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First name: Neil
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: HC974

Dear Chief Christiansen,

I am a visitor to the lands and waters of Southeast Alaska. The Tongass National Forest is a large part of why I am here. Visitors like me come to witness the vast, beautiful stands of old-growth trees that can't be found on such a scale anywhere else in the United States. We come to crew on commercial fishing boats. We come to hunt, fish and hike in America's largest National Forest. That is why it is important to me that the 2001 Roadless Rule remain in place on the Tongass National Forest. A no-action alternative is the best option for Alaskans and Americans.

I support the Tongass Transition and I would like the Forest Service to continue phasing out old growth clearcutting. This forest is a salmon forest, and the Forest Service should focus on restoring degraded watersheds and fish streams. Please prioritize conservation of the T77 and TNC conservation priority areas in any new Alaska Roadless Rule. Tourism and commercial fishing are at the heart of Southeast's economy, not the antiquated timber industry.