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First name: Kale

Last name: Pastel

Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC408

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]

Alaska resident, fisherman, subsistence harvester, enjoyer of the forest and beach and ocean.

***ALTERNATIVE:** [text bolded for emphasis] The alternative I support is: NO ACTION

Because: Limit large scale clearcutting esp. of old growth trees. Keep the Tongass wild!!! Save the heritage to pass on to generations of unspoiled forest.

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

Admiralty/Baranof/Kruzof/Chichagoff Islands and surrounding outer coast and Chatham coasts.

***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:

Commercial, sport, subsistence fishing, hunting, trapping, crabbing, shrimping, firewood harvesting. Plant, berry, fungi food and medicinal harvesting. The ability to share those things and pass them on to family.

***SUGGESTION:** [text bolded for emphasis] The monofocus on increasing timber production in the Tongass is outdated and out of pace with the current economy and lifestyle in Southeast Alaska.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:

Kayaking, canoeing, skiffing, rock and shell collecting, enjoying wildlife, and fish and birds and forest. Feeding the soul with God's handiwork.

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]

Admiralty/Baranof/Chichigof/Kruzof Islands and Chatham coast

Additional comments for the Forest Service:

Leave the Tongass roadless and preserve the unique ecosystem with its remaining old growth forests intact for following generations. Harvest smaller trees or helicopter log big trees selectively

Sincerely,

Kale Pastel

I want to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Statement

[Position]