Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 8/4/2017 8:02:25 PM
First name: Cindy
Last name: Wyatt
Organization:
Title:
Official Representative/Member Indicator:
Address1: PO box 369
Address2:
City: Craig
State: AK
Province/Region: southeast alaska
Zip/Postal Code: 99921
Country: United States
Email: tokeencove@gmail.com
Phone: 907-401-3263
Comments:

Dear Forest Service,
I am concerned about the use of pesticides on our islands. The wording in Federal Register/Vol. 82, No. 128 to
"utilize manual and mechanical treatments on invasive species" is very vague. There are so many invasives
along the the existing road systems that physically removing them would be cost prohibitive. This leaves
pesticides as the only real alternative for possible eradication. That said, I very much doubt that even that
would work.
A few years ago DOT tried to make a plan using pesticides for road maintenance on POW and partly due to
citizen outcry they decided not to. If the Forest Service comes up with a plan to eradicate invasives with
pesticides I fear this will open the door for more being used by DOT.
I have lived, hunted, and hiked in the Kosciusko/POW area for 35 years. In all my time off road I haven never
seen any of these invasives growing in an area off the road system. Not even in healthy muskeg areas right
beside road systems. Here at my home on Marble Island the salmon berries and elder berries soon out
compete most of the invasive plants. Then usually thimble berries come up in their shade, finally hemlock
seedlings manage to get established in under the canopy of these deciduous shrubs. Right here this takes
about 7-10 years. Much faster really than the approximately 18-20 years for the sea life to begin returning after
the introduction of sea otters.
Attached you will find two letters I wrote previously as reasons against using pesticides in our temperate rain
forests.
Please carefully consider the possible long term impacts of poisoning our forests water system.
Thanks for your time,
Cindy Wyatt