Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/17/2019 9:00:00 AM

First name: Karen Last name: Rehder Organization:

Title:

Comments: Keep the Roadless Rule in Place for the Tongass National Forest

Dear Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Alaska Roadless Rule Ken Tu,

I am an outdoor recreation enthusiast writing to express my interest in continuing to protect the Tongass National Forest and its backcountry and roadless areas from unnecessary logging and development.

The Tongass has tremendous value for outdoor recreation in the region, and also provides clean water, clean air, and wildlife habitat, all of which are foundational to the economic and ecological health of Southeast Alaska. Road building, logging, and development should continue to be prohibited in the Tongass's roadless areas through upholding the Roadless Rule.

The Roadless Rule was created after a lot of public outreach. It's a popular and sensible approach to land management.

Throughout human history, indigenous and native populations recognized that life and survival was dependent upon responsible practices. Responsible stewardship means not giving in to greed and fast money. The value of the Tongass is not in its logged timber or mining possibilities. The value is in its rich biodiversity, its old world virgin forests, its wild places. Put responsible stewardship above greed and you make a wise investment in the future of the Tongass, of Alaska, our nation, and the world.

Sincerely,
Karen Rehder

[Position]