

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/13/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: R.Terra

Last name: Williams

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Keep Alaska Roadless Rule making #54511

Roadless Rulemaking,

RE: Alaska Roadless DEIS Comment

Dear Secretary Perdue:

My family of six adults and three smart teens is counting on you to do the right thing and support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1.

Our family strongly urges you to keep the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. It is a proven fact that the Tongass is a carbon sink containing some of the largest intact old-growth temperate rainforest in the world, and its value in providing clean water for fish and wildlife habitat is essential to the economic and ecological health of Southeast Alaska.

For all these reasons, our family joins millions of other Americans in calling on you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, our family strongly objects to your plans to reduce and remove protections from all of our national forest's roadless areas. Again, it is a well-known fact that the Roadless Rule is one of the smartest and most popular land management policies the Federal Government has ever adopted.

Not only does it preserve some of America's best fish and wildlife habitat, but it also saves untold millions of taxpayer dollars that might otherwise be spent to subsidize money-losing timber sales.

The value of the Roadless Rule in preventing environmentally damaging and economically wasteful road-building and logging is particularly relevant in the Tongass, where logging costs vastly exceed timber revenues and require unconscionable taxpayer subsidies.

Our family takes the strongest possible stand against changing the existing Roadless Rule, and we are counting on you to do the same!

Thank you for considering our comments.

R.Terra Williams

GRASS VALLEY, California 95945

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