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First name: Vicky

Last name: Hoover

Organization:

Title:

Comments: A plan to treat and log so many acres of timber is a major action that calls for an EIS, not an Environmental Assessment, as currently proposed. Southeast Alaska timber, when cut, should be used in the manufacture of further wood products producing economic value in Southeast and by Southeast Alaskans.

Young forests in Southeast should be allowed to mature into old growth, because so much Southeast old growth has, regrettably, been cut over. The export of round logs to ports outside of our country is not in accord with the sustainable strategy goals of the Tongass's previous commitments and documents.

It remains especially important to retain these forests to mature further because of the need to sequester additional carbon to halt the most serious impacts of climate change.

These are public federal forests that belong to all American and should be carefully guarded to help reduce the global biodiversity crisis that sees too many species being extinguished around the world. the Tongass temperate forests have an enormous ecological value, when intact, that can help us achieve the nation's 30 by 30 goals.

Thank you for considering these comments.