

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

First name: Eric

Last name: Dejong

Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC4120

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

I've fished Southeast Alaska streams for steelhead in the past and made trips to other parts of Alaska to fish for other species. I know that the dollars I and other rout of state anglers spend when we come to Alaska are vital to the Alaska economy. Healthy runs of fish can be a perpetual and sustainable contributor to Alaska's economic health, and clean rivers and streams emanating from pristine forests like Tongass can ensure that contribution for the future.

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,

Eric Dejong

Seattle, WA 98103

[Position]