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First name: William

Last name: Gilbert

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please maintain protections for the Tongass and Chugach National Forests

Dear Secretary Sonny Perdue,

With all of the natural resources already available, it makes no sense to despoil the Tongass and Chugach National Forests of Alaska. These publicly owned and managed areas in our national forests have been protected to conserve watersheds, wildlife habitat and recreational values for the last twenty years. I understand the U.S. Department of Agriculture is considering removing these protections and I urge you, in the strongest terms, to not approve this request.

Changing the Roadless Rule for Alaska could irreversibly threaten national forest lands across the state, from ancient forests including thousand-year-old Sitka spruce, western hemlock, and western red cedar. The Tongass is also home to endemic species including brown bear, wolf, eagles, black-tailed deer, and world-class salmon habitat that support commercial and recreational fisheries. Once our roadless areas are gone, they're gone forever.

I urge you to please maintain protections for our national forests in Alaska.

Please stop the rollback of the important 2001 National Roadless Rule in Alaska and protect our national forests!

Sincerely,

William Gilbert

Warren, NJ 07059

[POSITION]