

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

First name: Alan

Last name: Sherman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5421

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

I am an avid fisherman and outdoorsman. Roadless areas are the most beautiful places to hike, hunt and fish. I have spent a lot of money on guides and outfitters to be in roadless areas. In my experience, areas that have been logged with roads are usually degraded. It makes economic sense to keep areas roadless to allow the people in the guiding/outfitting businesses to support local economies.

I am writing in support of the 'no action' alternative to leave the Roadless Rule unchanged in Alaska. I am concerned that changes to the rule would lead to greatly expand clear-cut logging of old growth timber and costly road building in undeveloped, wild areas of both the Tongass and Chugach Forests. These activities increase sedimentation, hurt water quality, often block salmon migration, and add to an already large 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,

Alan Sherman

Wheeling, IL 60090

[Position]