Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/17/2019 9:00:00 AM First name: Alina Last name: Yemelyanov Organization: Title: Comments: I am a college student in the field of public health. Naturally, as a very health-conscious individual, I'm inclined to lead a rather health-conscious lifestyle. This health-oriented approach especially extends to any and all things directly pertaining to the health of our environment. I consider myself to be an ardent activist for the environment and for making our world a much healthier and more sustainable one than it currently is. In fact, I am very concerned about the health of this planet's ecosystems and natural environments, and I am even MORE concerned about what the future has in store as environmental degradation continues to accelerate. As a young person, I often wonder what kind of quality future I will have left to live. Which is why I wholeheartedly believe that it is prime time to STOP mindlessly opening more and more acres of trees to the timber industry. Instead, we need to continuously BOLSTER long-lasting protections to trees and natural environments--and this includes the old-growth forests and wild areas of the Tongass.

The Tongass contains some of the last remaining intact old-growth temperate rainforests in the ENTIRE world.

Its value in providing endless recreation opportunities, vital clean water, and diverse fish and wildlife habitat is absolutely CRUCIAL to the economic, cultural, and ecological health of Southeast Alaska. I urge you to keep the 2001 National Roadless Rule FULLY INTACT and to maintain current protections in place on the Tongass National Forest.

We have already SEVERELY UNDERMINED the health of our planet enough as it is--& amp; now is the moment when invested individuals like me begin to fight back.

NOW is the time to select the "NO-ACTION" alternative on the Alaska-specific Roadless Rule to protect ALL inventoried roadless areas on the Tongass National Forest under the 2001 National Roadless Rule.
NOW is the time to be good stewards of our planet's natural ecosystemslike we actually CARE (for once) about the health of the only planet we have to sustain us.
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