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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5408

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

More than 70% of all the remaining trout, salmon, and steelhead habitat in the Tongass National Forest in Alaska are found within the forest's roadless areas. While it may be invisible to Americans in other states, removing the Roadless Rule restrictions will absolutely destroy habitat and ecosystems. Please choose the "no action" alternative to keep the Roadless Rule unchanged in Alaska. It would be short sighted and negligent to promote destruction of old growth forests that can never be replaced even in the lifetimes of our children.

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.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Claudette Dorsey

Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

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