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First name: Cecilia

Last name: Hauer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Keep the Roadless Rule in Place for the Tongass National Forest

Dear Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Alaska Roadless Rule Ken Tu,

I want you to protect and uphold the Roadless Rule in Tongass National Forest. The rule is the only way to keep the Tongass National Forest and its backcountry and roadless areas safe from unnecessary logging and development.

Not only is the Tongass National Forest public land, it provides clean water, clean air, and wildlife habitat, all of which are foundational to the economic and ecological health of Southeast Alaska. The role of the Tongass in providing a refuge to all Americans from development and industry and its unique ability as the largest temperate rainforest to sequester carbon cannot be replaced or restored once roads, logging, and development begin.

The Roadless Rule was created after a lot of careful research and public outreach. It's a popular and sensible approach to land management that keeps public land public. Development, mining, and logging are already allowed on 50% of public lands. Only 18% are designated as true Wilderness Areas. The Roadless Rule protects an additional 30% and provides essential balance and equity between development and protection of public lands so that ALL Americans can experience wilderness and forests with clean air, clean water, and intact plant and animal species.

Sincerely,

Cecilia Hauer

Chehalis, WA 98532

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