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Geo Potter

Chicago , Illinois 60645

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