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First name: Graham

Last name: Taylor

Organization: National Parks & Conservation Association

Title:

Comments: Alaska Roadless Rulemaking #54511

Good morning,

The below comment was recorded on November 23, 2019 at the REI Flagship Store in Seattle, WA as part of a community meeting regarding the Alaska Roadless Rule. Washington Wild was given permission by the individual to submit this comment to the United States Forest Service on their behalf. Please add their comment into the record.

Thank you.

Graham Taylor, National Parks & Conservation Association

Hello, my name's Graham Taylor and I'm a Program Manager with the National Parks Conservation Association. We're a group that advocates for our National Parks and that includes the little historic sites that celebrate our history as well as the large landscapes that really allow us to experience the natural world. I'm here today to support the roadless rule on behalf of NPCA and thank Senator Cantwell for her leadership and protection of the roadless rule, our public lands and our national parks. But you know, the parks are not islands. They are a part of a larger mosaic of public lands that are important to the integrity of our national parks. Everything is connected as John Muir said to us. And so by protecting the roadless lands, we also protect our national parks and the other areas connected to them. But really this scheme to undo the roadless rule- it brings me to a question about who is going to profit, who is going to profit from this, the few or the many? Because right now we all profit from the clean air, the clean water, amazing outdoor recreation experiences, and the climate impacts. We all profit right now. But if we undo this, if we mess with the roadless rule, if we trust this administration who has burned us at every single opportunity to undo the roadless rule, then we're going down a path that not just our children and grandchildren will regret, but that we will regret. Because right now we all profit but under this plan, undoing the roadless act, we all suffer. So NPCA supports the no action alternative because the roadless areas protect our watersheds. They protect our landscapes and our wildlife that make these lands special and the people that inhabit this earth. Thank you so much.

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Hillary Sanders, Member and Engagement Manager

She/Her

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