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Comments: I strongly support preserving the Tongass National Forest in a pristine state and oppose any rules that would lessen this protection. Forested areas are important carbon retention systems, and in this era of rapid climate change, reducing the number of or size and age of trees increases risks for all Americans. Mining or oil extraction further disturb carbon already sequestered in the ground, and as a nation, we need to wean ourselves off of fossil fuels, not seek new sources. Tongass should remain protected under the 2001 Roadless Rule.

[Position]

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