

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/23/2019 9:00:00 AM

First name: Robin

Last name: White

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

The Roadless Rule helps protect old-growth habitat for birds like the Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse and Northern Goshawk, as well as for mammals like wolves and deer. Opening roadless areas to more logging and roads will fragment the forest and eliminate more of the big old trees that these animals rely on. Furthermore, intact, ancient forests are strongholds of climate resilience, and the Tongass is one of world's largest.

Yet, all of the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest. Logging roads and timber operations cost tens of millions of taxpayer dollars every year, with zero return on investment. Meanwhile, 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 and instead bolster protections to the old-growth forests and wild areas on the Tongass. I urge you to select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest.

Mr President and Congress,

I beg you to stop logging! It is devastating the beauty of our country. It is destroying many species of birds, animals, and even the littlest insects. They have a right to their tree of choice. They have a right to know their species is safe. How can we justify cutting down trees when we have so many sustainable tree farms? Isn't that the entire reason we began tree farms? Plant two trees for every tree taken? When they're hundreds of thousands planted yearly, over many decades, we should never need to deforest our natural resources. If it's not working, those in charge are doing something very wrong. That needs to be investigated! Have paying jobs and education for out of work loggers. In my own point of view, I would never be able to sleep at night had I known I had just stolen the homes of hundreds of living creatures! I'd be crying myself into a new profession!

I beg you to stop America from becoming a flat barren land without beauty. Imagine going to your favorite spot for hiking, camping, boating, or lying on the beach with silence. No birds chirping by day, no owls hooting by night, no crickets chirping. The National Forest Service is in the business of protecting.

Why are people so greedy with homes? What's the purpose of a seven bedroom home when the kids are grown? Buying bigger, better, prettier to keep up with the Joneses... it's wrong! I realize they also have a right to that home. Simply quadruple the price of wood and people will begin to see that 3 bedrooms are enough no matter who you are. If they choose to have 20 people come to stay, they are welcome to rent out a floor of any hotel!!

Stop this madness. Every country is doing their part, or beginning to except us! Why? Why does the Federal Government want to strip away millions of acres of our most pristine beauty? Can't you all see what you're doing here?!!!

Please stop! You're the only ones with the power to fix this man made disaster.

Sincerely,

Robin White

La Salle, IL 61301

[Position]