

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/17/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Michelle

Last name: Wilber

Organization: ACEP

Title:

Comments:

The Tongass NF should NOT be exempted from the roadless rule. Intact, unlogged forests are vital to protecting the valuable salmon and other subsistence resources of this area. They are also carbon sinks, provide a higher level of biodiversity, preserve habitat, stabilize slopes, and contain myriad other benefits on an already over-exploited planet. They are tourist attractions, and benefit Alaska and the US's economy in many ways, including providing valuable ecosystem services that are hard to account for in dollars (but please do try - including a evaluation of their worth as carbon sinks or forest carbon offset.)

Thanks.

[Position]

[Position]