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Comments: Opening the Tongass National Forest to roadbuilding and logging is, very simple, a very bad idea. It should not be done. The Forest should be preserved as is.

A forest of this size -- anywhere in the world -- sequesters a huge amount of carbon from the atmosphere. At this point in our societal development, we need all the help we can get in that regard.

It has been suggested that felling a 1000-year-old tree and replacing it with seedlings that will grow will result in greater carbon sequestration. That may be, given enough time. But we don't really have the 100 to 1000 years required to do that if we want to keep our society alive and thriving.

I'm not sure if you've seen a fir seedling. It's cute, yes. It has a few almost-branches with some needle-leaves that may add up to a square inch or two. And it takes time to grow. It takes time to use the carbon it is "breathing" to build its sturdiness and structure. Decades, at the least. A centuries-old tree has gone through that process and continues to grow and sequester A LOT of carbon. A seedling...not so much.

That's the simple, easy explanation. The simple, easy decision: Don't open the Tongass National Forest to new roads or logging. Keep it as it is: wild and free.

[Position]