

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

First name: Jonathan

Last name: Daniels

Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC3140

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

I worked in Alaska in 1999 as a white water raft guide. I witnessed the vastness and ruggedness of the interior of Alaskan rivers. I also learned of the long history of our utilizing resources in the state from Gold and Copper to Oil. I first became aware of the Chugach and Tongass National Forests earlier in the 90's in connection to the negative impacts of logging practices on the cave systems that were being explored there. Though I expect never to see these forests myself, I do expect those charged with managing them to stand up for protecting the resource for our National and Ecological interests. I would prefer they not simply be exploited for their short term economic value. Let us not make it easier for the forests to be diminished. Let us allow them to stand and protect the delicate balance and natural beauty of the temperate rain forest ecosystem along the coast of Alaska. Thank you for considering my voice.

I am writing in support of the 'no action' alternative to leave the Roadless Rule unchanged in Alaska. I am concerned that changes to the rule would lead to greatly expand clear-cut logging of old growth timber and costly road building in undeveloped, wild areas of both the Tongass and Chugach Forests. These activities increase sedimentation, hurt water quality, often block salmon migration, and add to an already large backlog of needed road maintenance and restoration.

Our fisheries and wild forests are critical to the economy of Alaska. To grow these sectors of our economy, we need intact habitat. Please leave the Alaska Roadless Rule in place.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Daniels

Gardners, PA 17324

[Position]