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First name: Luke

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service,

I am reaching out with a profound sense of urgency and concern about the proposed logging activities on Prince of Wales Island within Alaska's Tongass National Forest.

The Alexander Archipelago wolf, among the most endangered wolf subspecies in North America, relies exclusively on this habitat for survival. The intertwined fates of these wolves and their old-growth forest home cannot be overstated.

The fragile ecosystems of Prince of Wales Island demand immediate protection. Following a devastating decline, the wolf population is in a precarious recovery phase. Additionally, vast areas of the island have been logged, totaling approximately 290,000 acres, with more destruction looming.

Alarming, the U.S. Forest Service is contemplating further logging that would devastate 1,655 acres of crucial old-growth territory.

These ancient forests, some over a millennium old, are irreplaceable. They provide critical denning locations, food, and ecological stability for the wolves and countless other species. The intricate balance of the Tongass ecosystem is at risk, and once lost, these forests may take centuries to regenerate.

The situation is dire, as over 94% of the northern old-growth forests are already gone. Continuing with the proposed plan would result in irreversible damage to more than a thousand acres of this irreplaceable ecosystem.

In an era where biodiversity loss and climate change pose significant global threats, safeguarding the Tongass should be of utmost priority. This forest is not only a sanctuary for the Alexander Archipelago wolf but a vital ecological asset of global importance.

I implore you to deny any further logging authorizations and focus on preserving and restoring this crucial habitat.

Thank you for considering this critical issue. I hope future generations will witness a flourishing Tongass National Forest and its abundant wildlife.

Sincerely,