Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/10/2020 7:00:44 PM First name: Kathryn Last name: Mosher Organization:

## Title:

Comments: As forests across the Americas burn, the last thing we need to do is destroy old-growth forests in the Tongass Rainforest, one of the United States' best defenses against furthering the climate crisis," said Osprey Oreille Lake, executive director for the Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN). "Existing within the territories of the Tlingit, Haida and Tsmishian 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.