

ENVS 190
Final Capstone Paper - Cover Letter

Dear Professor Holl,

I addressed all the comments I received from you and my other reviewers on my draft, and I incorporated as many of them as I could. The only ones I was not able to satisfy were your suggestion to include the percentage of forest that was logged instead of board feet, and the percentage of the Tongass that is suitable for timber harvesting. I searched for the answers to these questions, but I was unable to find them. This was partly because board feet does not translate directly into acreage since it depends on the density of the particular stand of forest.

I believe I was able to make the rest of the changes you suggested. In the area of research, I read several more studies on the effects of riparian buffer zones on fish populations in order to get a broader perspective. This helped to solidify my analysis of the results I found in my draft paper.

In order to make my discussion of the life history of salmon more concise, I cut out anything I thought the reader did not really need to know in order to understand the studies cited in the paper. I also deleted some of the details of the studies I analyzed, and tried to stress the points I felt were important to support my conclusion. I incorporated the names of the authors in some instances so as not to use an end of the sentence citing every time, and also referred to the authors by name instead of often using "they", as suggested by Kaeja. And, I revised my hypothesis to reflect the narrower scope of my analysis than was suggested in my draft.

In my conclusion I added statements about the broader impacts of salmon on the economy and the ecology of the area, and gave my recommendation on what should be done if logging is opened up in the Tongass as specifically as I could in the context of this paper.

Thank you for your feedback, it definitely helped me improve on my draft.

Sincerely,