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First name: Bill

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I lived and worked out of Yakutat for 20 years. I spent a lot of tax payer dollars tree thinning, writing forestry plans for the local native corporation and borough, fixing trench roads, stream crossings culverts, etc. The amount of damage done by clearcut harvesting can't be overstated. I owned a sawmill and took advantage of the 10,000 bf allowance off the Tongass to build two small houses and a shop. Many of these trees were almost 300 years old. SWe are taking down an ecosystem that is older than our country. It will not be replaced and there are now second growth harvests ongoing in the Yakutat Borough.

The value of the forests to produce deer and salmon are much higher then a one time sale of old growth timber. I hand trolled, power trolled and gillnetted salmon and harvested dozens of deer over the years. Clearcuts silt in small salmon tributaries, increase low flow water temperatures and are useless for deer hunting and martin trapping for 80 or more years unless aggressively thinned. Even then it takes them out of fish and wildlife production for decades

When the roadless rule was initiated it was the most commented on environmental regulatory change in history to that date. This latest attempt throws all of that under the bus. You can destroy a watershed in a few years and it takes centuries to regain the services it once provided.

I support the no action alternative

Thank You

[Position]