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Comments: The Tongass National Forest should remain in the Roadless Area Conservation category, and not be open or subject to plundering and ruin by the special interest groups who are forcing these backward-steps in our world, due to the temporary vulnerability created by the current US administration.

Our planet is in serious peril and desperately needs the rainforests to remain intact and function as they should. The Tongass is not a lucrative or appropriate place for logging. It serves as a habitat and one of the last pristine environments for wildlife, clean water and carbon storage.

In terms of forest management, according to the findings outlined in the research done by Barrett et al, managing forests for carbon "is a new area" and because it's new, "there's quite a bit of debate on the topic."

Rather than rush ahead by opening the Tongass to the logging industry, more research should be supported and funded. Follow the science and do what's right for this planet and for future generations.

[See attachment containing the following technical resource "Science Findings: Colossal Carbon! Disturbance and Biomass Dynamics in Alaska's National Forests"]

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