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First name: Kelly

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Protect Tongass

Hello,

As an environmental scientist working on ecology related issues for a little over a few years now, it is in the best interest of future generations and the native ecology to this area to avoid an exception to the roadless area rule. The statistics on the matter are quite clear: logging is a minor economic source to Alaska compared to the tourism and fishing industry this forest generates. To enable an exemption is a slippery slope that will no doubt be not only an economic mistake in the long term, but also an ecological one as well. Short term economic growth is not worth the long term destruction, it's sad to think history is not enough to look at and see why this shouldn't be in question.

If there is any further action scientists can take to support the protection of this area, please let me know.

Thank you,

Kelly Neal

UC Davis Fishery Researcher

[Position]