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First name: Anon

Last name: annettpreissler@pm.me

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Tongass National Forest Supervisor,

I am reaching out with deep concern over the proposed Twin Mountain II old-growth logging initiative in the Tongass National Forest. This plan contradicts the essential shift away from old-growth logging practices, risking the invaluable ancient trees that should remain untouched.

The Tongass's pristine old-growth forests are crucial, offering irreplaceable habitats for unique species like the Queen Charlotte goshawks and the Alexander Archipelago wolves, while being home to all five Pacific salmon species. These forests are also significant carbon reservoirs, a vital aspect as we face escalating climate challenges. Logging these rich ecosystems undermines responsible forest stewardship and falls short of public conservation expectations. Moreover, these forests bolster Alaskan communities, supporting robust fisheries, subsistence resources, and thriving tourism and recreation.

Pursuing more clear-cutting would severely harm the Tongass by fragmenting habitats, degrading watersheds, and weakening the ecological balance critical for both people and wildlife. The forest is still reeling from past logging impacts, and expanding this project would only exacerbate the damage.

In light of these concerns, I implore the Forest Service to abandon the revival of Twin Mountain II and preserve the remaining old-growth forests of the Tongass.

Thank you for considering this urgent matter.

Arden Preissler

Sent from Proton Mail for Android.