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Comments: As described in the Mature and Old Growth (MOG) document, it is not clear how this amendment deals with Forest, by Forest Suitable Timber Base, Long term Sustainable Yield, and Allowable Sale Quantities standards. The National Forest Management Act of 1976 acknowledges the existence of differing vegetation types by Potential Vegetation Groups (PVGs) on our National Forest System Lands, but it appears this amendment for Mature and Old Growth does not reflect these differences, and seems to suggest that a one size fits all approach to Mature and Old Growth Management will take place. It is unclear if, or how, the National Vegetation Classification Standard has been applied to action.

It seems that in order to move forward with this Amendment, legislative action may be necessary to modify existing laws regarding management of National Forest System Lands; yet this is not mentioned in the documents. We oppose the notion that Forest Service leaders in the Washington Office are diving into the particulars of each and every vegetation management project, as we feel the appropriate way to determine the right vegetation treatment is to be on site, and in working closely with coalitions, established forest coalitions, and the local timber industry.

Larry Laxson

Parks and Recreation Director

ATTACHMENT: Forest MOG response.docx is letter content.