| Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/2/2024 4:00:00 AM |
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| First name: Richard |
| Last name: Spotts |
| Organization: |
| Title: |
| Comments: July 9, 2024 |
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| Door LICDA Constant Villagely |
| Dear USDA Secretary Vilsack: |
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| Please direct the Forest Service to increase protection for old growth in eastern national forests as recommended |
| in the coalition letter at the web link below and attached. |
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| https://biologicaldiversity.org/programs/public_lands/forests/pdfs/Eastern-National-Forests-Letter-7-9-24.pdf |
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| I reviewed this letter and I totally agree and concur with its recommendations. |
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| As you know, the protection and restoration of old growth forests is critically important to help respond to the |
| rapidly worsening climate and extinction crises. These forests sequester enormous amounts of harmful |
| atmospheric carbon and sustain biodiversity. |
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| Old growth forests are important everywhere, but they are especially rare and precious in eastern national |
| forests. I have hiked in eastern national forests and I know that they need and deserve greater protection. |
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| Thank you very much for your kind consideration of my comments and the coalition letter. |
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| Sincerely, |
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| Richard Spotts |
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