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Organization:
Title:
Comments: I am writing to express my strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support in order to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands. This includes large parts of the Tongass National Forest. Any choice other than No Action would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans,including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

Tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual $1 billion in economic benefit in southeast Alaska, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry which contributes less than 1% to the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change. It would jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged. Thank you for considering these comments.

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