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First name: Noreen

Last name: Sullivan

Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Noreen Sullivan and I live in Imperial Beach, California.

Just as it would be a crime to gun down a human being who is helping someone across the street, it is criminal to consider allowing the destruction of trees in America's Climate Forest. Destroying the good that is done for the entire planet by this forest is not just self-destructive -- it is the height of selfish foolishness for the entire planet. I challenge you to find any single VALID reason to contemplate such destruction that can come anywhere near matching the good done by this forest. In addition, it DOES NOT BELONG TO THOSE WHO CONTEMPLATE MAKING THE DECISION. They do not have the "right" to decide to harm/destroy something they had no hand in creating, that is doing them nothing but good, and that will definitely have a negative effect on the entire planet. Have the decisionmakers even heard about the impending disaster known as climate change? Are they aware of how it comes about? How forests are one of the bulwarks against negative climate change??? Hands off the Tongass National Forest!

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Noreen Sullivan

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