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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Tongass roadless areas - select Alternative 1, "No Action" alternative

Dear Secretary Perdue and Ms. Christiansen:

I have a friend who is an Alaskan resident who relies on public lands in Alaska for hunting the meat for his family's dinners and dip netting salmon for the majority of the fish his family eats. The Tongass National Forest not only contributes to providing food for his table, it is also a huge contributor to many southeastern Alaskan's who rely on subsistence activities, commercial fishing, the outdoor recreation industry, and for personal recreational pursuits.

Fishing and tourism are the primary drivers of southeast Alaska's economy by comparison to the minimal contribution of logging. We call on Secretary Perdue to prioritize the voices of the majority of southeast Alaskans over those of timber lobbyists as he considers the future of the Roadless Rule in Alaska.

This decision goes against years of collaboration between the U.S. Forest Service, Southeastern Alaskan tribes, outdoor recreation and fishing interests and local Alaskan communities.

Allowing large-scale logging is not only a bad idea for tourism and recreation, but for the environment and climate crisis as well.

I urge you to maintain protections for the Tongass roadless areas by selecting the Alternative 1, "No Action" alternative.

Sincerely,

William Eckerle

[Position]