

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/17/2019 9:00:00 AM

First name: Jonathan

Last name: Stewart

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am commenting as a concerned citizen. I have visited this region, as have millions of tourists over the last however many years. It is such a beautiful, pristine, and well-preserved area, with great support for wildlife and the environment. I always feel there needs to be a balance of our environment and the people who live there, but from what I've read changing this designation would create very few jobs and actually harm the local economy in the long run. The eco-tourism attached to Tongass is a major economic driver in the area and those jobs are much more than are produced by industry interests. Plus, fishing is another major industry and that is also highly dependent on intact. Thus a majority of local oppose the harm to their economy this rule change would bring. Seems we should be listening to local citizens on this, in addition to those like me who want to see true preservation for future generations.

[Position]

[Position]