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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

The Tongass National Forest is a national treasure. Water and fish flow in great abundance from its watersheds. There are many reasons to protect remaining roadless areas on the Tongass.

First, these watersheds provide abundant fisheries that are critical to the recreational and commercial economies of the region.

Second, if left intact, roadless watersheds support a great variety of native wildlife and ecological processes that are important to the region.

Third, water quality is becoming a significant issue and unroaded watersheds provide higher quality water supplies than to logged forests.

Fourth, restoration of these watersheds, once logged, is very difficult, time consuming and expensive.

It is time 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. 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,

Jack Williams

Medford, OR 97501