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First name: James

Last name: Fenner

Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5427

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

Alaska has the last, largest, most pristine forests and waters in the United States - thanks primarily to the protections the "Roadless Rule" gives them. They have remained pristine and wonderful for thousands of years, despite onslaughts from timber and mining interests. They will most likely no be able to remain pristine under further attacks to the "Roadless Rule." Millions of visit-days by Alaskan and non-Alaskan angler, hunters, and other non-industrial users contributes Billions of dollars to Alaska's economy - and for much, much longer more than the extractive users contribute.

As an avid angler and recreational user of Alaska's wonderful forests and waters, I add my voice to the millions of other "recreational users" who support the 'no action' alternative to leave the Roadless Rule unchanged in Alaska.

As do millions of others, the proposed changes to the "Roadless Rule" worry me, as they most likely will lead to horrendous damage to Alaska's pristine outdoors! We foresee greatly expand clear-cut logging; costly, irreparable, and destructive road building in wild areas of both Tongass and Chugach Forests; and tremendously decreased revenue from tourism and recreational users. These unsustainable extractive activities increase sedimentation, irreversibly harm water quality, block salmon migration, and add to an already huge 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.

Sincerely,

James Fenner

Lake Oswego, OR 97035

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