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Comments: All forests, but especially old-growth forests, are vital for existence on the planet--and not only humans' existence. The dense, oxygen-rich environment restores the atmosphere (that we are so busy destroying), provides habitats for creatures we have yet to identify, and provide abundant, rich, and diverse ecosystems. That we have to justify their existence seems sad and a bit absurd, but they are important for the continuation of life on the planet. We have very few old-growth forests left in the U.S. because of short-sighted policies and too-loud lobbyists against these regions. We need to acknowledge the truth that "In Wildness is the preservation of the world," and preserve the remaining old-growth and mature forests for all of us, animals and humans alike.