

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2019 8:00:00 AM

First name: Marianna

Last name: Riser

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Alaska Roadless Rulemaking #54511

Roadless Rulemaking,

RE: Alaska Roadless DEIS Comment

Dear Secretary Perdue:

I am 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 in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. The Tongass is an environmentally important habitat for wildlife. It contains some of the largest intact old-growth temperate rainforest in the world, and its action as a carbon sink helps to provide clean water for fish and the wildlife habitat in Southeast Alaska contributing to the economic and ecological health of the region. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I totally do not understand, and strongly object to plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forest's roadless areas. Not only do these protections preserve some of America's best fish and wildlife habitat, but it also eliminates the money-losing timber sales, and thus the necessity of taxpayer dollars required to subsidize them. (Logging costs in the Tongass vastly exceed timber revenues and require taxpayer subsidies to the logging industry to pay for economically wasteful road-building.

The Roadless Rule is invaluable in preventing environmentally damage. Keep this rule intact!

Marianna Riser

[Position]