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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC3145

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

Forests protect watersheds, plants, animals and especially for Alaska, salmon. The Roadless Rule maintains the integrity of the ecosystems that these resources require and these resources are reason that myself, other Alaskans and all Americans visit and recreate in these areas.

Our wilderness recreation areas are not threatened en masse, they are threatened and degraded a little at a time. What is lost is never regained. I urge you prevent this loss by keeping the Roadless Rule in place.

The Roadless Rule has been instrumental in conserving the Chugach and Tongass National Forest and in supporting their associated fish and wildlife-based industries for more than 20 years. Please uphold the Rule's protections for important fish and wildlife areas, including the Tongass 77, by selecting the 'no action' alternative. 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. Please do not roll back roadless area protections for habitat that our irreplaceable fish and wildlife populations need to survive.

Sincerely,

Charles Ash

Anchorage, AK 99516

[Position]