

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/24/2019 8:00:00 AM

First name: Jace

Last name: DeCory

Organization:

Title:

Comments: formal comment - Tongass National Forest

Dear Sirs-- I am writing to vehemently oppose the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) proposal to exempt the Tongass National Forest from the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule, which prohibits tree harvest and road construction/ reconstruction within inventoried roadless areas with certain limited exceptions. This area is precious and sacred to the Indigenous people and non-Native folks who reside near this area for conservative subsistence and traditional harvesting for their livelihood. To open it up for probable timber harvesting and purely economic ventures is a slap in the face to the environment, the trees and to the ancestors of these special lands. I live within the boundaries of one of the most roaded national parks in the USA (Black Hills National Forest) and know how difficult it has been to protect and preserve these special places. it would certainly be devastating if this pristine area is violated by the folks who should be protecting these areas for our future generations. Thank you for your serious consideration of this proposed exemption. Be well. Sincerely, Ms. Jace DeCory, Lakota elder/retired educator

[Position]