



## *News Release*

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE • ALASKA WILDERNESS LEAGUE  
BRAIDED RIVER • NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Celebration of Tongass National Forest in Conjunction with the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Yakutat Tern Festival and International Year of Forests**

*Presentation, Exhibit of Nature Photography Book, Salmon in the Trees: Life in Alaska's Tongass Rain Forest*

Who: United States Forest Service, Alaska Wilderness League, Braided River, National Forest Foundation, and Yakutat Salmon Board are pleased to announce a series of events and exhibitions featuring the stunning photographs of acclaimed photographer Amy Gulick.

What: Opening reception, multimedia presentation, and photo exhibition of *Salmon in the Trees: Life in Alaska's Tongass Rain Forest* to celebrate the Tongass National Forest, U.N. International Year of Forests, and the people of Southeast Alaska during the first annual Yakutat Tern Festival.

When: Opening reception on Thursday, June 2, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in conjunction with the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Yakutat Tern Festival at the Yakutat High School. Appetizers and desserts will be served. Gulick will present on Friday, June 3, at 7:00 p.m. in the Alaska Native Brotherhood (ANB) Hall. Families are welcome. Exhibition of Amy Gulick's photographs will run from May 6 through June 5, 2011 at the Yakutat High School.

Where: Opening reception on June 2 and exhibition May 6 - June 5: Yakutat High School, 429 Forest Highway 10, Yakutat, AK.

Presentation June 3: Alaska Native Brotherhood (ANB) Hall, 522 Max Italio Drive, Yakutat, AK.

More information: Please visit [www.salmoninthetrees.org](http://www.salmoninthetrees.org) and [www.myalaskaforests.com](http://www.myalaskaforests.com). Photographs from the book, DVD, and b-roll footage of the Tongass National Forest are available upon request.

*Salmon in the Trees: Life in Alaska's Tongass Rain Forest* tells the story of the Tongass rain forest, where life interconnects in unexpected ways. In this biologically rich coastal ecosystem, humpback whales, orcas, and sea lions cruise the forested shorelines. Millions of wild salmon swim upstream into the forest, feeding bears, bald eagles, and local communities.

The book features the stories and contributions of Alaskans who live in and are dependent upon the forest, including well-known Alaskans Ray Troll, Richard Nelson, and John Straley. Ray Troll contributed his salmon-spawned illustrations to the book as well as the opening essay, "A Letter from

Ketchikan.” The book also includes essays from renowned conservationists, scientists, and journalists.

At 17 million acres, about the size of West Virginia, the Tongass is America's largest national forest, and contains nearly one-third of the world's remaining old-growth temperate rain forest. With some of the highest densities of bears and bald eagles on Earth, it is teeming with life and adventure. The region is also home to the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian, whose cultures are deeply connected on a local level to this forest of global significance.

For two years, writer and photographer Gulick paddled and trekked among the bears, islands, and salmon streams to document the Tongass National Forest. Join her on an unforgettable journey to one of the rarest ecosystems on Earth – one where Alaskans recreate, make a living, and meet the subsistence needs of their families in and around Alaska’s national forests. This book is your story and celebrates your heritage. The *Salmon in the Trees* exhibition pairs with International Year of Forests to provide Alaskans a golden opportunity to take a fresh look at the Tongass and celebrate this heritage.

*Salmon in the Trees* was chosen to receive a 2010 IPPY award, an independent publisher book award.