

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/16/2019 9:00:00 AM

First name: Anne

Last name: Volmer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Roadless Rule

Dear US Forest Service Persons,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to rolling back the Roadless Rule for the Tongass National Forest.

As you know, this is an ecosystem of unparalleled richness. Watersheds need to remain intact for the health of the already diminishing salmon runs, and the salmon fishery.

Rain forest soils, and in some areas volcanic soils, and steep terrain will mean devastating erosion if clearcutting or patch cutting are allowed. Risk of landslides, already a natural hazard of the Tongass, will substantially increase.

The Tongass is invaluable globally, for its carbon sequestration.

This wilderness is home to the ABC Islands bear, which has a unique genetic structure and is ONLY found in the Tongass. As you know, such large predators NEED extensive roadless territories.

Precious few places as wild and expansive as the Tongass remain on this earth. The Tongass is jewel, a treasure to be protected, and it serves as a valuable example of successful balance between humans and wilderness.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Anne Volmer

Craftsbury Common, VT 05827

[Position]