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First name: Linda

Last name: Isbell

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

The Roadless Rule were put in place for a reason. It helps protect old-growth habitat for beautiful birds like the Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse and Northern Goshawk among others, as well as for mammals like wolves and deer. Opening roadless areas to more logging and roads will rip up the forest and eliminate more of the big old trees that these animals rely on to survive. Also, intact, ancient forests are strongholds of climate resilience, and the Tongass is one of world's largest.

Don't destroy the Tongass. All of the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest. This is irresponsible. Logging roads and timber operations cost tens of millions of taxpayer dollars every year, with zero return on investment. Why let the timber industry destroy something that can never be replaced? These destructive activities degrade the naturally sustainable wealth of salmon, wildlife watching, and tourism opportunities.

It is time to stop opening more and more acres to the timber industry. Instead put stronger protections in place to save the old-growth forests and wild areas on the Tongass. PLEASE select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest.

Sincerely,

Linda Isbell

Maryland Heights, MO 63043