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First name: Sharada Last name: Gilkey Organization:

Title:

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

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I strongly oppose the Forest Service's plan to eliminate "Roadless Rule" protections for the Tongass National Forest and urge you to select the "no action" alternative instead.

It is outrageous that this plan is even being considered. The Tongass National Forest is just that, a National Forest. For all Americans and one of our greatest untouched wilderness areas. My family spent over a week in Alaska this summer and we would like to come back. But if the landscape is scarred by logging, why would we come?

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 releases most of that carbon into the atmosphere.

I also oppose your plan to allow the agency to open an additional 5 million acres of roadless areas.

Please take the "no action" alternative to maintain "Roadless Rule" protections for the Tongass and Chugach.

Sincerely,

Sharada Gilkey

Alexandria, VA 22310

[Position]