Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/12/2019 9:00:00 AM
First name: Amy
Last name: Daugherty
Organization: Alaska Trollers Association
Title:
Comments: Please find attached letter. Thank you!

The following text was copy/pasted from an attached letter. The system cannot display the formatting, graphics, or tables from the attached original.

December 11, 2019

Roadless Rule Committee and

USDA Forest Service, Alaska Region

PO Box 21628

Juneau, AK 99802-1628

Submitted electronically at: www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54511

Dear Roadless Rule Committee,

The Alaska Trollers Association represents the Southeast Alaska commercial troll fleet. Our members are professional hook and line salmon fishermen who target primarily chinook, coho and chum salmon. The troll fleet is one of the largest salmon fleets in the state and is about 85% Alaska residents. A large number of our 1600 troll permit holders live in rural communities throughout Southeast Alaska.

It is our understanding that all but two of the Roadless Rule options for the Tongass have been eliminated since we wrote last year. Given these two option "bookends", ATA is now in clear opposition to any change in current protections and we continue to supports the no action alternative.

Southeast Alaska's roadless areas are comprised of important watersheds that support critical spawning, rearing, and migratory habitat of salmon. We rely heavily on southeast wild salmon populations and any degradation of their habitat will have a direct economic impact on our fishermen, processors, support businesses and local communities.

In Southeast Alaska, the seafood industry represents 10% of all employment earnings, with estimated gross earning in excess of $221 million. Our members have investment in this industry and are substantial contributors to the economy of Southeast Alaska's communities. It would be irrational for us to jeopardize an entire working economic infrastructure in which we already have substantial investment.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Amy Daugherty

Executive Director

Alaska Trollers Association

[Position]

The following text was copy/pasted from an attached letter. The system cannot display the formatting, graphics, or tables from the attached original.

December 11, 2019

Roadless Rule Committee and

USDA Forest Service, Alaska Region

PO Box 21628

Juneau, AK 99802-1628

Submitted electronically at: www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54511

Dear Roadless Rule Committee,

The Alaska Trollers Association represents the Southeast Alaska commercial troll fleet. Our members are professional hook and line salmon fishermen who target primarily chinook, coho and chum salmon. The troll fleet is one of the largest salmon fleets in the state and is about 85% Alaska residents. A large number of our 1600 troll permit holders live in rural communities throughout Southeast Alaska.

It is our understanding that all but two of the Roadless Rule options for the Tongass have been eliminated since we wrote last year. Given these two option "bookends", ATA is now in clear opposition to any change in current protections and we continue to supports the no action alternative.

Southeast Alaska's roadless areas are comprised of important watersheds that support critical spawning, rearing, and migratory habitat of salmon. We rely heavily on southeast wild salmon populations and any degradation of their habitat will have a direct economic impact on our fishermen, processors, support businesses and local communities.

In Southeast Alaska, the seafood industry represents 10% of all employment earnings, with estimated gross earning in excess of $221 million. Our members have investment in this industry and are substantial contributors

to the economy of Southeast Alaska's communities. It would be irrational for us to jeopardize an entire working economic infrastructure in which we already have substantial investment.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Amy Daugherty

Executive Director

Alaska Trollers Association

[Position]