

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/25/2019 8:00:00 AM

First name: Dennis

Last name: Therry

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Alaska Roadless Rulemaking (Docket ID FS-2018-0059)

Dear US Forest Service,

Dear Secretary Perdue,

I'm writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections intact for the Tongass National Forest. Old-growth forests like the Tongass are powerful tools for fighting climate change.

The Tongass NF has transitioned into "non-timber" region that supports recreation, subsistence food for Native Americans, five species of salmon, scientific use, and carbon sequestration which contributes more than \$2 billion annually to the local economy.

Tourism in Tongass NF supports over 10,000 jobs, with about 10% being related to fishing activities.

Additionally numerous administrations that attempted to repeal the Roadless Rule have been denied by the Federal Courts. The latest attempt to repeal the Rule was ruled invalid by Judge John Sedwick of the Alaskan federal court in 2011. Apparently the Amazon forest isn't the only forest in peril under this slash, monetize and burn administration.

The Roadless Rule is one of the smartest and most popular land management policies the Federal Government has ever adopted. Not only does it preserve some of America's best fish and wildlife habitat, but it also saves untold 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....." Federal timber program in Tongass is a dead loss for taxpayers, costing some \$30 million annually, and noted that the Forest Service faces an estimated \$900 million road maintenance backlog in the forest".

Do not turn Tongass NF, or other public forest lands into another Amazon forest.

Sincerely,

Dennis Therry

Bayside, CA 95524

[Position]