

CITY OF TENAKEE SPRINGS

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USDA Forest Service
Attn. Alaska Roadless Rule
P. O. Box 21628
Juneau AK 99802

To: USDA Forest Service,

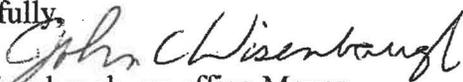
The City of Tenakee Springs was incorporated in 1971 and since that time we have been engaged in the Tongass Land Use Management Plan creation and implementation. We strongly supported the 2001 Roadless Rule and advocate for the No Action Alternative in this current process.

Tenakee Springs is situated on the eastern side of Chichagof Island in Tenakee Inlet. The inlet is 35 miles long and has 13 major rivers and their associated watersheds. Four of them have been roaded and logged, yet continue to produce opportunity for small timber operators to work. There are two LUD 2 areas, Trap Bay and Kadashan Bay, and the pristine intact watersheds of the upper inlet, Seal Bay, Long Bay, Lower, Middle and upper Goose Flats and the head of the inlet. These areas are the biological heart of Tenakee Inlet and should remain roadless forever. Tenakee Springs is home to 5 families that troll for a living, 2 families that fish crab in the inlet, and a charter fishing operator. We get a large number of commercial fishing and recreational boats visiting every year. The economic viability of our community is dependent on a healthy salmon run, a healthy ocean and strong wildlife populations. The long-term economic health of southeast Alaska and our people is dependent on healthy forests and rivers.

A new Forest Plan has just been implemented with wide spread participation and support. Why are we wasting more time and money on an issue that has been settled? Please leave the Roadless rule and Tenakee Inlet as they currently exist.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, again

Respectfully,


John Wisenbaugh, ex officio Mayor

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