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First name: Ted

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The proposal to eliminate the 21 inch rule

Dear USFS,

I am adamantly opposed to removing the 21 inch rule. Removing or "thinning" stands of this size will subject the remaining trees to increased danger of blowdown. These stands have endured long enough to reach this size demonstrating their genetic suitability and vigor and they should not be removed now.

With climate change making things hotter and dryer in the future it makes no sense to remove trees that are providing cooling shade. These trees are now resistant to fire, especially periodic ground fires.

The few remaining stands of 21 inch or larger trees on public land must be retained to offset private timber lands where trees will never again be allowed to reach a 21 inch or larger diameter.

Sincerely,

Ted Chu