Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/13/2019 9:00:00 AM
First name: Carly
Last name: Dennis
Organization:
Title:
Comments: HC413

Dear Roadless Rule Planning Team,

I live in Southeast Alaska, where my lifestyle, the ecology of the forest, and the economy of our communities are all intricately intertwined. I live in this region for the bountiful salmon runs, the beautiful scenery, the clean air and water, and the endless opportunities to recreate in our expansive outdoors. I am one of the 94% of Southeast Alaskans that eats salmon every year. 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]

My name is Carly Dennis. I grew up in Eagle River, and am currently spending the summer in Sitka.

ALTERNATIVE: [text bolded for emphasis] The alternative I support is: No-Action alternative

Because: The Tongass should be protected for Southeast Alaskans to live + work. Clearcut logging will hurt our communities + economy.

AREAS: [text bolded for emphasis] The areas I want to see protected from road building and old growth timber harvest are:

I think all of the Tongass is valuable but I care especially about salmon watersheds such as the T77.

USE: [text bolded for emphasis] Old-growth logging and road building would negatively impact the productivity of the ecosystem that I depend on for the following activities:

Old growth logging will impair my ability to fish for salmon. It will impair my ability to pick berries. It wiould contribute to climate change, an issue impacting all Alaskans severely - the Tongass is a carbon sink that should be protected.

SUGGESTION: [text bolded for emphasis] The monofocus on increasing timber production in the Tongass is outdated and out of pace with the current economy and lifestyle in Southeast Alaska. Industrial scale harvesting of old-growth forest does not enhance salmon production, visitor industry values, deer habitat, or my recreation experience. I would like the Forest Service to focus on activities that enhance and support our lifestyle of living off the land and the sustainable sectors of our economy. These activities are:

Restore the Tongass, don't log it! Please focus on salmon watershed restoration, and sustainable tourism. I support primitive + semi-primitive creation, and I prioritize the needs of First Alaskans.

The DEIS does not sufficiently analyze the impacts of possible roadbuilding and timber harvest on subsistence use areas. I want the 'community priority' roadless area to contain protections for the areas I use for subsistence hunting, fishing, and gathering. I advocate for no timber harvest and no roadbuilding *in the following community use areas that I use for subsistence:* [text bolded for emphasis]

Redoubt Bay + Silver Bay and all of Kruzof Island, as well as the areas surrounding Funter Bay on Admiralty Island.

Additional comments for the Forest Service:

The Tongass is more valuable left standing. Old-growth logging is absolute + archaic, and it will harm our communities. We live here for the beauty + productivity of the Tongass - a productivity greater than salmon, subsistance, and tourism than timber.

Sincerely,

Carly Dennis

I do not want to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Statement

[Position]