

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

First name: Jim

Last name: Sweeney

Organization:

Title:

Comments: the Tongass

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I strongly oppose the Forest Service's plan to eliminate "Roadless Rule" protections for the Tongass National Forest.

I repeat. I strongly oppose the Forest Service's plan to eliminate "Roadless Rule" protections for the Tongass National Forest and urge you to instead select the "no action" alternative.

Your proposal to open the door to clearcutting and bulldozing is corrupt.

The Tongass belongs to all Americans and shouldn't be sacrificed to the timber industry, which provides a small fraction of the jobs and income in Southeast Alaska compared to tourism and fishing - both of which rely on intact forests to thrive.

It's even more important to save these last remaining roadless forests because your agency has fragmented and logged so much of our national forests, harming wildlife and waters along the way.

Further, I oppose your plan to allow the agency to open any of the 5 million acres of roadless areas on the Chugach National Forest to bulldozing and clearcutting for logging. This is simply a backdoor repeal of the 2001 Roadless Rule, which protects all roadless lands because of the critical role they play in protecting pure water, secure wildlife habitat and remote recreation.

Please select the "no action" alternative to maintain "Roadless Rule" protections for the Tongass and Chugach.

Sincerely,

Jim Sweeney

Schererville, IN 46375

[Position]