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First name: Ann

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5165

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

I lived on Prince of Wales Island, AK, working for the Forest Service. I recreated all over the island. I saw firsthand the devastation of clear cutting and the long term damage it had on the island's ecology and local wildlife. The Roadless Rule is essential to protect what is left of old growth in the Tongass, the unique environment old growth sustains.

The Roadless Rule has been instrumental in conserving the Tongass National Forest and in supporting its fish and wildlife-based industries for almost 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.

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Ann Koscielniak

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