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Comments: Hello,

I am writing to oppose the plans/alternatives to removing the 2001 roadless rule for the Tongass National Forest. I believe the option of allowing timber and mining work in the area is extremely short sighted and a poor approach to serving the area in the long term.

The value of this area, economically and environmentally, is more substantial from it remaining intact. Anyone critically examining this potential change can see it is simply for the benefit of timber and mining companies. Any economic benefit to the communities will be short lived as those benefits will disappear when the commodity is gone and they will be left with negative impacts of these industries for decades or more.

This area should remain intact for the benefit of people in the area and the rest of the country, not the tiny number of private enterprises that will profit from its destruction. Please do not allow any new development or access under a repeal of the Roadless Rule.

Do not miss the forest through the trees. Think long term, that is where the value of this place exists.

Thanks

Breffni O'Rourke

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