

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/13/2025 2:51:57 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to you today regarding a the Tongass Draft Assessment findings

Dear Tongass Plan Revision,

I am writing to express my strong support for maintaining an intact, healthy Tongass National Forest through the upcoming Revision Plan, and support for specific components of the draft assessment centered around this goal. Tongass is a national treasure and a biodiversity bank to be preserved for future generations of Americans. The Tongass plan must protect intact land and water resources to ensure long-term ecosystem health, in addition to supporting resilient, thriving cultural resources, economies, and communities in the region.

I especially urge the Forest Service to retain those sections of the plan proposing increased protections, and to integrate Indigenous knowledge and subsistence rights into the plan. Traditional ecological knowledge strengthens conservation and ensures resilience for future generations. A co-stewardship model for managing the Tongass honors the rights and sovereignty of tribal governments.

Environmental and profiteering threats could degrade the Tongass, harming ecosystems and communities. The new Tongass Forest Plan must prioritize protections that uphold the integrity of the Tongass's ecosystems and align with the draft assessment's findings as well as local knowledge and support for a balanced approach. By doing so, the Forest Service will safeguard the long-term sustainability of this national treasure.

Please prioritize Tongass protections and indigenous co-stewardship in this forest plan revision. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alyssa Miller

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