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Organization:

Title:

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

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I am adamantly against the Forest Service's plan to eliminate "Roadless Rule" protections for the Tongass National Forest and very much hope you will choose the "no action" alternative.

The Tongass is America's wildest remaining national forest, with more than 9 million acres of roadless areas. It's home to a ton of wildlife, including Alexander Archipelago wolves, grizzlies, and salmon. It also stores a vast amount of carbon, with its centuries-old trees serving as a carbon-reserve life raft in this time of climate change. Logging would release most of that carbon into the atmosphere. The plan to allow clearcutting and bulldozing in this wild & irreplaceable place is irresponsible, at best. It is completely senseless to allow a few timber companies to profit from it's destruction.

Also, 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 & clearcutting, for any reason. This is simply a backdoor repeal of the 2001 Roadless Rule, which protects all roadless lands because of the critical role they play in protecting pure water, secure wildlife habitat, & remote recreation.

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

Sincerely,

Shannin Zevian