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First name: Simon

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service Team,

I am reaching out with a heavy heart and a deep sense of urgency regarding the future of Prince of Wales Island's old-growth forests and the endangered Alexander Archipelago wolf.

These magnificent wolves are hanging by a thread, solely surviving in the Tongass National Forest[mdash]their only natural sanctuary. Their survival is inextricably linked to the preservation of these ancient forests, which are under threat yet again.

Alarminglly, the wolves have barely begun to recover from a devastating period that saw their numbers decimated by 97%. Meanwhile, the island has already witnessed the logging of about 290,000 acres of its precious forests.

Despite these dire circumstances, there is a proposal to log another 1,655 acres within critical wolf territory. Such a decision could spell irreversible damage not just to the wolves, but to the entire ecosystem.

These old-growth forests, some over a millennium old, are irreplaceable. They offer vital denning sites and ecological stability to the wolves and myriad other species. The interconnectedness of life here is delicate, and the loss of these forests would be felt for centuries.

In the northern part of the island, a staggering 94% of the old forests have already vanished. Proceeding with the current proposal would mean losing over a thousand more acres, a loss we cannot afford.

In an era where biodiversity loss and climate change are critical concerns, safeguarding this invaluable rainforest should be a top priority. The Tongass is not just a haven for the wolves but a global ecological treasure.

I earnestly implore you to deny any plans for further logging on Prince of Wales Island. Let's focus on protecting and restoring this extraordinary ecosystem for generations to come.

Thank you for considering this urgent matter. I hope that together, we can ensure a thriving future for the Tongass and its inhabitants.

Sincerely,

Simon Drabbe