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

First name: Cassandra Last name: Branthoover

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Tongass National Forest is important to me because I grew up in Alaska. The uniqueness of its wilderness is what preserves the wildlife, the environment and the way of life for the people who live there. I'm Alaska Native our way of life came from the forest and we were taught to respect it and keep it safe. Building a road would bring destruction with giving more access to our forests which would allow for easy removal of trees. It is unique because of the untouched lands. We need to preserve and keep the Tonga's safe by not allowing roadways. It could cause ecosystems to fail once trees are removed. Whether that be wildlife, plants, water ways coming from the mountains by stream and river. Bears, bald eagles, deer, and many other creatures that depend on the forests for protection and subsistence. Along with the many Alaskans that depend on the forests as well. It is our job to keep it safe. It is the Native way of life, our heritage, our legacy, life flows from the forest. We need to keep The Tonga's safe so it can thrive for years to come.

[Position]