

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/7/2026 4:59:53 AM

First name: Trixie

Last name: Bennett

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

To the Forest Service Planning Team,

I am writing to urge the Forest Service to prioritize the full protection of remaining old-growth forests in the Tongass National Forest. The current plan revision should move away from large-scale industrial old-growth timber sales and instead focus on a "better way" forward for Southeast Alaska.

Specifically, I request that the new plan:

- * End the sale of old-growth timber: Transition the forest economy fully to young-growth management to protect the rare, ancient stands that are essential for biodiversity and carbon sequestration.
- * Prioritize Climate and Salmon: Intact old-growth is a world-class carbon sink and provides the essential habitat for the salmon runs that drive our local economy.
- * Focus on Restoration: Shift management toward forest restoration projects that create sustainable local jobs while repairing damaged watersheds.

The Tongass is worth more standing than as timber. I ask that you adopt a management alternative that preserves our old-growth heritage for future generations.

Sincerely,

Trixie Bennett

Ketchikan