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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I strongly oppose eliminating the roadless area protections in the Tongass National Forest. First, I believe that the current NEPA process has been predetermined by Secretary Perdue. Second, I do not believe that lifting the roadless rule is in the best interest of the American public or the Tongass NF ecosystem.

Reopening these NFS lands to logging will damage two of Alaska's biggest economic industries, tourism and fisheries, both of which are sustainable and generate income for many, many individuals and communities across Southeast Alaska. Additionally, as a tax payer, I am opposed to subsidizing the high costs incurred by timber operations for roads and timber sales administration; taxpayers are already paying a steep price to restore watersheds previously damaged by logging operations. As a long-time resident of Alaska, I believe it is more important to prioritize protecting and sustaining the Forest's salmon resource and its habitat for future generations. As a Federal subsistence fisher and hunter, it is crucial that I and others like me have access to intact, healthy watersheds that will continue to produce food for our households and provide wild spaces for recreation. Removing the roadless rule will jeopardize an irreplaceable resource - one of the world's last intact temperate rainforests - for future generations.

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