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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Growing up off the road system in southeast Alaska, I took it for granted that there would be whales in my front yard, blueberries to pick, wild salmon and deer to harvest, and a healthy population of brown bears as neighbors. At that point, I appreciated the big trees in the Tongass for sheltering the ground from snow and allowing me to tromp around beneath them easily, without heavy underbrush. But what I didn't realize then was that those big trees were supporting the entire ecosystem- without them the rich biodiversity of one of the last intact temperate rainforests would not be possible. I strongly oppose exempting the Tongass National Forest from the Roadless Rule. It doesn't make sense economically, and it would be a disaster biologically. I support Alternative 1.

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