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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Public Comment on Draft AK-specific roadless rule

We thought we had already commented on this proposal but apparently it was during an earlier comment period. We strongly urge you to select the NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE and keep the magnificent Tongass NF's 9.3 million acres of roadless land intact. We explored some of this unique temperate rainforest in 2018 and were amazed by its beauty and biodiversity. From the inside passage region to the Kenai peninsula we hiked and marveled at the forest's uniqueness. Its flora and fauna are incomparable. It is part of our shared natural heritage as a nation that must be preserved for future generations. Especially in this era of climate change, the Tongass is so important because it stores more carbon than any other national forest. It is such important habitat for myriad creatures; roads and motors would be a huge negative effect. Plus, there are so few places left on earth which allow for solitude and renewal in the natural world. Please keep this most carbon-trapping forest on earth intact. The local economies depend far more on an intact forest than one decimated by logging old growth. We hope you will do the right thing for all of us who love the Tongass and for the future of both humans and wildlife. Thank you for listening.

Gail and John Richardson

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