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Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5327

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

Every year, as a graduation gift to each of my son's I would take them on a fishing trip to the Copper River. We would stay at a friends home in Cordova and then each day travel up the Copper (early September each year) to fly fish for Coho. Some of my very best "father and son" memories are from these trips. Grizzly tracks, moose and black bears, native coho in side channels, sloughs and beaver ponds, hiking and wading "unknown" little streams and exploring the area on our own, on foot. Is some of the best parts of these annual trips. Now my sons are old enough to have children of their own and we look forward to sharing this amazing place with my grand children.

The Roadless Rule has been instrumental in conserving the Chugach and Tongass National Forest and in supporting their associated fish and wildlife-based industries for more than 20 years. Please uphold the Rule's protections for important fish and wildlife areas, including the Tongass 77, by selecting the 'no action' alternative. 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,

Dean Finnerty

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[Position]