

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

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5274

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

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.

While there are many concerns and opinions related to global warming and it's existence or not, I believe science is clear on the benefits of natural areas, the impact old growth forests have on the environment and the ever decreasing amount of true wilderness available.

Thanks,

Mark

Sincerely,

Mark Gasper

Parker, CO 80138

[Position]