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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

It is urgent that you protect the Tongass National Forest from being desecrated and destroyed by development, timber cutting, and roads being built in the largest National Forest in this country! It is home to grizzlies, Bald Eagles, Pacific Salmon, and contains breathtaking vistas, and glaciers. Visitors have the chance to learn about the Indigenous Culture and the area has remote spots to explore and be in the wilderness. The Forest offers streams to fish in, and trails to hike on, and boardwalks to walk on and be able to view majestic old growth forests, and magnificent animals and birds, and to watch spawning Salmon. It is home to some of the last remaining old- growth temperate rainforest in the world!! It is irreplaceable, and it's loss would deprive people of the opportunity to experience this incredible area. It would cause economic loss due to interference with the tourist industry, and would be harmful to the animals, all of the wildlife, the Forest itself, and the psyche of the American people. For a country that prides itself on its natural beauty and it's abundance of National Parks, and Forests, we must protect these diminishing areas. It is vital for our mental and physical health to get out into the wilderness and be at one with nature. It teaches our children a love of nature and gives them excitement, education, exercise, an appreciation for everything natural that our country has to offer us. Old-growth forests can never be replaced. Extinct species can never be recovered. We need to preserve the forests that provide food and shelter for

our most cherished animals, birds and fish. This land is beloved by the Native people who dwelled there, and live there now, and we need to respect it like they have. Each loss of an area like this is a scar on the American psyche. We are all reeling from the fires out West, that are destroying countless old growth and new growth Redwoods, and spruce and pine trees! I am reeling from the fires in the Sierra Nevadas that are on fire, in particular, because I lived near them for two years, and enjoyed the hikes and the waterfalls , etc.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Silver