Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/17/2019 9:00:00 AM First name: Matt Last name: Laurnen Organization: Title:

Comments: I am writing to urge the U.S. Forest Service to leave the Roadless Rule intact for the Tongass National Forest. The last remaining stands of old growth forest are vital for holding Prince of Wales Island and the rest of Southeast Alaska in ecological balance. Considering the threat our nation faces from global climate change, the last thing we should be doing is clear cutting our largest, most pristine national forest.

The claim that the Roadless Rule is stunting economic growth in Southeast Akaska is a farce. It's a guise to open the Tongass to logging so that a couple of timber companies can reap massive profits exporting old growth logs to Asia.

I am asking for the Forest Service to consider what's best for its current citizens and future generations, and reconsider its efforts to exempt the Tongass from the Roadless Rule.

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