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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5432

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

This issue is quite personal and important for me. I was fortunate to have the incredible experience of a week of steelhead fishing in the Tongass on Prince of Wales Island a few years ago. This left an indelible impression on me as to how special this place is and what a travesty it would be to allow it to be sullied by clear-cut logging. My experience there was nothing short of magical and it must remain that way for future generations of both humans and fish.

I am writing in support of the [lsquo]no action[rsquo] 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,

Gregory Speer

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