

Dear Chief Moore:

As someone who cares deeply about the health of our national forests, I am calling for a formal rule to protect mature and old-growth trees and forests. Mature and old-growth trees protect our climate, filter drinking water and shelter wildlife.

The current Draft Environmental Impact Statement fails to protect old-growth trees and forests. The Statement contains ambiguous language that could be used to justify continued commercial logging of old growth. In Oregon, where I live, our forests are wet. They will not benefit from logging to protect from fire. The old growth trees are worth much more as standing trees.

The final decision should:

- End the cutting of old-growth trees in all national forests and all forest types
- End any commercial exchange of old-growth trees. Even in the rare circumstances where an old-growth tree is cut (ie: public safety), that tree should not be sent to the mill.
- Recognize the important role that old growth plays in fighting climate change, not just how they are threatened by climate change.

I urge you to protect our oldest trees and forests.

Sincerely,  
Beth B.  
Corvallis, OR