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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5156

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

Hi, my name is Christin Swearingen, I work as a Research Technician 2 at UAA in Anchorage. Protecting key wildlife areas and salmon watersheds such as the Tongass 77 is important for our economy and way of life in Southeast Alaska. We do not need more roads! There are already 5,000 miles of permanent logging roads in the Tongass. I , along with the next generation, believe that it is absolutely necessary to preserve the great forests of the world in order to combat the climate crisis. Be it the Amazon or the Tongass rainforest, cutting down old growth accelerates climate change and is unacceptable.

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.

Sincerely,

Christin Swearingen

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