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First name: Eli

Last name: Bronstein

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support alternative one

Hello,

As a member of the public I wanted to make it clear that I am in favor of Alternative One: there should be NO renewed logging or road building in the Tongass national forest, and the roadless rule should be respected and continued.

I am of this opinion for several reasons. For one, Alaska has not relied on the profit from the timber industry for a long time now - tourism contributes a much larger boost to the economy. The destruction of even part of this priceless natural landscape will not just damage the environment, but could damage tourism as well.

The forest in that area - as well as any forest - is an important carbon sink. At no cost to us, the forest is filtering carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and offsetting human emissions. Allowing logging companies to remove trees at will will directly contribute to the CO2 climate crisis that the planet faces. We must preserve our forests at all costs. Specifically, Tongass is many thousands of years old, and cannot be regrown to any shadow of its current state in our lifetimes if cut. It must remain intact, healthy and protected.

The indigenous population near Tongass has expressed their desire to keep the roadless rule: at least five villages and communities have written resolutions stating as such, but lawmakers have not weighed these important statements appropriately. Tongass is history, environment, and legacy. It must be respected and left alone.

Once again, I support alternative one. Please take my view into consideration.

Best,

Eli Bronstein

[Position]