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Comments: Please resolve to remove the Tongass National Forest old-growth logging exemption from any further analysis in the upcoming Environmental Impact Statement.

All remaining old-growth forests should receive the utmost protection - meaning that removal of old-growth trees should be prohibited except in the most unavoidable cases. Any exceptions should be crafted to reduce the desire to "thin" old-growth trees, a practice with dubious benefit to the forest. The value of these trees is well understood and broad in its benefits to climate and overall forest health.

There are too few old-growth trees to tamper with them any further - those remaining are vital to our national and international health and well being.

Sincerely,

Janet Gracyk