

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

First name: Martin

Last name: Acree

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

HC490

Dear Roadless Rule Planning Team,

The health of the Tongass National Forest is important to me. I depend on the Tongass which is a unique and global treasure.

The freshwater streams where salmon and old growth forest of the Tongass provide spawning habitat for these fish, which in turn feed a matrix of bears, birds, insects, and other wildlife that Alaska is so famous for. The health of our economy, which is heavily dependent on the fishing and tourism industries, also depends on the salmon, wildlife and presence of old growth forests. A sustainable future for Southeast Alaska requires protecting expansive areas of intact habitat - in short, it requires keeping our Roadless areas roadless! I urge the Forest Service and the Secretary to protect important salmon spawning habitat, maintain old growth forests for winter deer habitat, and keep the places I like to recreate free of clearcuts and roadbuilding.

**\*WHO I AM:\*** [text bolded for emphasis] Include your name, where you live, and any relevant biographical information. Do you live or work on the Tongass National Forest? What is your relationship to the Tongass?

Marty Acree. I lived on Chichagoff Island 40 yrs ago + saw the devastation from bad land mgnt. I have worked in ecological restoration DOI MPS for last 30 yrs + know need to preserve + protect. Restoration is a tool of last resort. Good + BALANCED MGNT = preservation over restoration

**\*PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE:\*** [text bolded for emphasis] The Forest Service will choose how to proceed from a number of different alternatives. If you want the Roadless Rule to remain on the Tongass, write "No Action."

NO ACTION

**\*WHY I PREFER THIS ALTERNATIVE:\*** [text bolded for emphasis] How would this alternative affect you and Southeast Alaskans?

with Climate Change alone we need to preserve + protect what remains of our vanishing old growth It is our only hope for our air, water resources plus carbon sequestration

**\*AREAS:\*** [text bolded for emphasis] Are there specific islands, watersheds, or mountains that you depend on? Name the most important areas that the Roadless Rule to protect. Examples include the Tenakee Inlet, Nakwasina Sound, Fish Bay, Ushk Bay, Northern Prince of Wales, T77 salmon watershed areas, Audobon TNC ecological priority areas, etc.

All roadless areas need be protected from extraction agendas Areas with roads need be identified + prioritized for restoration actions to better protect our precious resources + resiliency to climate change

**\*USE:\*** [text bolded for emphasis] What activities do you use the Tongass National Forest for? Hunting, fishing, recreation, subsistence, business, tourism, etc.

I am presently a visitor but once was employed at false Island Camp (USFS YACC) I love fishing, kayaking, hiking gathering edibles and support my hard earned taxes protecting my interests

**\*SUGGESTION:\*** [text bolded for emphasis] How should the Forest Service manage the Tongass National Forest, rather than old-growth clearcut logging? More sustainable alternatives to timber harvest include salmon watershed restoration, visitor industry infrastructure, deer habitat enhancement, young growth thinning, and maintenance of recreation infrastructure such as trails and cabins.

All timber harvest need follow closests letter of the law (NEPA etc) second growth, NO OLD GROWTH harvest. Managing existing stands w/ thinning, buffers to streams, lakes, steep slope + viewsheds!

Additional comments for the Forest Service:

We need our precious remaining old growth as a buffer to climate change It will be more resilient to fire than even aged regrowth + better for carbon sequestration

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Martin James Acree

I want to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Statement

[Position]

[Position]