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Organization:

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Comments: HC5300

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

I watched the same happen from the early 60's to current day in the Northern CA redwood forests. Watersheds and rivers silted in. Salmon and steelhead populations dropped drastically and the rivers took months to finally clear enough to fish. Don't allow the expansion of clear cutting at this time without first identifying what would be needed to harvest timber environmentally safe.

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,

Kelly Speelman

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[Position]