

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/18/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: elizabeth

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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

It is time to stop opening more and more acres to the timber industry and instead bolster protections to the old-growth forests and wild areas on the Tongass. I urge you to select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest.

The action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest. These have zero return on investment and cost tens of millions of taxpayer dollars every year. In addition, these activities degrade the naturally sustainable wealth of salmon, wildlife watching, and tourism opportunities.

The Roadless Rule also helps protect old-growth habitat for birds like the Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse and Northern Goshawk, as well as for mammals like wolves and deer. Opening roadless areas to more logging and roads will fragment the forest and eliminate more of the big old trees that these animals rely on.

Untied we stand, divided we fall... and we will fall hard if we continue along this path.

Sincerely,

elizabeth johnston

Seattle, WA 98199

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