

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/21/2019 8:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hands off Tongass National Forest

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

Count me in full, principled opposition to the Forest Service's regressive plan to carve up the Tongass National Forest with new logging roads, eliminating its 20 years of Roadless Rule protections in the process. The "no action" alternative is the only one in this juvenile proposal that it isn't directly malicious to the Tongass, its inhabitants, and the U.S. public who owns it.

The Forest Service has never been known as a forward-thinking agency, but its apparent intent for both the Tongass and now the Chugach national forests suggests what it really seeks is a time machine back to the 1980s. It would all be laughable if not for the destruction that will come if the bulldozers and chainsaws are unleashed.

There are four main, modern public needs for our national forest system: 1) carbon sequestration, 2) clean water, 3) fish and wildlife habitat, and 4) compatible, low-impact recreation. Even someone working the mail room of the Trump administration can understand that what the Forest Service is proposing here is the polar opposite of these obvious priorities.

Instead, the Forest Service wants to give away our birthright to a few well-positioned extractive interests. The forest will of course never recover if this comes to pass. The Forest Service has already trashed so much, yet now it wishes to inflict even more wreckage. Seems to me that it's time to start thinking about eliminating this disgraceful agency altogether. The Park Service, for all its faults, would make a far better manager of these lands, in large part because they aren't making any more of 'em.

For the love of god, stop embarrassing yourself and everyone else with one attempt after another to rape wild nature for the benefit of a few swindlers. Keep your rancid industrialization impulse the hell out of the Tongass and Chugach. No action!

Sincerely,

James Scarborough

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