

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/15/2018 1:50:46 PM

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Comments:

I am a firm believer in keeping the Tongass Roadless Rule enacted upon the Tongass National forest.

At this time, the negative affects that opening the Tongass to old growth logging doesn't add up. The negative impacts on the environment (fish habitat, deer, bears and other wildlife, etc...) and the negative economic impacts on tourism and fisheries doesn't make sense. Where I really stand against opening up the Tongass to new roads for logging is the fact that the road building is subsidized from tax payer dollars.

I support research efforts into fixing and opening the existing infrastructure into the logging of second growth. In doing so, expanding the existing buffer zones and carefully selecting second growth zones that are to be cut.

The other fact that is really giving me pause into opening the Tongass is that by doing so, the Tongass is becoming the exception to a rule which was designed to protect all national forest. The Tongass is viewed as being a very piece of wilderness that needs to be left untouched. The rule is named the Tongass Roadless Rule for a reason. Senator Murkowski should open her eyes and listen to the people!