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Comments: Shame on the Trump administration's Forest Service for having the gall to continue to burden and overwhelm Southeast Alaskans with yet another needless and money-losing timber sale when we are in the midst of a pandemic and a controversial Alaska Roadless Rulemaking process. Timber only contributes 1% to Southeast Alaska's economy, while the fishing and tourism industries contribute 26%. Stop making Southeast Alaskans' lives more difficult by threatening our true economic drivers.

This assault on America's largest rainforest will destroy important habitat for salmon, bears and wolves, and worsen the climate crisis. Clearcutting the Tongass and wiping out enormous carbon stores is like cutting off part of the planet's oxygen supply. Logging the Tongass has been tremendously costly for taxpayers. A new report estimates that timber sales from the forest have cost taxpayers \$1.7 billion over four decades. It's mind-boggling that the Trump administration wants to decimate this spectacular old-growth forest and erase one of the solutions to averting catastrophic climate change.

Existing within the territories of the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian peoples, the Tongass is a vital ecosystem necessary to the traditional life-ways of local Indigenous communities. Destroying critical old growth in the Tongass not only devastates wildlife habitat and harms the climate but disregards the sovereignty of Indigenous peoples and further perpetuates modern genocidal policies. We must stand together for our forests, communities and the climate.