

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/18/2024 4:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Old-Growth Forest Amendments DEIS was intended to advance President Biden's 2022 Earth Day executive order to conserve and restore America's mature and old-growth forests. The Biden administration's executive order was issued because mature and old-growth forests are vital to providing clean water, absorbing carbon pollution, and supplying habitat for wildlife.

Old-Growth Forest Amendments DEIS limits itself to the management of old-growth forests, and not mature forests. We must preserve and protect tomorrow's old-growth forests-mature forests-as a tool to protect against ongoing and future impacts from climate change. Moreover, older trees are more fire resistant and stronger protections for mature trees would not materially impact the U.S. Forest Service's ability to address and plan for wildfire risk.

As a Minnesotan, I have a stake in the health of old growth forests in the Superior National Forest, not only for their beauty and recreational value, but also for the environmental protection they provide for my generation and generations to come.

The Old-Growth Forest Amendments DEIS must be broadened to include the protection of mature forests and strengthened to categorically prohibit the harvesting of such aforementioned forests except in the most necessary instances.

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