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First name: Richard

Last name: Rushton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC4011

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

My family, friends and I , along with the vast majority of other Americans, **STRONGLY URGE** you to keep the Roadless Rule in place unchanged for Tongass National Forest. This area clearly provides a last chance to provide greatly needed protections for salmon and steelhead populations. These species are seriously threatened and endangered in the Lower 48 due to practices you are considering expanding in the Tongass. Expanded logging is financially a losing proposition due to the financial costs of road building, let alone the considerable environmental costs due to degradation of this region. More jobs and revenue are generated by sportsmen and tourism than can be realized by logging. Please act with consideration for the well being of future generations of our Nation. Thank you, Richard Rushton, D.V.M.

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. Please do not roll back roadless area protections for habitat that our irreplaceable fish and wildlife populations need to survive.

Sincerely,

Richard Rushton

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[Position]