

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/7/2020 7:14:09 PM

First name: Douglas

Last name: Burns

Organization:

Title:

Comments: " Using Forest Service budget data, the group (Tax Payers for Common Sense) reports Tongass timber sales over the last four decades generated \$227 million in revenue but cost \$1.96 billion to administer. Since fiscal year 1980, the USFS has lost approximately \$1.7 billion, or an average of \$44 million per year. The report estimates USFS losses will top \$190 million over the next five years if the agency moves forward with currently planned timber sales."

This plan to clearcut the Tongass makes no sense economically, environmentally, or spiritually/socially to the Native peoples of southeast Alaska or to the people of the United States who own this forest. 1% of SE Alaska's economy is timber-based. 26% is based on fisheries and tourism/recreation. So we cut for the 1%, losing taxpayer money in the process, endangering the fisheries and tourism/recreation. Fish don't like silted gills. Tourists don't travel to see clearcuts.

I've been there. I've seen the Tongass. It is an amazing, awe-inspiring ecosystem. Will our children and the generations that follow have the opportunity to experience it? Once it's gone, it's gone.

Please reject this plan. Thank you.