



File Code: 1570

Date: JUL 23 2009

Ms. Karen Hardigg  
Alaska Forest Program Manager  
The Wilderness Society  
705 Christensen Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Ms. Hardigg:

Pursuant to 36 CFR 215.18(b)(1), I have reviewed the administrative record for the Navy Timber Sale Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD). The Tongass Forest Supervisor signed the ROD. I have also considered the Appeal Reviewing Officer's (ARO) recommendation (enclosed) regarding the disposition of your appeal (Appeal # 09-10-00-0004 A215). The ARO recommended that the Forest Supervisor's decision be reversed, with instructions for the Forest Supervisor to either: 1) select an alternative that was analyzed in detail in the DEIS and FEIS; or 2) supplement the DEIS to provide the detailed analysis for the Selected Alternative using the direction in 40 CFR 1502.9(c). Both options ensure that the public has had or will have an adequate opportunity to review and comment on the alternatives analyzed in detail.

I concur with the ARO's recommendation and I reverse the decision. The Forest Supervisor is directed to follow the instructions outlined in the ARO's recommendation.

My decision constitutes the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture with regard to your appeal (36 CFR 215.18(b)(c)).

Sincerely,

DENNIS E. BSCHOR  
Regional Forester

Enclosure

cc: Forrest Cole, Patrick Heuer, Mark Hummel

