Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/30/2022 4:00:00 AM First name: EVA Last name: WATERS Organization: Title: Comments: July 30, 2022

Dear Secretary Vilsack and Secretary Haaland,

Subject: Executive Order 14072: Strengthening the Nation[rsquo]s Communities, and Local Economies

OUR FORESTS ARE BEING PROTECTED TO DEATH!

The current threat to our mature and old-growth forests is the overprotection they have received in recent years. As a resident of the Williams, Oregon area for over 50 years the local forests are in the worst shape I have ever seen. There are great swaths of dead/dying trees just waiting to be excellent fodder in the event of a fire.

If strengthening local economies is a desire, then the harvesting of trees is an excellent way to produce familywage employment opportunities. Harvesting of trees, a renewable resource, helps to keep our forests healthy and strong against insects, disease, and fire.

PLEASE STOP PROTECTING OUT FORESTS TO DEATH!