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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Sensible Action: Maintain Roadless Full Rule for Economic Strength

Dear Forest Service,

I strongly support maintaining the the full Roadless Rule in the Tongass National Forest as the most conservative, sensible approach to managing this land entrusted to us for the good of all Americans. (Option 1)
This is the highest and best use of this Forest Land.

Economically, the health of the Tongass is foundational to Alaska's two biggest industries: Fisheries and Tourism. These industries provide many Alaskans and others in the Northwest with good, lifelong jobs and provide a myriad of healthy products for the American people. When well-managed, these industries are renewable, sustainable, and clean.

For the Native Alaskans living in and near the Tongass, the intact Forest is essential to their ability to live independently and care for their families. This is good for the people and the State of Alaska.

For the rest of America, and for the greater good of all, maintaining the old growth in the Tongass is essential to mitigating Climate Change. Regardless of what you think is responsible for the reality of Climate Change, the fact is that the Tongass Forest plays a huge role in balancing the excessive carbon in the system. It makes no sense to rip out a good portion of the world's lungs to sell on the open market. (If you disagree, there are some rich, ailing smokers in China who have a business proposition for you.)

Clearly, the highest and best use of the Tongass Forest happens when it is fully maintained for Fisheries, Tourism, Native food gathering, and vital carbon sequestration to mitigate Climate Change. We must keep the Roadless Rule intact for the good of Alaska, America, and our Future Generations.

Sincerely,

Lari M. Larimer

Bellevue, WA

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