

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

First name: Nancy

Last name: Shimeall

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am very strongly opposed to lifting the roadless rule in the Tongass National Forest and I support "no action" which would leave the roadless rule in place. This project impacts all of us in the region, and in the world, especially as we see the fires, heat-setting records, sea-level rise causing relocation of Alaska's citizens, and the destabilized jet stream disrupting life in the lower 48. In addition, the future for Southeast Alaska is fishing, recreation, and tourism. In the future, electric ferries (which would cut emissions by 95% and costs by 80%) will be transporting Alaskans and tourists to Southeast Alaska. Tourists may fly to the Tongass on one of Zunum Aero's electric planes. An ecologically sound trail system throughout the Tongass that would lure mountain bikers and hikers from around the world. Treehouses and cabins built with environmental stewardship and LEED design principles in mind could be available to the public. Alaskan youth could come to the Tongass to serve their country and to learn leadership and STEM skills, and the Tongass could be a place of healing for those who are suffering from addiction and other mental health issues. In the future we will have quiet, electric flightseeing tours to view the old growth forest and all its inhabitants. I imagine the Tongass National Forest as a resource to boost local economies. Quirky, uniquely Alaskan towns and cities along with the awe inspiring natural beauty and wildlife here in Alaska are the reason people come to Alaska. The future of Southeast Alaska, and the lower 48 states, depends on the Tongass National Forest and so, I'm strongly opposed to putting a road through it.

[Position]

[Position]