Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/16/2019 9:00:00 AM
First name: Sally
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Re: the Trump administration's instruction to reverse the limits of tree cutting in the Tongass National Forest roadless area

The timber industry's history of laying waste to one of the "last remaining intact temperate rainforest in the world" suggests that appeasing this industry's demands for more cutting is just another Trumpian tactic to:

1) buy anti-impeachment votes from Alaska's U.S. Senators by giving them a pork-barrel project, the likes of which was firmly rejected in 2006 for subsidizing no more than 200 jobs in Alaska at a federal cost of $200,000 per job. (See Wikipedia entry for Tongass roadless areas controversy)

2) mock science, scientists and the achievements of dedicated government employees by reversing their transition into "non-timber...(sources of revenue) such as recreation, subsistence food, salmon, scientific use, and carbon sequestration (which) contributes more than $2 billion" annually." (Wikipedia: (Description of the Tongass National Forest))

On behalf of the USA, I am---- impressed with the importance of such huge remaining carbon sinks as the Tongass in slowing climate change. --impressed with the terrible health effects on humans and animals of un-checked industrial pollution from natural resource extraction, i.e. the pulping operations subsidized by the Forest Services' 50 year contracts set up in the 1950's with the Ketchikan Pulp Company and the Alaska Pulp Company. (Wikipedia) --impressed with the impossible situations of this nation's wildlife as its members are backed into ever-smaller and less sustainable habitats by human development and consumption.andI very much hope that this newest effort to chip away at the Tongass National Forest will NOT BE PERMITTED!

Loggers of the past have shown their colors: they "high-graded" out over two-thirds of the original 4% of "big trees" in the Forest, clear-cut, pulped and sold off at a deficit much more. Continuing preferential treatment for Big Timber is not a good deal for the USA or the planet.

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