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Comments: At Patagonia, the protection and preservation of the environment isn't what we do after hours. It's the reason we're in business and every day's work. We believe the environmental crisis has reached a critical tipping point. Without commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, defend clean water and air, and divest from extractive industries that harm our public lands and waters, humankind as a whole will destroy our planet's ability to repair itself. We aim to use the resources we have do something about it.

The skewed-priorities-which elevate industrial concerns over public sentiment and environmental health- are on display all over the country, but nowhere more than Alaska. Spread across a 500- mile-long coastal archipelago, the Tongass is one of the last intact temperate rainforests in the world. Existing roadless restrictions have been in place for two decades and were celebrated as a bipartisan effort.

But we continue our pursuit to clear-cut trees, catch too many fish, spray too many chemicals and extract and burn too many nonrenewable fuels. We diminish the roaming areas for wolves and grizzlies, warm the seas to temperatures hostile to humpback whales and destroy habitat for songbirds. We put at risk the beauty and diversity of the world and endanger our own lives.

Businesses have a critical role to play in protecting the natural systems from which we benefit. This goes hand-in-hand with creating jobs, building more livable communities, and improving health and prosperity for all.

Today, we lend our voice and speak loudly for the preservation of a roadless Tongass National Forest which is not only one of the greatest gifts we can leave for future generations, it is also a critical step toward tackling the climate crisis head-on before it's too late.

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