

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

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5372

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

I lived in Alaska for two years, including one summer in Seward and one summer in Skagway. Both of these towns are surrounded by National Forest that supports a unique, temperate rainforest ecosystem. These towns survive on tourism based on the beauty of the surrounding landscape and the plants and animals that live in it. I believe logging has its place, but it must be done so responsibly and thoughtfully.

The Roadless Rule has been instrumental in conserving the Chugach and Tongass National Forest and in supporting their associated 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, by selecting the 'no action' alternative. 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,

George Welage

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[Position]