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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5145

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

There are many reasons the Tongass is protected currently. Recreation and tourism are the biggest, RENEWABLE drivers of the local economy, and the current Roadless Rule is critical in maintaining that quality. No tourist wants to make it all the way to Alaska to see ancient trees cut down whether in one part of the forest or another. Please leave this rule in tact and maintain America's largest national forest, the thriving wildlife who swim and live there, and the economy that depends on that. This is one place worth keeping in tact.

The Roadless Rule has been instrumental in conserving the Tongass National Forest and in supporting its 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. 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,

Kara Armano

Hesperus, CO 81326

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