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First name: Simon

Last name: Hook

Organization:

Title:

Comments: FW: Roadless Rule

Robin Dale

Alaska Roadless Coordinator

Forest Service

Alaska Regional Office

Juneau, AK 99801

Caring for the land and serving people

From: Simon Hook

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 4:57 PM

To: Dale, Robin -FS

Subject: Roadless Rule

To whom it may concern,

My name is Simon Hook and I have worked in tourism for the past 14 years in Alaska. I am a resident of Sitka and am concerned about the way the state government is overstepping years of research that initially protected the 2001 Roadless Rule. I support the upholding of the Roadless Rule and would like to see government listen to the residents Alaska in support of protecting the valuable last contiguous temperate rain forest on the planet. The industry of logging has squandered the natural resources that Alaska has and is risking sustainable fisheries, important wildlife and the people of Southeast Alaska's way of life. Productivity of logged space is detrimental to

the animals that live here, and clean water and habitats provided to fish and wildlife are essential to the ecological and economic health of Southeast Alaska communities and residents. Maintenance of 2001 Roadless Rule is vital to tourism and fishing industries, we have only to look to Canada to see what a negative effect humans can have on a landscape. The effect on climate change by providing carbon sequestration benefits far outweighs the extraction of resources. Every time you breathe the trees of the Tongass National forest absorb the Co2 and release oxygen, the largest old growth are magnitudes better at this than second growth. these trees are life! The forest will never be the same if the Roadless Rule is not upheld, imagine having to wait 800 years for a tree to get back to where they are now, we owe our children better than destroying our landscape and ruining the habitat we live in. My name is Simon Hook and I support the Roadless rule staying intact.

Simon Hook

[Position]