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Last name: Fiduk

Organization:

Title:

Comments: HC5399

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

I am at loss as to why the U.S. Forest Service would risk endangering the Tongass and Chugach Forests by changing the Roadless Rule. I have been a lifelong trout fisherman who believes that our fish and wildlife resources need to be protected for the present and also for the future. These areas are precious to not only native Alaskans but also to those of us who live in the other 49 United States. I want to be sure that my children and grandchildren have the ability to fish and hunt in some of the last old growth forests in the country.

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,

Stephen Fiduk

Fountain Valley, CA 92708

[Position]