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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

Hello,

I urge you to select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest. For your kids, their kids, and future generations.

I can't believe that yet again our gov. is after the TONGASS old growth forest. Last time the logs went to Japan to be sunk in saltwater to preserve for future use- the logs didn't even go to USA for use by Americans. Soon there won't be Tongass or any old growth left for our grandchildren because of GREED.

We need old growth forest. Not only are there "logs" but a living ecosystem on its canopy and another living biome among its root system...and once you strip that, then we have no good source for replenishing needed rare living treasures for future forests and people-generations-- so dumb to go after the TONGASS again and again.

The Roadless Rule protects old-growth forest for birds like the Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse and Northern Goshawk, as well as for mammals (does our gov CARE??). Opening roadless areas to more logging and roads DESTROYS the big old growth trees that these animals rely on.

We need ancient forests - they are more valuable as carbon processors than sold as logs. The Tongass is one of world's largest. Why is gov going after TONGASS in USAworld will lose the Amazon forest by 2021 (it reaches a critical point where it cannot generate enough of its rain fall) ...even the Siberian forests have been burning. It is desperately sad. Can't we protect what remains in the United States ??

Whereas many countries are working to plant a wall of trees across entire length of the Sahara desert, and U.K. is replanting the forests that were stripped for fuel for centuries in the highlands...what is USA doing? Not protecting TONGASS or I wouldn't have to be writing this. I am so sick of our government trying to give commercial access to lands meant for our children and grandchildren. Soon there will be nothing left and that goes against what forestry mgt is all about.

It is ridiculous that all the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow MORE roadbuilding (ie logging) inside the Tongass National Forest. Logging roads and timber operations cost tens of millions of taxpayer dollars every year, with zero return on investment to taxpayers. The TONGASS is supposed to be HELD IN TRUST for our grandchildren but this action would sell it for short term profit (like spending investment capital rather than passive income...it is plain dumb)

Meanwhile, the logging activities destroy rain catchment, affect forests' relation with salmon spawning and maturation, hurts micro biome we are just now beginning to see value in, wildlife watching/tourism and climate carbon sink. Logging the TONGASS is just plain stupid.

We have already logged every old growth forest in USA and destroyed the insects/spore microbes/ fungi and medicinal wealth that was in these (examples: the Indiana limberlost forest. The hardwood forests of Appalachia and Michigan and so on...) until we do not have anything left for our grandkids to see to let them know what real

mature forests and their supported- life looks like and can give us.

I urge you to select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest. For your kids, their kids, and future generations.

Sincerely,

Heather McMurray

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