

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

First name: Dale

Last name: Pihlman

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

HC6396

[Sticky note attached: Received by Paul Robbins, TNF staff, on 12-12]

December 12.2019

US Forest Service:

I am writing to comment on lifting the roadless rule in the Tongass. This act would be very much to the detriment of the environment and the economy. The major industries in S.E. Alaska are commercial fishing and tourism, contributing over a half a billion dollars to the economy. Both are highly dependent on wilderness. The only beneficiary of lifting the roadless rule would be the timber industry, much to the detriment of the other two industries. Yet the timber industry generates only 8 million in comparison. The timber industry, in 2018 employed over 10,000 workers, the timber industry 337 according to figures from S.E. Conference.

The numbers dramatically tell the story. Leave the roadless rule as is. It is foolish to do otherwise.

[Signature]

Dale Pihlman

[Position]