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Organization:

Title:

Comments: 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.

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.

I believe that we need to move away from unsustainable old-growth timber sales. More clearcutting will damage the real drivers of southeast Alaska's economy: fish, wildlife and tourism. Defenders won't stand by and watch as the administration despoils irreplaceable wildlife habitat and threatens sustainable jobs and livelihoods in southeast Alaska.

I oppose all intents to increase clear-cutting in the Tongass National Forest.

This project and the proposed elimination of the Roadless Area Conservation Rule on the Tongass are part of a mistaken policy which is against the true value of the forest and will negatively impact salmon in the area. The loss of forest leads to runoff in impurities in our streams that negatively impact the fisheries in our area that provide sustainable jobs.