These facts are meant to further inform conversations about the Tongass National Forest, which produces more wild salmon than all other national forests combined. This is the summary page of a much larger technical report to be published soon.

**Economics***
- Salmon support 1 in 10 jobs in Southeast Alaska.
- On average, 48 million wild salmon are caught from the Tongass National Forest each year.
- The combined economic impact of commercial, sport and subsistence salmon fishing, as well as hatchery operations, in Southeast Alaska, was estimated at $986 million for 2007.

**Cultural Values**
- Wild salmon have fed the people of Southeast Alaska for more than 9,000 years.
- Ninety-six percent of Alaskans surveyed say salmon are essential to the Alaskan way of life.

**Household Use of Salmon**
- Nearly 90% of rural households in Southeast Alaska use salmon.
- The estimated subsistence and personal use harvest averaged 66,146 salmon per year between 1996 and 2008.
- On average, a resident of Southeast Alaska’s rural communities uses 75 pounds, or 13 salmon a year: 1 chum, 3.5 coho, 1.5 Chinook, 2 pinks and 5 sockeye.

**Commercial Fishing***
- The Tongass NF produces on average 28% of Alaska’s annual commercial salmon catch from less than 5% of the land.
- 79% of the commercial salmon annually harvested from Southeast Alaska are from the streams and lakes of the Tongass National Forest.
- In 2007, commercial fishing supported an estimated 4,682 jobs in Southeast Alaska, including 2,998 commercial fishing jobs and 846 seafood processing jobs.
- More than 96% of pink salmon harvested in Southeast Alaska are wild.

*Note: most of the economic and commercial values above do not include Southeast Alaska’s record breaking commercial salmon harvests in 2010 and 2011.

**Sport Fishing**
- 2 out of every 3 fish in Southeast Alaska sport harvest are salmon.
- On average, 120,000 sport anglers catch close to 1 million salmon (58% coho) in Southeast Alaska each year.

**Salmon in the Forest**
- The Forest Service has recorded 15,764 miles of anadromous streams and 4,100 lakes and ponds which support salmon, for a total of 17,690 miles of salmon habitat in the Tongass National Forest.
- Salmon-derived nitrogen has been found in trees more than 500 yards away from salmon streams, particularly in areas where bears feed on salmon.
- More than 50 species of animals feed on salmon when they return to spawn in freshwater.

**Watershed Health**
- About 6% of the streamside area on Tongass salmon streams has been affected by timber harvest and/or road building.
- Most Tongass watersheds are in near natural conditions, but some critical floodplain areas are degraded in important fish-producing watersheds.
- A 2011 forest-wide assessment identified about 70 watersheds (out of > 900 total) that need work to restore aquatic habitat.
- Statewide, 89% of Alaskans say that even in tough economic times, it is important to maintain funding for salmon conservation.