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Comments: I am writing to urge you to NOT go forward with the South Revilla timber sale. This sale represents another needless and money-losing timber sale, with negative impacts on our environment and on Southeast Alaskans and US taxpayers.

As you know, the area targeted represents a critical old-growth habitat. It needs to be protected. Timber only contributes 1% to Southeast Alaska's economy, while the fishing and tourism industries contribute 26%. You need to STOP making Southeast Alaskans' lives more difficult by threatening its true economic drivers.

The benefits of such a project in no way justify the cost to taxpayers (~ $11 Million when you consider costs of chain-sawing 5,115 acres of old-growth forest, and bulldozing or rebuilding more than 80 miles of damaging logging roads).

I echo the statement of Randi Spivak, public lands director at the Center for Biological Diversity: "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. 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."

This project and the proposed elimination of the Roadless Area Conservation Rule on the Tongass are part of the Trump administration's relentless and environmentally unsound efforts to clearcut large swaths of remaining old-growth across the national forest, consistent with its policy of increasing logging nationwide.

Further, I urge you to heed the wisdom of Osprey Oreille Lake, executive director of the Women's Earth and Climate Action Networ (WECAN): "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. 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." I endorse and support this position, and I urge you to do the same.

The roughly 17 million-acre Tongass is the largest national forest in the United States. Since time immemorial it has been the traditional homelands of the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian peoples. Alaska Natives rely on the area for culture, traditional hunting, fishing and livelihoods. People from around the world visit the Tongass for world-class recreation, sport and commercial fishing.

The Tongass is the largest intact temperate rainforest left on Earth and provides vital habitat for eagles, bears, wolves, salmon and countless other species. It is a globally recognized carbon sink and helps to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change, storing approximately 8% of the total carbon stored in all national forests.

From a purely financial perspective, 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. Although the US Forest Service has previously made a commitment to move away from unsustainable old-growth timber sales, you continue to offer these sales in the Tongass National Forest. It is time to put a stop to this. In addition to the climate impacts of clearcutting old growth forests, clearcutting will damage the real drivers of southeast Alaska's economy: fish, wildlife and tourism. The perceived "benefits" do NOT outway the immense damage that

will result.

I urge you to put a stop to this plan.