

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

First name: William

Last name: Ewer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5284

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

I was in Juneau, Ketchikan and Sitka in 2018 when I spent many enjoyable hours in the old growth forests. The wilderness areas along the Alaskan inside passage are remarkable. There is nothing like it in the lower 48 states. It would be a huge and unforgivable mistake to allow this coastline and its wilderness treasures to be ruined by new roads and logging that would imperil the wildlife and fish populations.

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,

William Ewer

Longmont, CO 80504

[Position]