

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

First name: Amy

Last name: Masching

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

All of your action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement regarding the Roadless Rule in the Tongass National Forest allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest. Opening roadless areas to more logging and roads fragments the forest and eliminates old trees that wildlife rely on. Logging roads and timber operations cost tens of millions of taxpayer dollars every year, with zero return on investment. Meanwhile, these destructive activities degrade the naturally sustainable wealth of salmon, wildlife watching, and tourism opportunities. It is well past 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.

Select the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest.

Sincerely,

Amy Masching

[Position]