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Comments: The 2001 Roadless Rule must be upheld for three important reasons:

1. Most importantly, this is tribal land that has supported many tribes' health, food supply, and way of life.
 2. The US Department of Defense agreed that vital tools of natural defense against disease and bioterrorism grow in old growth forests such as The Tongass National Forest. These forests have been designated by the US Government as tools of national defense. Exempting the Roadless Rule would erode the safety of the United States.
 3. Old growth forests are ESSENTIAL DEFENSES against rising CO2 levels and increased climate collapse.
- Thank you.