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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC4051

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

My first trip to Prince of Wales Island in the Tongass National Forest was in 1988. At that time logging was being done at a sustainable level without irreversible damage to salmon streams and wildlife habitat. The roadless rule put in place during the 1990s allowed damaged areas time to heal. Now is Not the time to backslide back into unsustainable logging practices and build more roads to extract timber in sensitive areas of the Tongass- especially on Prince of Wales Island.

The Roadless Rule has been instrumental in conserving the Tongass National Forest and in supporting its fish and wildlife-based industries for almost 20 years. Please uphold the Rule's protections for important fish and wildlife areas, including the Tongass 77. Roadless areas are an important source of food, jobs, and income through commercial, subsistence, and recreational fishing. Salmon are part of Alaska's culture and we must protect them and their spawning streams.

Sincerely,

Richard Stoltze

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