Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/12/2020 11:13:26 AM First name: Susan Last name: Abel Organization: Title:

Comments: The plan to clearcut in the Tongass is insane. Old-growth trees are irreplaceable. By capturing great quantities of carbon from the atmosphere, they provide some buffer or means of mitigation against climate change. They serve as an incomparable wildlife habitat. My understanding is that the timber the Forest Service proposes to cut could not even be sold: the logging operation would in fact cost taxpayers billions of dollars. This forest is the legacy of all Americans, and a gift to the world. To destroy it wantonly would be terrible desecration. Please reverse course--save the Tongass and its old-growth trees for all of our sakes!