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First name: Neena

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Organization: Ms.

Title:

Comments: As a US citizen, I want my government to know I am completely against the proposed plan for logging in one of America's last old-growth forests. We must continue to protect these areas for all eternity. The health of our planet, peoples, and wildlife depend on these protections.

"The Tongass stores more carbon removed from the atmosphere than any other national forest in the country in its old-growth Sitka spruce, hemlock and cedar trees. It helps protect Alaska, which is warming more than twice as fast from climate change as our planet overall. The forest holds about 650 million tons of carbon or about half of U.S. carbon dioxide emissions in 2017.

Historically, large-scale industrial logging has damaged salmon streams. The Tongass is spawning ground for 40 percent of wild salmon along the West Coast. Its sad that we have to continue to fight our own government to protect our forests and streams, says Joel Jackson, the president of the Organized Village of Kake which depends on food such as berries and salmon from the Tongass.

The Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian people rely on the land for cultural and traditional practices like hunting and fishing."

--https://www.salon.com/2019/12/15/forest-service-moves-to-open-americas-amazon-to-loggers_partner/

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