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Protect the Roadless Rule for backcountry recreation

Dear Alaska Forest Service,

I am an outdoor recreation enthusiast in New Mexico writing to express my interest in continuing to protect the Tongass National Forest and its backcountry and roadless areas from unnecessary logging and development. The Tongass has tremendous value for outdoor recreation in the region, and also provides clean water, clean air, and wildlife habitat, all of which are foundational to the economic and ecological health of Southeast Alaska. I had the pleasure of visiting the area in 2001 and was amazed by the beauty of it. Road building, logging, and development should be prohibited in the Tongass's roadless areas to preserve valuable outdoor recreation resources. The recreation and travel industry are large, economically sustainable employers in Alaska and across the west.

The Roadless Rule was created after public input and outreach. It's a popular and sensible approach to land management.

The federal Roadless Rule should remain in place in Alaska, Utah, other Western states. All current roadless areas in the states should remain protected for their value to future generations.

Sincerely,

Elaine Drees

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