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First name: Jim Last name: Thiele Organization:

Title:

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

Dear Tongass Plan Revision,

The Tongass is a NATIONAL FOREST - not a tree farm. As a national treasure it provides many important functions:

- Homelands, sacred places, and traditional harvesting grounds of Alaska Native people
- Subsistence both customary and traditional uses
- The temperate rainforest archipelago and ecosystems
- Salmon runs and other wildlife habitat
- Recreation and scenic beauty

the draft plan provides some protection for these values.

Many Alaskans and Lower 48'ers want to see meaningful change in the timber industry, and the entire region would directly benefit from the transition away from archaic clear cutting to truly sustainable logging practices.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jim Thiele