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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please take the NO ACTION alternative on the Alaska Roadless Rulemaking project. First of all, road building in the Tongass National Forest causes fragmentation of valuable habitats and migration corridors for wildlife. Second, road building introduces invasive species and weeds that are unhealthy for wildlife and will compete, or out-compete, natural flora. As such, prudent management would minimize road building in forested areas.

The current Roadless Rule already allows road construction for mining, power projects and the like. These projects involve point to point roads to access publicly beneficial infrastructure. Logging roads are required to access huge non-point timber sale areas to one or more log transfer facilities. In their wake, timber sales leave huge devastated habitat and migration areas that won't recover to an old growth condition for hundreds of years. These are essentially single use roads.

The Tongass National Forest was exceedingly and unsustainably harvested during the long term timber sale contracts. Old growth harvesting needs to be nearly completely stopped for decades to come in order to bring that harvesting to a sustainable rate.

I believe the greatest public need is to maintain the current wise management found in the original Roadless Rule, which far out-weighs the minimal private net benefits of building logging roads.

Please choose the NO ACTION Alternative. Thank you for your consideration.

[POSITION]