Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/7/2026 3:05:57 AM
First name: Suzanne
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: What we do in the Tongass National Forest today affects the entire world-one tree at a time.

6 May 2026

Comments submitted via:
https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=64039

Re: Tongass National Forest Land Management Plan Revision #64039

1. I have lived in Southeast Alaska since January 1993. I recreate, sport fish (retired Alaska commercial salmon and longline fisherman) and hunt in the Tongass National Forest, an ~ 17 million-acre coastal temperate rain forest, located in Southeast Alaska. I strongly support safeguarding and enforcing 100% protections for the Tongass from any future logging of the remaining old-growth forest stands, without exception.

2. I do support the harvesting of young growth/second growth trees that are marketable. They constitute the over 50% of old-growth forest stands already logged in the Tongass. The last timber management plan was structured to include harvesting of these young growth/second growth tree stands in support of Southeast Alaska's milling efforts. No new roads would need to be built -the infrastructure is already in place.

3. I support the safeguarding of all remaining old-growth forest trees across the Tongass National Forest, some of which are over 800-years old. The Tongass expands from snow covered mountains and glaciers - both providing vital snowmelt for the forest which in turn provides shade and does nurtures the myriad salmon streams and the annual bounty of King, Coho, Chum, Pink and Sockeye Salmon.

4. The Tongass supports a myriad of industries reliant on her irreplaceable living breathing temperate rain forest. Her ecosystem cannot be duplicated in short order,
"A clear-cut old-growth conifer forest in southeast Alaska can take as long as 500 years to fully mature. Recovery in these woods is measured in centuries, highlighting the long-term impact of logging."

5. Clearcut or helicopter logged old-growth forest stands do adversely affect:

a.the Southeast Alaska's tourism industry and its growing wealth of activities for first-time visitors to Alaska as well as Alaskans from outside Southeast;
b.the sport, charter and commercial salmon fisheries and their understanding and appreciation of crystal clear river tributaries supporting and protecting the spawning grounds critical for future future runs;
c.Alaska's diverse and dynamic wildlife is safeguarded by the abundant biodiversity and ecological balance in the region that is adversely affected by timber harvests and its related road building and development;
d.the resulting degradation of Southeast Alaska unique temperature rain forest ecosystem for flyover migrating birds and water fowl that are seeking refuge across the Tongass's ~ 17 million acres.

6. From the Audubon, "Tongass National Forest in southeast Alaska is the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rain forest. At almost 17 million acres, this unique area houses some of the oldest trees in the nation-many over 800 years old-and provides essential habitat for the largest population of Bald Eagles in the world. The Tongass's 500-mile expanse includes thousands of islands, snow-capped mountains, salmon-rich

streams, glacial fjords, and lush valleys that provide significant and diverse habitat for fish and wildlife, including all five species of Pacific salmon, grizzly bears, wolves, Sitka black-tailed deer, Northern Goshawks, and Marbled Murrelets."

7. Today, the Tongass National Forest's remaining old-growth forest stands are critical for safeguarding the entire temperate rain forest ecosystem. This temperature rain forest is a vital living and breathing entity that has been functioning for centuries and will continue on into the future, if allowed to live on without logging her old-growth forests, capturing carbon 24/7/365.

8. As noted above, I strongly support safeguarding and enforcing 100% protections for the Tongass National Forest, a temperate rain forest, against any future logging of her remaining old-growth forest stands, without exception.