

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: shauna

Last name: uban

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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 Americas 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.

Regards, shauna uban

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Dianna

Last name: Uchida

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Dianna Uchida and I live in Chicago, Illinois.

As a world leader we need to support methane standards - not weaken them.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Dianna Uchida

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Catherine

Last name: Uchiyama

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Catherine Uchiyama and I live in Salinas, California.

We will be the cause of our extinction.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Catherine Uchiyama

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: LJ

Last name: Uchno

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is LJ Uchno and I live in Sylvan Lake, Michigan.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, LJ Uchno

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/26/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Claire

Last name: Ucovich

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Claire Ucovich and I live in San Francisco, California.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Claire Ucovich

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Claire

Last name: Ucovich

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

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Regards, Claire Ucovich

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Donald

Last name: Udelson

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Donald Udelson and I live in Cooper City, Florida.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Donald Udelson

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/7/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Brady

Last name: Uden

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

At nearly 17 million acres, the Tongass is the nation's largest national forest and the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforest; 9.3 million acres of that wild backcountry is inventoried roadless areas, providing high quality habitat for a unique diversity of sought-after game species, including mountain goats, black-tailed deer and both brown and black bears. The Tongass also encompasses thousands of miles of salmon-rich waterways, legendary among anglers and fundamental to the state's commercial salmon industry. The commercial fishing sector alone relies on the Tongass for more than 80 percent of its salmon and employs more than 4,300 people in the region, accounting for 9 percent of the area's entire employment. By contrast, timber production accounts for only 1 percent of the region's jobs.

Further, this proposal and the preferred alternative set a slippery precedent that threatens to unravel roadless rule protections for fish and wildlife across all of our nation's wild roadless forest lands. None of the identified alternatives take into consideration BHA's scoping comments to include balanced management policies for the Tongass, utilizing the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule as a foundational benchmark for improvements so that any roadless policies only enhance the most important fish and wildlife habitats. Logging and timber harvest already co-exist with roadless areas in the Tongass after years of prior compromise and consensus-building.

I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Adam

Last name: Udovich

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

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Regards, Adam Udovich

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Adam

Last name: Udovich

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

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Regards, Adam Udovich

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/10/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Robert

Last name: Uebel

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Robert Uebel and I live in Lindenhurst, New York.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Robert Uebel

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Shirley

Last name: Ueberroth

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Shirley Ueberroth and I live in Linwood, Michigan.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Shirley Ueberroth

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

First name: Garrett

Last name: Uecker

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

The destruction of old growth forest can have massive externalities associated with it beyond the simple devaluation of the land. These ecosystems offer our planet valuable services without the costs associated with man made systems. If left alone, this land may prove to be a valuable asset in the fight against carbon increases in the atmosphere. I do not believe we can afford to frivolously waste our resources in the name of short term shareholder equity.

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/14/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Janice

Last name: Uehlein

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Janice Uehlein and I live in Princeton, New Jersey.

Combatting climate change is a very important issue for me. Maintaining protections for the Tongas National Forest is critical in this fight. It is imperative to keep these protections in place.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Janice Uehlein

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/29/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: janet

Last name: uffer

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is janet uffer and I live in Rio Rancho, New Mexico.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, janet uffer

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Sarah

Last name: Uharriet

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

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Regards, Sarah Uharriet

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Sarah

Last name: Uharriet

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Sarah Uharriet

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Sarah

Last name: Uharriet

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Sarah Uharriet and I live in St. George, Utah.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Sarah Uharriet

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Nicole

Last name: Uhing

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Nicole Uhing and I live in Des Moines, Iowa.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Nicole Uhing

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

First name: Jessica

Last name: Uhl

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Jessica Uhl and I live in San Leandro, CA. I am writing a comment on the Alaska Roadless Rule DEIS because I am concerned with how the Rule and the proposed full exemption will affect the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest.

I care deeply about maintaining rainforests as I understand that trees in the rainforest do much to counteract the effects of climate change. I also care deeply for California and want to see it be a place that thrives and is not more vulnerable to wildfire.

I urge the Forest Service to select Alternative 1, the no action alternative, for the final decision on the Alaska Roadless Rule. This alternative protects the inventoried roadless areas in Alaska that are full of pristine wilderness and provide important fish and wildlife habitat, and already allows for important community and economic development projects. As an American citizen, I value the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest for its status as America's best natural solution to climate change and its sequestering of millions of metric tons of carbon and mitigating climate change, its wild salmon populations and the world-class fishing opportunities, its huge swaths of intact ecosystems and all the biodiversity it contains, its status as the largest intact temperate rainforest in the world, the recreational opportunities it provides, the high density of incredible wildlife it contains, to keep public lands wild for future generations, its status as a national and global treasure, the lifestyles of the indigenous communities that the forest supports. A full exemption does not protect these priorities, nor does it effectively balance economic development with the countless other benefits provided by roadless areas. I would like the Forest Service to manage roadless areas for low-impact recreation (camping, hiking, hunting, foraging, etc), passive/active watershed restoration (stream and habitat) to improve/maintain roadless characteristics (culvert removal/replacement, improve fish passage, wildlife thinning, etc). It is important to me that high-value intact habitat including the T77 watersheds and the TNC conservation priority areas retain their roadless protections in any alternative selected.

The Forest Service is wasting taxpayers' valuable time and money by trying to prop up a failing timber industry in Southeast Alaska. The nonpartisan, independent taxpayer watchdog Taxpayers for Common Sense reported that the Tongass timber program has losses of over \$600 million of taxpayers money in the past 20 years. I would rather see my taxpayer dollars used to restore salmon habitat that was hurt by past logging practices, perform restorative actions that support wildlife populations on previously degraded landscapes that support wildlife populations. We need to stop subsidizing the clearcutting of old growth on the Tongass through taxpayer funded roadbuilding. If a full exemption were chosen, it would not create opportunities and would instead prioritize the special interests of one industry over the interests of the entire American public.

The Tongass is Americas homegrown natural solution to climate change. The forest sequesters 8% of the carbon stored in forests throughout the contiguous US states, some 3 billion metric tons of it. We must take action to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and maintaining the Tongass in a roadless state is critical for a sustainable future.

I urge the Forest Service to listen to the voices of the American people and prioritize them over corporate interests. The Forest Service should strengthen public involvement in developing land management policy and focus on broadly supported work rather than allowing special corporate interests to guide policy changes. Attempting to exempt inventoried roadless areas on the Chugach National Forest from the Alaska Roadless

Rule adds further insult to injury, and this proposal has not received any sufficient environmental impact analysis or public input. Choosing a full exemption will not create a long lasting, durable solution for roadless areas in Alaska it will only increase the legal challenges, uncertainty for businesses, and conflict over these forests going forward.

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Mary

Last name: Uhl

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Mary Uhl

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Robert

Last name: Uhlenhake

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Robert Uhlenhake

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Brenda

Last name: Uhler

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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.

Regards, Brenda Uhler

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Brenda

Last name: Uhler

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Brenda Uhler

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/18/2019 6:08:12 PM

First name: Christina

Last name: Uhlir

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

The Roadless Rule helps protect old-growth habitat for birds like the Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse and Northern Goshawk, as well as for mammals like wolves and deer. Opening roadless areas to more logging and roads will fragment the forest and eliminate more of the big old trees that these animals rely on.

Yet, all of the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest. Logging roads and timber operations 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.

It is time to stop opening more and more acres to the timber industry and instead 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,

Christina Uhlir

Mountain Top, PA 18707

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Andrew

Last name: Ukasick

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Andrew Ukasick

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Andrew

Last name: Ukasick

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Andrew Ukasick

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Rebecca

Last name: Ulasich

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Rebecca Ulasich

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Kathleen

Last name: Ulberg

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Kathleen Ulberg

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Kathleen

Last name: Ulberg

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Kathleen Ulberg

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Joseph

Last name: Ulichny

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Joseph Ulichny and I live in New York, New York.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Joseph Ulichny

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Patricia

Last name: Ulin

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Patricia Ulin and I live in Bristol CT.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Patricia Ulin

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/21/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Avery

Last name: Ulinskas

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a young person and student, I believe that the proposed destruction of the Tongass National Forest must be stopped and the Forest must be preserved. The forest serves as a home to a massive amount of plants and animals and demolishing the forests will result in a loss of wildlife and nature reserve that has been preserved and must be preserved for future generations. Logging the forests would damage the ecosystems and cause them to die.

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Barbara

Last name: Ullian

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Barbara Ullian and I live in Grants Pass, Oregon.

In this time of climate change we should not be logging or building road in any of our remaining federal public lands like the Tongass National Forest. While I live in Southwest Oregon, the Tongass National Forest is important to me in both ameliorating climate change and as a part of our National Forest legacy belonging to all Americans.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Barbara Ullian

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/17/2019 9:35:08 PM

First name: Alec

Last name: Ullman

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Alec Ullman and I live in Kennett Square, PA. I am writing a comment on the Alaska Roadless Rule DEIS because I am concerned with how the Rule and the proposed full exemption will affect the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest.

I care about the roadless rule because I believe it important to preserve nature and wildlife in its natural state, with none to minimal interference. Us as a species should appreciate the world and its fruits as more than a place for economic gain and connivence. We have only our self-assigned reasoning to be tearing down these ecosystems, tearing away homes from organisms. We as a species should not be doing such atrocious acts to our environment when it is a unique gift that we get to experience through the complexities and beauty of life.

I urge the Forest Service to select Alternative 1, the no action alternative, for the final decision on the Alaska Roadless Rule. This alternative protects the inventoried roadless areas in Alaska that are full of pristine wilderness and provide important fish and wildlife habitat, and already allows for important community and economic development projects. As an American citizen, I value the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest for its huge swaths of intact ecosystems and all the biodiversity it contains, its status as the largest intact temperate rainforest in the world, the high density of incredible wildlife it contains, to keep public lands wild for future generations, its status as a national and global treasure. A full exemption does not protect these priorities, nor does it effectively balance economic development with the countless other benefits provided by roadless areas. I would like the Forest Service to manage roadless areas for passive/active watershed restoration (stream and habitat) to improve/maintain roadless characteristics (culvert removal/replacement, improve fish passage, wildlife thinning, etc), low-impact recreation (camping, hiking, hunting, foraging, etc). It is important to me that high-value intact habitat including the T77 watersheds and the TNC conservation priority areas retain their roadless protections in any alternative selected.

The Forest Service is wasting taxpayers' valuable time and money by trying to prop up a failing timber industry in Southeast Alaska. The nonpartisan, independent taxpayer watchdog Taxpayers for Common Sense reported that the Tongass timber program has losses of over \$600 million of taxpayers money in the past 20 years. I would rather see my taxpayer dollars used to perform restorative actions that support wildlife populations on previously degraded landscapes that support wildlife populations. We need to stop subsidizing the clearcutting of old growth on the Tongass through taxpayer funded roadbuilding. If a full exemption were chosen, it would not create opportunities and would instead prioritize the special interests of one industry over the interests of the entire American public.

The Tongass is Americas homegrown natural solution to climate change. The forest sequesters 8% of the carbon stored in forests throughout the contiguous US states, some 3 billion metric tons of it. We must take action to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and maintaining the Tongass in a roadless state is critical for a sustainable future.

I urge the Forest Service to listen to the voices of the American people and prioritize them over corporate interests. The Forest Service should strengthen public involvement in developing land management policy and focus on broadly supported work rather than allowing special corporate interests to guide policy changes. Attempting to exempt inventoried roadless areas on the Chugach National Forest from the Alaska Roadless Rule adds further insult to injury, and this proposal has not received any sufficient environmental impact analysis or public input. Choosing a full exemption will not create a long lasting, durable solution for roadless areas in Alaska it will only increase the legal challenges, uncertainty for businesses, and conflict over these forests going forward.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Karen

Last name: Ullman

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

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In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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.

Regards, Karen Ullman

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Mary

Last name: Ullrich

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Mary Ullrich

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/10/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Ruth

Last name: Ulmer

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Ruth Ulmer and I live in Clifton, Virginia.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Ruth Ulmer

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Siobhan

Last name: Ulreich-Power

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Siobhan Ulreich-Power and I live in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Please take a long term focus!

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Siobhan Ulreich-Power

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Julia

Last name: Ulrich

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Julia Ulrich and I live in Tracy, California.

Please save the remainder of the natural landscape and archeological sites of Bear's Ears!

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Julia Ulrich

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Robert

Last name: Ulrich

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Robert Ulrich

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/10/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Tom

Last name: Ulrich

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Rescinding the rule and opening the old growth forest to roads and logging is incredibly short-sighted and greedy. It is in the best interest of our nation, and the world, to leave it for its ecological and recreational benefits. Please do not log the Tongass there.

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/12/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Kevin

Last name: Ulrichsen

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

At nearly 17 million acres, the Tongass is the nation's largest national forest and the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforest; 9.3 million acres of that wild backcountry is inventoried roadless areas, providing high quality habitat for a unique diversity of sought-after game species, including mountain goats, black-tailed deer and both brown and black bears. The Tongass also encompasses thousands of miles of salmon-rich waterways, legendary among anglers and fundamental to the state's commercial salmon industry. The commercial fishing sector alone relies on the Tongass for more than 80 percent of its salmon and employs more than 4,300 people in the region, accounting for 9 percent of the area's entire employment. By contrast, timber production accounts for only 1 percent of the region's jobs.

Further, this proposal and the preferred alternative set a slippery precedent that threatens to unravel roadless rule protections for fish and wildlife across all of our nation's wild roadless forest lands. None of the identified alternatives take into consideration BHA's scoping comments to include balanced management policies for the Tongass, utilizing the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule as a foundational benchmark for improvements so that any roadless policies only enhance the most important fish and wildlife habitats. Logging and timber harvest already co-exist with roadless areas in the Tongass after years of prior compromise and consensus-building.

I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/12/2019 3:00:00 PM

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Last name: Ulrichsen

Organization:

Title:

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At nearly 17 million acres, the Tongass is the nation's largest national forest and the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforest; 9.3 million acres of that wild backcountry is inventoried roadless areas, providing high quality habitat for a unique diversity of sought-after game species, including mountain goats, black-tailed deer and both brown and black bears. The Tongass also encompasses thousands of miles of salmon-rich waterways, legendary among anglers and fundamental to the state's commercial salmon industry. The commercial fishing sector alone relies on the Tongass for more than 80 percent of its salmon and employs more than 4,300 people in the region, accounting for 9 percent of the area's entire employment. By contrast, timber production accounts for only 1 percent of the region's jobs.

Further, this proposal and the preferred alternative set a slippery precedent that threatens to unravel roadless rule protections for fish and wildlife across all of our nation's wild roadless forest lands. None of the identified alternatives take into consideration BHA's scoping comments to include balanced management policies for the Tongass, utilizing the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule as a foundational benchmark for improvements so that any roadless policies only enhance the most important fish and wildlife habitats. Logging and timber harvest already co-exist with roadless areas in the Tongass after years of prior compromise and consensus-building.

I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Diane

Last name: Ulriksen

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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 Americas 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.

Regards, Diane Ulriksen

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/10/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Laurie

Last name: Ulrop

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Laurie Ulrop and I live in Punta Gorda, Florida.

This forest MUST be left intact! It's not for us to use...it's for us to enjoy!

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Laurie Ulrop

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/23/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Judith

Last name: Ulseth

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Judith Ulseth and I live in Cook, Minnesota.

Climate change must be slowed down!. Trees help to clean the air so now is not the time to cut down major Amazon type forests.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Judith Ulseth

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: John

Last name: Underhill

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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 Americas 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.

Regards, John Underhill

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

First name: Ruth

Last name: Underhill

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

HC6293

Dear Alaska Roadless Rule Planning Committee,

I live and work on the lands and waters of Alaska [text underlined for emphasis] [drawing of a heart]. From hunting and fishing, to hiking and camping, to our tourism and commercial fishing-based economies, Alaskans rely on the intact habitat that the roadless areas that the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach NF contain. That is why *I am writing to support the *No-Action* Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule* [text underlined for emphasis] [text circled for emphasis].

The Tongass contains some of the 8largest intact old-growth [drawing of a heart]* 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 [text underlined twice for emphasis] [text underlined for emphasis] [text circled for emphasis] [text underlined twice for emphasis] [text underlined twice for emphasis] [text circled twice for emphasis]. I strongly oppose any efforts to weaken protections for Roadless areas in the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest.

The Forest Service needs to continue phasing out old-growth clearcutting. Please prioritize conservation of the T77 and TNC consecration priority areas in any new Alaska Roadless Rule. The Forest Service should focus on restoring degraded watersheds and fish streams and carbon sequestration.

Please [text underlined twice for emphasis]protect our rainforest ! [Signature]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/7/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Aaron

Last name: Underwood

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

At nearly 17 million acres, the Tongass is the nation's largest national forest and the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforest; 9.3 million acres of that wild backcountry is inventoried roadless areas, providing high quality habitat for a unique diversity of sought-after game species, including mountain goats, black-tailed deer and both brown and black bears. The Tongass also encompasses thousands of miles of salmon-rich waterways, legendary among anglers and fundamental to the state's commercial salmon industry. The commercial fishing sector alone relies on the Tongass for more than 80 percent of its salmon and employs more than 4,300 people in the region, accounting for 9 percent of the area's entire employment. By contrast, timber production accounts for only 1 percent of the region's jobs.

Further, this proposal and the preferred alternative set a slippery precedent that threatens to unravel roadless rule protections for fish and wildlife across all of our nation's wild roadless forest lands. None of the identified alternatives take into consideration BHA's scoping comments to include balanced management policies for the Tongass, utilizing the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule as a foundational benchmark for improvements so that any roadless policies only enhance the most important fish and wildlife habitats. Logging and timber harvest already co-exist with roadless areas in the Tongass after years of prior compromise and consensus-building.

I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: carol

Last name: underwood

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is carol underwood and I live in Debary, Florida.

Leave the majestic Tongass alone. No clearcutting!!!

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, carol underwood

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Kristy

Last name: Underwood

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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.

Regards, Kristy Underwood

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/5/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Richard

Last name: Underwood

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

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I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: David

Last name: Underwood-Sweet

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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 Americas 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.

Regards, David Underwood-Sweet

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Arthur

Last name: Ungar

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

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Regards, Arthur Ungar

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Elizabeth

Last name: Ungar

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Elizabeth Ungar and I live in New York, New York.

Clean water is crucial to human life. It is unconscionable that a government agency would endanger this to benefit a polluting industry. For shame!

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Elizabeth Ungar

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Cynthia

Last name: Unger

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Cynthia Unger and I live in Worcester, Massachusetts.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Cynthia Unger

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/14/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Jay

Last name: Unger

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Jay Unger and I live in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Jay Unger

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Jillian

Last name: Unger

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Jillian Unger and I live in Sacramento, California.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Jillian Unger

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: John

Last name: Unger

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is John Unger and I live in Santa Clarita, California.

Please do the right thing!

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, John Unger

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/20/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: michael

Last name: unger

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a biology professor at a small private university, I would submit that there is no legitimate reason for reducing pristine forest in any part of this planet. At least not one that is supported by the scientific family as we are currently fighting for the health of our planet. The future of all living things depends on Mankind doing what is right and not letting short sighted greed take precedence over the long term health of our world. DO WHATS RIGHT!

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Michelle

Last name: Unger

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Michelle Unger and I live in Portland, Oregon.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Michelle Unger

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/11/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: wanda

Last name: unger

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is wanda unger and I live in Seattle, Washington.

Air and water are essential to all life. Please ensure that clean air and water are protected for generations to come.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, wanda unger

[Position]

[Position]

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

First name: Barend

Last name: Ungrodt

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

These giant, ancient trees are important for the planet in terms of carbon storage, that the roads would damage the salmon fishery and that the 1000 year old trees can't be replaced once gone. The trees can also be used to generate revenue through tourism, a more stable and robust industry.

[POSITION]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Tom

Last name: Uniack

Organization: Washington elected officials

Title:

Comments:

Alaska Roadless Rulemaking #54511

Please receive the attached joint comment letter signed by 102 Washington elected officials. Local businesses, faith leaders and conservation and recreation organizations commenting on the proposed repeal of roadless area protections in the Tongass National Forest.

Tom Uniack

Executive Director

(He/Him)

Washington Wild

Keeping Washington green since 1979

The following text was copy/pasted from the attached letter. The system cannot display the formatting, graphics, or tables from the attached original.

December 16, 2019

Ken Tu

Interdisciplinary Team Leader

Alaska Roadless Rule

USDA Forest Service

P.O. Box 21628

Juneau, Alaska 99802-1628

Sent electronically to akroadlessrule@usda.gov

Re: Proposed exemption of the Tongass National Forest from the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule Dear Mr. Tu:

As conservation, recreation and wildlife organizations, local business leaders, elected officials and faith leaders from Washington State, we are writing in opposition to the preferred alternative (#6) identified in the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) proposing to exempt the Tongass National Forest from the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule. Our organizations support Alternative #1 (No Action) to retain long-standing and hard-fought protections for roadless areas within the Tongass National Forest.

Special Connection Between SE Alaska and Washington State

The Tongass National Forest is federal land owned by all Americans and its management matters beyond just Alaska. Here in Washington State, more than most areas, we have a direct connection to Southeast Alaska in many ways. The Tongass National Forest is approximately 500 miles from the northern border of Washington

State, the same distance as Boise, ID. Washington is the closest state to Alaska and shares close business, economic and cultural connections. Alaska Airlines alone has 24 daily nonstop flights between Seattle and the Southeast Alaska communities of Sitka, Ketchikan and Juneau.

We share a rich cultural connection to salmon inspired by our local Tribes and natural history similar to our northern Alaska neighbors. The Tongass National Forest produces on average 28% of Alaska's annual commercial salmon catch, and 25% of the entire west coast annual harvest. A significant number of commercial fishing permits held in Southeast and offshore waters in Alaska have their home port in Washington State in places like Seattle's Fisherman's Terminal or Westport on the Olympic coast.

Additionally, five major cruise lines, including Celebrity, Princess, Carnival, Norwegian and Holland America, offer 80 cruises departing from Seattle to the inside passage, the Tongass National Forest and Glacier Bay National Park each summer. The Tongass National Forest and its roadless areas are a central draw and attraction to visitation from Washingtonians and other tourists from around the country and the world. The forest watersheds, wildlife habitat and scenery directly support the visitor experience to nearby national park areas. According to the Cruise Lines International Association, direct expenditures related to cruises from Seattle generated total economic impacts of 18,129 jobs and \$949 million in income throughout the Washington economy during 2016.¹

1 The Contribution of the International Cruise Industry to the U.S Economy in 2016, August 2017

The Tongass National Forest and its Roadless Areas are a National Treasure

The 17-million-acre Tongass National Forest is America's largest national forest with roughly 9.2 million acres protected under the National Roadless Rule. The pristine forests and watersheds of the Tongass produce 79% of the commercial salmon harvested from Southeast Alaska amounting to about 49 million salmon each year. Tourism and fisheries jobs based on the wildlife and scenic attributes of the Tongass provides 25% of all jobs in Southeast Alaska.

The Tongass is the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforest and stores more climate-disrupting pollution in its old growth forests and rich soils than any other national forest in the United States - earning its name, "America's Climate Forest." As much as 12% of the nation's stored carbon in National Forests is stored within the Tongass National Forest. Logging and roadbuilding release the stored carbon into the atmosphere at a time when we need to be cutting our emissions drastically to prevent full blown climate chaos.

The Public Input for This Proposed Rulemaking Is Insufficient

More than one million people from across the U.S. commented in favor of protecting all 9.3 million acres of Tongass National Forest inventoried roadless areas during the rulemaking process for the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) during a two-year period from 1999 to 2001. At the time, the rulemaking process for the Roadless Rule was the largest in the history of the federal government, including 1.7 million comments and 600 public meetings throughout Alaska and the lower 48 states.

Since then, public appreciation of the roadless area values of the Tongass and roadless areas throughout the West has only grown, as evidenced by the impressive growth of the tourism, visitor use and local economies associated with Southeast Alaska and around gateway communities in other states. However, as part of the current public comment period the Forest Service has ignored requests to extend public comment to 75 or 90 days and schedule public meetings in the lower 48 states (including Seattle).

As a result, many of our organizations participated in a community public meeting held in Seattle on November 23 that provided what the Forest Service would not - an opportunity for community input here in Washington State on the importance of protections for Tongass National Forest roadless areas that are managed for all Americans.

The Impact Analysis of Changes to Roadless Protections Across Alternatives is Disingenuous

Despite the fact that the preferred alternative would eliminate the Roadless Rule's prohibitions on road building and logging on all 9.2 million acres of inventoried roadless areas on the Tongass National Forest, the Federal Register notice nonsensically states that "the proposed rule would not cause a substantial loss of roadless protection."²

Furthermore, the DEIS contends that all of the alternatives - including the proposed rule's full exemption - would have minimal environmental or economic impacts. For example, despite acknowledging that "roads pose the greatest risk to fish resources on the Tongass"³ the DEIS claims that exempting the Tongass from

2 Federal Register p. 55524

3 DEIS p. 3-112

the Roadless Rule (and all other alternatives) would have "negligible" effects on fish habitat and are not expected to affect the fishing industry. ⁴

Similarly, the DEIS anticipates little if any impact on the timber industry or any other sector of the economy. According to the DEIS, "overall timber harvest levels are expected to remain unaffected by the final rule," ⁵ resulting in the same number of logging and sawmill jobs under all alternatives. ⁶

This analysis fails to accurately identify differences among the range of alternatives and minimizes the impact of even the most extractive alternative. Such an approach grossly misrepresents the impact of the preferred alternative and ignores a key requirement under the National Environmental Policy Act. The lack of impact analysis sets a dangerous precedent for future proposed rulemakings impacting our public lands, parks and forests.

We support the No Action alternative: keep the Roadless Rule in the Tongass!

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Jesse Salomon

Senator, 32nd Legislative District

Washington State Senate

John McCoy

Senator, 38th Legislative District

Washington State Senate

Christine Rolfes

Senator, 23rd Legislative District

Washington State Senate

Joe Fitzgibbon

State Representative, 34th District

Washington State House of Representatives

Amy Wallen

State Representative, 48th District

Washington State House of Representatives

Sharon Shewmake

State Representative, 42nd District

Washington State House of Representatives

Larry Gossett

Council Member (D-2)

King County Council

4 DEIS, p. S-15 and p. 3-51

5 DEIS p. 3-44

6 DEIS p. 3-49

Lisa Herbold
Council Member
City of Seattle

Tom Uniack

Executive Director
Washington Wild

Robert Kaye

Conservation Committee Chair

North Cascades Audubon

Yvonne Krause

Executive Director

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

William Pope
Owner

Mazama Inn

Terry Frost

President

Lower Columbia Fly fishers

Joseph Bogaard

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Save Our wild Salmon Coalition

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Olympic Park Associates

Phillip Beck

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Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club

Alex Fisher

President

Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers

Tele Aadsen & Joel Brady-Power

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Nerka Sea Frozen Salmon (Bellingham, WA)

Josh Able

President

Spokane Falls Trout Unlimited

Rob Smith

Northwest Regional Director

National Parks Conservation Association

Art Campbell

President

North Central Washington Audubon

Philip Fenner

President

North Cascades Conservation Council

Quin Read

NW Director

Defenders of Wildlife

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Former Pastor

Lutheran Church in the San Juans

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Wendy McDermott

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Harry Romberg

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Willapa Hills Audubon

Dave Wertz

Science and Conservation Director

Conservation Northwest

Ann Darlington

President BOD

Friends of Heybrook Ridge (Index, WA)

Michael Davis

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Mount Baker Club (Bellingham, WA)

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C0-Founder

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Jasmine Minbashian

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Methow Valley Citizens Council (Twisp, WA)

Kim McDonald, PhD

Founder

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Chuck Chesire

President

Vancouver Wildlife League

Greg Haller

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Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Jon Hoekstra

Executive Director

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

Janet Strong

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Marie Dymkoski

President

Palouse Audubon Society

Lance Reif

Owner

Wild Water River Guides

Kurt Beardslee

Executive Director

Wild Fish Conservancy

Tracy Strandness

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Barefoot Eco Outfitters (Redmond, WA)

Joe Sambataro

Northwest Regional Director

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R.D. Grunbaum

President

Friends of Grays Harbor (Westport, WA)

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Arden Hagen

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Molly Whitney

Executive Director

Cascade Forest Conservancy

Gus Bekker

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Dana Ward

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Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society (Richland, WA)

Dan Streiffert

Conservation Chair

Rainier Audubon Society (Auburn, WA)

Martin Gowdy
Owner/operator
F/V Charity

CC: U.S. Senator Patty Murray
U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell
WA Governor Jay Inslee

[Position]

December 16, 2019

Ken Tu
Interdisciplinary Team Leader
Alaska Roadless Rule
USDA Forest Service
P.O. Box 21628
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1628
Sent electronically to akroadlessrule@usda.gov

Re: Proposed exemption of the Tongass National Forest from the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule

Dear Mr. Tu:

As conservation, recreation and wildlife organizations, local business leaders, elected officials and faith leaders from Washington State, we are writing in opposition to the preferred alternative (#6) identified in the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) proposing to exempt the Tongass National Forest from the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule. Our organizations support Alternative #1 (No Action) to retain long-standing and hard-fought protections for roadless areas within the Tongass National Forest.

Special Connection Between SE Alaska and Washington State

The Tongass National Forest is federal land owned by all Americans and its management matters beyond just Alaska. Here in Washington State, more than most areas, we have a direct connection to Southeast Alaska in many ways. The Tongass National Forest is approximately 500 miles from the northern border of Washington State, the same distance as Boise, ID. Washington is the closest state to Alaska and shares close business, economic and cultural connections. Alaska Airlines alone has 24 daily nonstop flights between Seattle and the Southeast Alaska communities of Sitka, Ketchikan and Juneau.

We share a rich cultural connection to salmon inspired by our local Tribes and natural history similar to our northern Alaska neighbors. The Tongass National Forest produces on average 28% of Alaska's annual commercial salmon catch, and 25% of the entire west coast annual harvest. A significant number of commercial fishing permits held in Southeast and offshore waters in Alaska have their home port in Washington State in places like Seattle's Fisherman's Terminal or Westport on the Olympic coast.

Additionally, five major cruise lines, including Celebrity, Princess, Carnival, Norwegian and Holland America, offer 80 cruises departing from Seattle to the inside passage, the Tongass National Forest and Glacier Bay National Park each summer. The Tongass National Forest and its roadless areas are a central draw and attraction to visitation from Washingtonians and other tourists from around the country and the world. The forest watersheds, wildlife habitat and scenery directly support the visitor experience to nearby national park areas. According to the Cruise Lines International Association, direct expenditures related to cruises from Seattle generated total economic impacts of 18,129 jobs and \$949 million in income throughout the Washington economy during 2016.¹

¹ [The Contribution of the International Cruise Industry to the U.S Economy in 2016](#), August 2017

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Since then, public appreciation of the roadless area values of the Tongass and roadless areas throughout the West has only grown, as evidenced by the impressive growth of the tourism, visitor use and local economies associated with Southeast Alaska and around gateway communities in other states. However, as part of the current public comment period the Forest Service has ignored requests to extend public comment to 75 or 90 days and schedule public meetings in the lower 48 states (including Seattle).

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³ DEIS p. 3-112

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Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

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Senator, 32nd Legislative District
Washington State Senate

Jeanne Kohl-Welles
Council Member (D-4)
King County Council

John McCoy
Senator, 38th Legislative District
Washington State Senate

Dave Upthegrove
Council Member (D-5)
King County Council

Christine Rolfes
Senator, 23rd Legislative District
Washington State Senate

Joe McDermott
Council Member (D-8)
King County Council

Joe Fitzgibbon
State Representative, 34th District
Washington State House of Representatives

Mike O’Brien
Council Member
City of Seattle

Amy Wallen
State Representative, 48th District
Washington State House of Representatives

Debora Juarez
Council Member
City of Seattle

Sharon Shewmake
State Representative, 42nd District
Washington State House of Representatives

Teresa Mosqueda
Council Member
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Larry Gossett
Council Member (D-2)
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Sally Bagshaw
Council Member
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⁴ DEIS, p. S-15 and p. 3-51

⁵ DEIS p. 3-44

⁶ DEIS p. 3-49

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Rainier Audubon Society (Auburn, WA)

Martin Gowdy
Owner/operator
F/V Charity

CC: U.S. Senator Patty Murray
U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell
WA Governor Jay Inslee

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

First name: Charles

Last name: Unkefer

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

No action on tongass

I am writing to express my deep concerns over the proposals to open up the tongass for heavy logging. As a (now retired) Alaskan commercial fisherman, I know that salmon habitat will be greatly compromised. This could cripple an already struggling Industry. Charlie Unkefer, Mt Shasta, Ca

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Chanda

Last name: Unmack

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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.

Regards, Chanda Unmack

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Chanda

Last name: Unmack

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Chanda Unmack and I live in Santa Clara, California.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Chanda Unmack

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Brad

Last name: Unruh

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

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Regards, Brad Unruh

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/21/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Jerry

Last name: Unruh

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the Alaska Roadless Rulemaking.# 54511. The proposed rule eliminates roadless protection for the Tongass National Forest and this is absolutely unacceptable. The Tongass is the our largest National Forest and one of the rare temperate rain forests in the U.S. Contrary to much of the information presented about the Tongass, about half of the old growth forest has already been cut. If we are seeking balance, timber harvest should cease and most certainly in the remaining old growth. The Roadless Rule protects what is left of the Tongass. As such Alternative 1 (no action alternative) or possibly Alternative 2 are the only viable alternatives. I urge you in the strongest possible terms to reject all the other possibilities and select 1 or 2.

When I was in graduate school at Oregon State University in the late "60s about 10-15% of the old growth had been cut, Now greater than 90% has been cut and there is till calls for balance. Please do not let the Tongass go the way of Oregon. Reject Alternative 6 and select Alternative 1 or 2.

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/13/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Scott

Last name: Unruh

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Scott Unruh and I live in Brighton, Colorado.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Scott Unruh

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Ruth

Last name: Unzicker

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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.

Regards, Ruth Unzicker

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Ruth

Last name: Unzicker

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

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Regards, Ruth Unzicker

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/22/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Karen

Last name: Updegraff

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing in support of Alternative 1 (no change) for the proposal to exempt the Tongass NF from the Roadless Area Conservation rule.

The Tongass comprises one of the few remaining areas of extensive unroaded area in the U.S., and as such needs to be considered in the context a national repository of wildlife habitat, watershed protection, and terrestrial carbon storage.

As a forester with some acquaintance with public lands management, it has become glaringly obvious that the timber lobby's argument that environmental restrictions are hobbling the industry are largely spurious. In our state we commonly sell as little as half of the timber offered on public auction due not to harvest restrictions but to a lack of market. Many of our mills have closed for reasons that have nothing to do with timber availability. Further, in our state the largest decline in timber availability had occurred not from public lands but from private ownerships, partly due to forest fragmentation and partly due to a reluctance to harvest or ignorance regarding practical and sustainable forest land management options. This simply transfers the burden of timber supply to public ownerships, which face a plethora of competing management demands.

An additional argument against allowing new road construction is that the USFS does not have the budget to properly maintain its existing road networks, leaving our national forest lands webbed with bad, eroding roads that serve only to encourage unregulated recreational use.

The Roadless Rule has provided many benefits and protections for our national treasures, including thousands of acres of irreplaceable old growth temperate rainforest. It is not time to fix what isn't broken.

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Charles

Last name: Updegraph

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Charles Updegraph and I live in Clifton, New Jersey.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Charles Updegraph

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/24/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: H

Last name: Updike

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Alaska Roadless Rulemaking #54511

Roadless Rulemaking,

RE: Alaska Roadless DEIS Comment

Dear Secretary Perdue:

Climate crisis is imminent. Destroying the Tongass is, counting all costs, not cost-effective, which means it is also dumb. What will you say to your grandchildren about your role in shaping the world they will have to live in? And good luck to them.

To spare them force them to live in a chaotic, unstable, dangerous world, every responsible person must now do whatever they can to prevent lethal

global warming. You have more power than most. Do the right thing.

H H Updike, Ph.D., Economics

H H Updike

Greenlawn, New York 11740

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Colleen

Last name: Upholt

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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 Americas 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.

Regards, Colleen Upholt

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

First name: Matthias

Last name: Uphues

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

HC5132

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule Committee:

I'm a fisherman and carpenter and I am concerned to hear, that the US Government is thinking about logging old trees in a National Preservation Area, risking to destroy spawning grounds for salmon.

Let me tell you about the German Kaiser at the End of the 18th century: he didn't listen to the fisherman, the Deutsche Sportfischer Verein, neither to John Horrocks, first author of Flyfishing literature in German language. He just went on with his industrialization, causing the entire salmon population to collapse and extinct by damming the rivers for milling and electric currency, by intensivating agriculture through draining the wetlands and straightening the streams. By making the rivers shipable for bigger boats. Do you know where he endet with his material gains? Right: in World War 1. Totally ruining everything and making his own end, too.

And you know the guy who was next, following material gains, like building the Autobahn, giving everybody a car, the Volkswagen, he fucked up even worse..

So please listen to your fisherman, enjoy your awesome salmon fishing, your National Preservation area.

And didn't ruin if for having some rich people even some more money to waste or make war with[hellip]

With the best regards

Fish on!

The Roadless Rule has been instrumental in conserving the Tongass National Forest and in supporting its fish and wildlife-based industries for almost 20 years. Please uphold the Rule's protections for important fish and wildlife areas, including the Tongass 77. Roadless areas are an important source of food, jobs, and income through commercial, subsistence, and recreational fishing. Salmon are part of Alaska's culture and we must protect them and their spawning streams. Please do not roll back roadless area protections for habitat that our irreplaceable fish and wildlife populations need to survive.

Sincerely,

Matthias Uphues

Hallein, SBG 5400

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: William

Last name: Upjohn

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

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Regards, William Upjohn

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: William

Last name: Upjohn

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, William Upjohn

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Lisa

Last name: Upperman

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Lisa Upperman and I live in Phoenix, Arizona.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Lisa Upperman

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Trycena

Last name: Upshaw

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Trycena Upshaw and I live in Highland, Indiana.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Trycena Upshaw

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Dona

Last name: Upson

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Dona Upson and I live in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Dona Upson

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Barbara

Last name: Upton

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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.

Regards, Barbara Upton

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Barbara

Last name: Upton

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Barbara Upton

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Charles

Last name: Upton

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Charles Upton and I live in Rockville, Maryland.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Charles Upton

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/7/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: CHRIS

Last name: UPTON

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

At nearly 17 million acres, the Tongass is the nation's largest national forest and the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforest; 9.3 million acres of that wild backcountry is inventoried roadless areas, providing high quality habitat for a unique diversity of sought-after game species, including mountain goats, black-tailed deer and both brown and black bears. The Tongass also encompasses thousands of miles of salmon-rich waterways, legendary among anglers and fundamental to the state's commercial salmon industry. The commercial fishing sector alone relies on the Tongass for more than 80 percent of its salmon and employs more than 4,300 people in the region, accounting for 9 percent of the area's entire employment. By contrast, timber production accounts for only 1 percent of the region's jobs.

Further, this proposal and the preferred alternative set a slippery precedent that threatens to unravel roadless rule protections for fish and wildlife across all of our nation's wild roadless forest lands. None of the identified alternatives take into consideration BHA's scoping comments to include balanced management policies for the Tongass, utilizing the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule as a foundational benchmark for improvements so that any roadless policies only enhance the most important fish and wildlife habitats. Logging and timber harvest already co-exist with roadless areas in the Tongass after years of prior compromise and consensus-building.

I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

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

First name: CHRIS

Last name: UPTON

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

HC3162

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule

Comment Period

Comment Period Alaska Roadless Rule:

The Roadless Rule has been instrumental in conserving the Tongass National Forest and in supporting its fish and wildlife-based industries for almost 20 years. Please uphold the Rule's protections for important fish and wildlife areas, including the Tongass 77. Roadless areas are an important source of food, jobs, and income through commercial, subsistence, and recreational fishing. Salmon are part of Alaska's culture and we must protect them and their spawning streams. Please do not roll back roadless area protections for habitat that our irreplaceable fish and wildlife populations need to survive.

Sincerely,

CHRIS UPTON

Hettinger, ND, 58639

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/11/2019 8:53:54 PM

First name: Megan

Last name: Upton

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Megan Upton and I live in Pueblo, CO. I am writing a comment on the Alaska Roadless Rule DEIS because I am concerned with how the Rule and the proposed full exemption will affect the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest.

Im a lover of the our pristine wild places and a mother of an 8 year old. She needs these places kept as wild as possible just like I do.

I urge the Forest Service to select Alternative 1, the no action alternative, for the final decision on the Alaska Roadless Rule. This alternative protects the inventoried roadless areas in Alaska that are full of pristine wilderness and provide important fish and wildlife habitat, and already allows for important community and economic development projects. As an American citizen, I value the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest for its wild salmon populations and the world-class fishing opportunities, its status as America's best natural solution to climate change and its sequestering of millions of metric tons of carbon and mitigating climate change, its huge swaths of intact ecosystems and all the biodiversity it contains, its status as the largest intact temperate rainforest in the world, the recreational opportunities it provides, the high density of incredible wildlife it contains, to keep public lands wild for future generations, its status as a national and global treasure, the lifestyles of the indigenous communities that the forest supports. A full exemption does not protect these priorities, nor does it effectively balance economic development with the countless other benefits provided by roadless areas. I would like the Forest Service to manage roadless areas for passive/active watershed restoration (stream and habitat) to improve/maintain roadless characteristics (culvert removal/replacement, improve fish passage, wildlife thinning, etc), low-impact recreation (camping, hiking, hunting, foraging, etc). It is important to me that high-value intact habitat including the T77 watersheds and the TNC conservation priority areas retain their roadless protections in any alternative selected.

The Forest Service is wasting taxpayers' valuable time and money by trying to prop up a failing timber industry in Southeast Alaska. The nonpartisan, independent taxpayer watchdog Taxpayers for Common Sense reported that the Tongass timber program has losses of over \$600 million of taxpayers money in the past 20 years. I would rather see my taxpayer dollars used to perform restorative actions that support wildlife populations on previously degraded landscapes that support wildlife populations, establish the economic value of the carbon stored in the Tongass. We need to stop subsidizing the clearcutting of old growth on the Tongass through taxpayer funded roadbuilding. If a full exemption were chosen, it would not create opportunities and would instead prioritize the special interests of one industry over the interests of the entire American public.

The Tongass is Americas homegrown natural solution to climate change. The forest sequesters 8% of the carbon stored in forests throughout the contiguous US states, some 3 billion metric tons of it. We must take action to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and maintaining the Tongass in a roadless state is critical for a sustainable future.

I urge the Forest Service to listen to the voices of the American people and prioritize them over corporate interests. The Forest Service should strengthen public involvement in developing land management policy and focus on broadly supported work rather than allowing special corporate interests to guide policy changes. Attempting to exempt inventoried roadless areas on the Chugach National Forest from the Alaska Roadless Rule adds further insult to injury, and this proposal has not received any sufficient environmental impact analysis or public input. Choosing a full exemption will not create a long lasting, durable solution for roadless areas in Alaska it will only increase the legal challenges, uncertainty for businesses, and conflict over these forests going forward.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Wayne

Last name: Urada

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Wayne Urada and I live in Kaneohe, Hawaii.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Wayne Urada

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Mireille

Last name: Urbain

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Mireille Urbain and I live in Gibsonton, Florida.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Mireille Urbain

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/10/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Donna

Last name: Urban

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Donna Urban and I live in Centennial, Colorado.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Donna Urban

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/25/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Ilsabe

Last name: Urban

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

The Roadless Rule helps protect both birds and mammals. Opening roadless areas to more logging and roads will fragment the forest and eliminate more of the big old trees that these animals rely on.

Despite this, ALL of the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest. These roads and timber operations cost tens of millions of taxpayer dollars every year, with no direct benefit. Meanwhile, these destructive activities degrade the naturally sustainable wealth of salmon, wildlife watching, and tourism opportunities, which enrich far more people and have greater economic impact than logging.

Please choose the "No Action" Alternative (Alternative 1) and allow the Roadless Rule to remain intact on the Tongass National Forest.

Sincerely,

Ilsabe Urban

Rockville, MD 20850

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: John

Last name: Urban

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is John Urban and I live in Plainview, New York.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, John Urban

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/24/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Joseph

Last name: Urban

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I have spent a couple summers in the roadless areas of the Tongass Forest, and also tromping through cutover areas. The contrast between the two areas could not be more stark. I understand the need to maintain some level of a forestry industry but clearly an industry that depends on a old-growth timber is not sustainable.

In addition holding back the development of a logging industry that can be sustained in the future, it negatively impacts other activities in the forest such as wildlife habitats, especially salmon rearing areas and deer wintering areas. Also impacted is the tourism industry, especially as clearcuts work to limit tourist opportunities. Please support the Roadless Rule into the future. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joseph Urban

Kodiak, AK 99615

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/7/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Kelly

Last name: Urban

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

At nearly 17 million acres, the Tongass is the nation's largest national forest and the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforest; 9.3 million acres of that wild backcountry is inventoried roadless areas, providing high quality habitat for a unique diversity of sought-after game species, including mountain goats, black-tailed deer and both brown and black bears. The Tongass also encompasses thousands of miles of salmon-rich waterways, legendary among anglers and fundamental to the state's commercial salmon industry. The commercial fishing sector alone relies on the Tongass for more than 80 percent of its salmon and employs more than 4,300 people in the region, accounting for 9 percent of the area's entire employment. By contrast, timber production accounts for only 1 percent of the region's jobs.

Further, this proposal and the preferred alternative set a slippery precedent that threatens to unravel roadless rule protections for fish and wildlife across all of our nation's wild roadless forest lands. None of the identified alternatives take into consideration BHA's scoping comments to include balanced management policies for the Tongass, utilizing the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule as a foundational benchmark for improvements so that any roadless policies only enhance the most important fish and wildlife habitats. Logging and timber harvest already co-exist with roadless areas in the Tongass after years of prior compromise and consensus-building.

I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Nancy

Last name: Urban

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Nancy Urban and I live in West Palm Beach, Florida.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Nancy Urban

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Patricia

Last name: Urban

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Patricia Urban and I live in Gambier, Ohio.

Please preserve the earth's lifeblood: forest. Humans will die without them.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Patricia Urban

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/11/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Rae

Last name: Urban

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Rae Urban and I live in Southwest Harbor, Maine.

Please don't clearcut the Tongass. I've been there. Please leave the forest alone.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Rae Urban

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Rees

Last name: Urban

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Rees Urban and I live in Chicago, Illinois.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Rees Urban

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/17/2019 10:22:56 PM

First name: Sara

Last name: Urbanczyk

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Sara Urbanczyk and I live in New York, NY. I am writing a comment on the Alaska Roadless Rule DEIS because I am concerned with how the Rule and the proposed full exemption will affect the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest.

I think we have a real responsibility to protect unique ecosystems. There's a limited return on utilizing the natural resources but there's so much more to gain from saving these rare places from being damaged by logging and clear cutting. Short term benefits of these behaviors hurt everyone.

I urge the Forest Service to select Alternative 1, the no action alternative, for the final decision on the Alaska Roadless Rule. This alternative protects the inventoried roadless areas in Alaska that are full of pristine wilderness and provide important fish and wildlife habitat, and already allows for important community and economic development projects. As an American citizen, I value the Tongass National Forest and the Chugach National Forest for its huge swaths of intact ecosystems and all the biodiversity it contains, its status as the largest intact temperate rainforest in the world, the high density of incredible wildlife it contains, to keep public lands wild for future generations, its status as a national and global treasure, the lifestyles of the indigenous communities that the forest supports. A full exemption does not protect these priorities, nor does it effectively balance economic development with the countless other benefits provided by roadless areas. I would like the Forest Service to manage roadless areas for low-impact recreation (camping, hiking, hunting, foraging, etc). It is important to me that high-value intact habitat including the T77 watersheds and the TNC conservation priority areas retain their roadless protections in any alternative selected.

The Forest Service is wasting taxpayers' valuable time and money by trying to prop up a failing timber industry in Southeast Alaska. The nonpartisan, independent taxpayer watchdog Taxpayers for Common Sense reported that the Tongass timber program has losses of over \$600 million of taxpayers money in the past 20 years. I would rather see my taxpayer dollars used to restore salmon habitat that was hurt by past logging practices, establish the economic value of the carbon stored in the Tongass, perform restorative actions that support wildlife populations on previously degraded landscapes that support wildlife populations. We need to stop subsidizing the clearcutting of old growth on the Tongass through taxpayer funded roadbuilding. If a full exemption were chosen, it would not create opportunities and would instead prioritize the special interests of one industry over the interests of the entire American public.

The Tongass is America's homegrown natural solution to climate change. The forest sequesters 8% of the carbon stored in forests throughout the contiguous US states, some 3 billion metric tons of it. We must take action to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and maintaining the Tongass in a roadless state is critical for a sustainable future.

I urge the Forest Service to listen to the voices of the American people and prioritize them over corporate interests. The Forest Service should strengthen public involvement in developing land management policy and focus on broadly supported work rather than allowing special corporate interests to guide policy changes. Attempting to exempt inventoried roadless areas on the Chugach National Forest from the Alaska Roadless Rule adds further insult to injury, and this proposal has not received any sufficient environmental impact analysis or public input. Choosing a full exemption will not create a long lasting, durable solution for roadless areas in Alaska it will only increase the legal challenges, uncertainty for businesses, and conflict over these forests going forward.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Jami

Last name: Urbanic

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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 Americas 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.

Regards, Jami Urbanic

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Mary

Last name: Urbanovicj

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Mary Urbanovicj and I live in Evesham Township, New Jersey.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Mary Urbanovicj

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Jeffrey

Last name: Urbauer

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

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Regards, Jeffrey Urbauer

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Merry

Last name: Urbia

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Merry Urbia and I live in Greenbelt, Maryland.

It's time to reaffirm that taking the long view on preserving natural resources for the many serves us better than short term exploitation for the few. Our future and the lives of future generations depend on doing this well.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Merry Urbia

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/11/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Christian Jeremiah

Last name: Urbiztondo

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

At nearly 17 million acres, the Tongass is the nation's largest national forest and the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforest; 9.3 million acres of that wild backcountry is inventoried roadless areas, providing high quality habitat for a unique diversity of sought-after game species, including mountain goats, black-tailed deer and both brown and black bears. The Tongass also encompasses thousands of miles of salmon-rich waterways, legendary among anglers and fundamental to the state's commercial salmon industry. The commercial fishing sector alone relies on the Tongass for more than 80 percent of its salmon and employs more than 4,300 people in the region, accounting for 9 percent of the area's entire employment. By contrast, timber production accounts for only 1 percent of the region's jobs.

Further, this proposal and the preferred alternative set a slippery precedent that threatens to unravel roadless rule protections for fish and wildlife across all of our nation's wild roadless forest lands. None of the identified alternatives take into consideration BHA's scoping comments to include balanced management policies for the Tongass, utilizing the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule as a foundational benchmark for improvements so that any roadless policies only enhance the most important fish and wildlife habitats. Logging and timber harvest already co-exist with roadless areas in the Tongass after years of prior compromise and consensus-building.

I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/11/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Diana

Last name: Urbon

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Diana Urbon and I live in Round Lake Beach, Illinois.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Diana Urbon

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/11/2019 3:00:00 PM

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Last name: Urbon

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Diana Urbon

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Julie

Last name: Uren

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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 Americas 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.

Regards, Julie Uren

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/5/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Julie

Last name: Uren

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

At nearly 17 million acres, the Tongass is the nation's largest national forest and the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforest; 9.3 million acres of that wild backcountry is inventoried roadless areas, providing high quality habitat for a unique diversity of sought-after game species, including mountain goats, black-tailed deer and both brown and black bears. The Tongass also encompasses thousands of miles of salmon-rich waterways, legendary among anglers and fundamental to the state's commercial salmon industry. The commercial fishing sector alone relies on the Tongass for more than 80 percent of its salmon and employs more than 4,300 people in the region, accounting for 9 percent of the area's entire employment. By contrast, timber production accounts for only 1 percent of the region's jobs.

Further, this proposal and the preferred alternative set a slippery precedent that threatens to unravel roadless rule protections for fish and wildlife across all of our nation's wild roadless forest lands. None of the identified alternatives take into consideration BHA's scoping comments to include balanced management policies for the Tongass, utilizing the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule as a foundational benchmark for improvements so that any roadless policies only enhance the most important fish and wildlife habitats. Logging and timber harvest already co-exist with roadless areas in the Tongass after years of prior compromise and consensus-building.

I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Victoria

Last name: Urias

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Victoria Urias and I live in Seattle, Washington.

We need MORE trees and forests: NOT less!

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Victoria Urias

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Sandra

Last name: Uribe

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Sandra Uribe and I live in Palmyra, Virginia.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Sandra Uribe

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/11/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: William

Last name: Urman

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/7/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Ben

Last name: Urmston

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I've spent much time in the wilderness and National Forests. We must protect this land!! It's value is immense!

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/15/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Caro

Last name: Urquhart

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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.

Regards, Caro Urquhart

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Caro

Last name: Urquhart

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

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Regards, Caro Urquhart

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Evelyn

Last name: Urquhart

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Evelyn Urquhart and I live in Roanoke, VA

For the sake of trees:

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

In Southeast Alaska, tourism accounts for 28% of employment and generate an annual \$1 billion in economic benefit, making it far more of an economic driver than the timber industry, which is less than 1% of the regional economy.

Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Evelyn Urquhart

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Susan

Last name: Urquhart-Brown

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Susan Urquhart-Brown and I live in Oakland, California.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Susan Urquhart-Brown

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Mark

Last name: urscheler

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Mark urscheler and I live in Franklin, New Jersey.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Mark urscheler

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Gabe

Last name: Urso

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

At nearly 17 million acres, the Tongass is the nation's largest national forest and the world's largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforest; 9.3 million acres of that wild backcountry is inventoried roadless areas, providing high quality habitat for a unique diversity of sought-after game species, including mountain goats, black-tailed deer and both brown and black bears. The Tongass also encompasses thousands of miles of salmon-rich waterways, legendary among anglers and fundamental to the state's commercial salmon industry. The commercial fishing sector alone relies on the Tongass for more than 80 percent of its salmon and employs more than 4,300 people in the region, accounting for 9 percent of the area's entire employment. By contrast, timber production accounts for only 1 percent of the region's jobs.

Further, this proposal and the preferred alternative set a slippery precedent that threatens to unravel roadless rule protections for fish and wildlife across all of our nation's wild roadless forest lands. None of the identified alternatives take into consideration BHA's scoping comments to include balanced management policies for the Tongass, utilizing the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule as a foundational benchmark for improvements so that any roadless policies only enhance the most important fish and wildlife habitats. Logging and timber harvest already co-exist with roadless areas in the Tongass after years of prior compromise and consensus-building.

I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Louise

Last name: Usechak

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Louise Usechak and I live in Shrewsbury, NJ.

This forest is one of the most precious forests that we have. A forest helps provide the lungs for our earth, taking in CO2 and releasing oxygen for us to breathe. It provides vital habitat and native Alaskans depend upon it and the waterways it protects for their food and for their culture. It is outrageous that corporations should undo environmental protections for this forest which draws tourists as well, just to gain more corporate wealth while ignoring the tremendous value this forest provides while left in its natural state.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Any choice but the No Action alternative would also put wildlife and critical habitat at risk, threaten access to clean water, and be a step in the wrong direction on climate change jeopardizing Alaskans at a time when the state already faces severe challenges related to rising temperatures. I urge you not to abandon the Roadless Rule in Alaska and instead to put the public interest above corporate profits by choosing to keep the rule in place unchanged.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Louise Usechak

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/7/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Corey

Last name: Uselman

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

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I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Rajdeep

Last name: Usgaonker

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Rajdeep Usgaonker and I live in Englewd Clfs, New Jersey.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Rajdeep Usgaonker

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Laura

Last name: Usuriello

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

The Tongass contains 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. I urge you to keep the federal Roadless Rule intact and current protections in place for national forests in Alaska.

In addition, I strongly object to your plans to reduce and remove protections from our national forests roadless areas. 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 Americas 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.

Regards, Laura Usuriello

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: linda

Last name: uttaro

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is linda uttaro and I live in Peabody, Massachusetts.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, linda uttaro

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/11/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Gavin

Last name: Uttecht

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

As a supporter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I am very concerned with the proposed rulemaking announced in Federal Register Document Number 2019-0023. I am writing these comments to strongly encourage you to maintain roadless area protections for the Tongass National Forest, including the wild fisheries habitat in the Tongass 77 and adopt the no action Alternative 1. These public lands and waters are prized by sportsmen and women and are a mainstay of Alaska's economy, helping drive an \$887 billion economic engine from outdoor recreation like hunting and fishing.

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I implore you to maintain the integrity of Alaska's roadless areas and the Tongass 77, critical watersheds for trout and salmon. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is a collaborative management approach adopted following one of the most extensive public engagement campaigns in the history of federal rulemaking. It may be America's best and most popular land management rule ever. The costs to American taxpayers for road building and unconscionably subsidized resource extraction are too high - not to mention the irreparable impact to wildlife, water, subsistence practices and traditions like hunting and fishing.

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/11/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Carla

Last name: Utter

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Carla Utter and I live in [@advCity], Washington.

What will it take for us to wake up?

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Carla Utter

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

First name: Mark

Last name: Utter

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

HC3926

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule

Comment Period:

Comment Period Alaska Roadless Rule:

I am writing in support of the 'no action' alternative to leave the Roadless Rule unchanged in Alaska. I am concerned that changes to the rule would lead to greatly expand clear-cut logging of old growth timber and costly road building in undeveloped, wild areas of both the Tongass and Chugach Forests. These activities increase sedimentation, hurt water quality, often block salmon migration, and add to an already large backlog of needed road maintenance and restoration.

Our fisheries and wild forests are critical to the economy of Alaska. To grow these sectors of our economy, we need intact habitat. Please leave the Alaska Roadless Rule in place.

Sincerely,

Mark Utter

San Diego, CA 92128

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 1/1/0001 12:00:00 AM

First name: Mark

Last name: Utter

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

3926

U.S. Forest Service Alaska Roadless Rule

Comment Period:

Comment Period Alaska Roadless Rule:

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Our fisheries and wild forests are critical to the economy of Alaska. To grow these sectors of our economy, we need intact habitat. Please leave the Alaska Roadless Rule in place.

Sincerely,

Mark Utter

San Diego, CA 92128

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/9/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Margot

Last name: Utterback

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Margot Utterback and I live in Nashua, New Hampshire.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Margot Utterback

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Susan

Last name: Uustal

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trump's plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

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Regards, Susan Uustal

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Susan

Last name: Uustal

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Regards, Susan Uustal

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 12/16/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Richard

Last name: Uyehara

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am writing to support the No-Action Alternative for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Alaska Roadless Rule, Alternative #1. I support keeping the current Roadless Rule protections in place and intact for the Tongass National Forest. Trumps plan is yet another attack from the Trump administration on Indigenous rights. Alaskan Native communities -- including the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples -- have depended on the Tongass Rainforest for millennia. It is the backbone to their culture, traditions, and communities -- we simply cannot let it disappear.

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Regards, Richard Uyehara

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 3:00:00 PM

First name: Steve

Last name: Uyenishi

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Steve Uyenishi and I live in Seattle, Washington.

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Steve Uyenishi

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 11/8/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Selim

Last name: Uzuner

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Selim Uzuner and I live in Carnation, Washington.

EPA's job is to PROTECT the environment as the agency's title indicates, not help destroy it! So do your job!

I am writing to express strong opposition to efforts to roll back the Roadless Area Conservation Rule (Roadless Rule) in Alaska or elsewhere. The Roadless Rule was implemented with unprecedented public support to protect some of our nations most pristine public lands, including large parts of the Tongass National Forest. You must choose the No Action alternative. Any other choice would ignore overwhelming public support and harm Alaskans, including Alaska Natives, and taxpayers across the nation.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Regards, Selim Uzuner

[Position]

[Position]

Date submitted (Alaskan Standard Time): 10/18/2019 3:38:17 PM

First name: Selim

Last name: Uzuner

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Comments to oppose modification to the Roadless Rule

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

The Roadless Rule helps protect old-growth habitat for birds like the Prince of Wales Spruce Grouse and Northern Goshawk, as well as for mammals like wolves and deer. Opening roadless areas to more logging and roads will fragment the forest and eliminate more of the big old trees that these animals rely on.

Yet, all of the action alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement allow more roadbuilding and logging across the Tongass National Forest. Logging roads and timber operations 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.

It is time to stop opening more and more acres to the timber industry and instead 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,

Selim Uzuner

Carnation, WA 98014