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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

We always hope the Forest Service will protect our environment and natural resources. And yet we hear of your plans to disregard the Roadless Rule which helps protect old-growth habitat for birds like the Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse and Northern Goshawk, as well as for mammals like wolves and deer. Opening roadless areas to more logging and roads will fragment the forest and eliminate more of the big old trees that these animals rely on. Furthermore, intact, ancient forests are strongholds of climate resilience, and the Tongass is one of world's largest.

In spite of this, all of the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest. Logging roads and timber operations cost tens of millions of taxpayer dollars every year, and these destructive activities degradethe naturally sustainable wealth of salmon, wildlife watching, and tourism opportunities.

You must stop opening more and more acres to the timber industry. Instead you should bolster protections to the old-growth forests and wild areas on the Tongass. I urge you to select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest.

Sincerely,

Carolyn King

[Position]