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First name: Linda

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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

Please select the economically beneficial "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest to help protect old-growth habitat for birds as well as for mammals like wolves and deer. Opening roadless areas to more logging and roads would fragment the forest and eliminate trees that these animals rely on, squelching opportunities for tourism. Also, forests are important for cleaning air of pollution, and the Tongass is one of world's largest.

Logging roads and timber operations would 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. But the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement would allow more road-building and logging in the Tongass National Forest in spite of the economic inadvisability of doing so.

It is time to stop opening more and more acres to the timber industry. We need to 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.

Sincerely,

Linda Yow

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