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First name: Mary

Last name: Keitelman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

Please keep the Roadless Rule in place, as it is, with no changes.

The Roadless Rule helps protect irreplaceable ancient forests in the Tongass.

The many animals and plants in the Tongass National Forest in Alaska-- a whole ecosystem of wildlife-- depend on the protection afforded by the Roadless Rule.

Without the Roadless Rule we will lose their habitat, and we will lose the giant carbon sync which the ancient forest with its giant old-growth trees provides. .

THE DRAFT EIR CREATES MORE ROADS AND LOGGING: this DESTROYS THE TONGASS

All 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. Meanwhile, these destructive activities degrade the naturally sustainable wealth of salmon, wildlife watching, and tourism opportunities.

STOP OPENING UP PARTS OF THE TONGASS TO LOGGING.

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.

SELECT THE 'NO ACTION' ALTERNATIVE: KEEP THE ROADLESS RULE INTACT

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,

Mary Keitelman

Hinsdale, MA 01235

[Position]