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Organization:
Title:
Comments: HC471

Dear Roadless Rule Planning Team,

The health of the Tongass National Forest is important to me. I depend on the Tongass which is a unique and global treasure.

The freshwater streams where salmon and old growth forest of the Tongass provide spawning habitat for these fish, which in turn feed a matrix of bears, birds, insects, and other wildlife that Alaska is so famous for. The health of our economy, which is heavily dependent on the fishing and tourism industries, also depends on the salmon, wildlife and presence of old growth forests. A sustainable future for Southeast Alaska requires protecting expansive areas of intact habitat - in short, it requires keeping our Roadless areas roadless! I urge the Forest Service and the Secretary to protect important salmon spawning habitat, maintain old growth forests for winter deer habitat, and keep the places I like to recreate free of clearcuts and roadbuilding.

WHO I AM: [text bolded for emphasis] Include your name, where you live, and any relevant biographical information. Do you live or work on the Tongass National Forest? What is your relationship to the Tongass?

I'm Ambre Delpopolo originally from Virginia now residing in Seattle. I work on GOA fishing boats and spend all my shore time enjoying SE forests.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE: [text bolded for emphasis] The Forest Service will choose how to proceed from a number of different alternatives. If you want the Roadless Rule to remain on the Tongass, write "No Action."

Keep our lands roadless No Action!

WHY I PREFER THIS ALTERNATIVE: [text bolded for emphasis] How would this alternative affect you and Southeast Alaskans?

This ecosystem is critical to conservation, ecotourism, and general health. Damaging this pristine system, critical to so many people plants and animals, for a short term goal is a terrible idea.

AREAS: [text bolded for emphasis] Are there specific islands, watersheds, or mountains that you depend on? Name the most important areas that the Roadless Rule to protect. Examples include the Tenakee Inlet, Nakwasina Sound, Fish Bay, Ushk Bay, Northern Prince of Wales, T77 salmon watershed areas, Audobon TNC ecological priority areas, etc.

Audobon + salmon watershed areas are essential but the entire system works as a web so every place is essential for the health of the region.

USE: [text bolded for emphasis] What activities do you use the Tongass National Forest for? Hunting, fishing, recreation, subsistence, business, tourism, etc.

Recreation, fishing, tourism

general mental health

SUGGESTION: [text bolded for emphasis] How should the Forest Service manage the Tongass National Forest, rather than old-growth clearcut logging? More sustainable alternatives to timber harvest include salmon watershed restoration, visitor industry infrastructure, deer habitat enhancement, young growth thinning, and maintenance of recreation infrastructure such as trails and cabins.

Any restoration, esp that which encourages sustainable recreational use and respects local/native heritage

Additional comments for the Forest Service:

Roadless ALL the way!

Sincerely,

Ambre Delpopolo

I want to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Statement

[Position]