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Comments: I urge you to adopt the No Action Alternative to protect the Tongass, protect habitat, and protect Indigenous People's use of ancestral lands.

The Forest Service proposal would allow the timber industry to remove trees across 6,000 acres of forest. 5,000 acres of which is "old growth" forest. The proposed action includes 3 miles of new roads, 11 miles of new temporary roads, and the reconditioning of 35 miles of existing roads. Building roads damages habitat, compacts soil, causes erosion and sedimentation.

The Tongass is one of the world's largest temperate rain forests. It is one of the world's largest carbon sinks, storing the equivalent of 8 percent of the carbon stored in all the forests of the lower 48 states. Cutting down trees in the Tongass would release sequestered greenhouse gases back into the atmosphere when we are seeing the effects of climate change: deadly wildfires, extreme hurricanes, heat waves, drought, flooding.