Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/17/2019 9:00:00 AM
First name: Jerry
Last name: Nankervis
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Roadless Rule

Thanks for reading this brief comment.

I have been a resident of SE Alaska since 1987 and have seen and experienced firsthand the negative effects the Roadless Rule have had on our economy. Unlike other parts of the state, the population in our area of the state is shrinking. The costs of getting out of town are greater here than most places in the country. We have a Capital city than cannot be accessed by the rest of the state via roads (unlike nearly every other Capital city). The timber jobs have almost completely disappeared during my time here. Since the roadless rule went into effect, the costs of mineral exploration have skyrocketed, accessing and developing essential infrastructure such as hydropower is more difficult, and roads to resources is nearly impossible. It appears to me that "conservation" has been replaced by "preservation". When your community, and your state, is a resource based place (and economy), the roadless rule has effectively put a stranglehold on SE Alaska. If the roadless rule were to be modified, we could still have some preservation, but would again have conservation, as was intended when the forests were designated.

Thanks for your time,

Sincerely, Jerry Nankervis, Juneau AK.

[Position]