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Title:

Comments: Thank you for the chance to comment on the proposed "new" approach to prioritizing the management, restoration and enhancement of mature forests. Our singular complaint is with the process is the reuse of the "old growth" language which is tied to and mired with so much baggage and litigious past. Might we suggest a "legacy" moniker that is perhaps more universally held that has the potential for moving the collective community away from USDAFS 's past into a new and appropriate lens for DOI and BLM.

Specifically our members would support the effort more broadly if the stated focusing on these key and important areas are the driving force:

1.A revisit of?indigenous traditional ecological knowledge and support cultural and subsistence practices

2.HonoringTribal treaty rights

3.Deploying climate-smart forestry practices and other nature-based solutions to improve the resilience of our lands, waters, wildlife, and communities in the face of increasing?disturbances and chronic stress arising from climate impacts

This is all possible if the intensions AND ACTIONS are to:

* Develop policies to address threats

* Develop Agency-specific reforestation (and Restoration) goals IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DISASTER RECOVERY (and ideally through a proactive management process to avoid said disasters)

* Develop climate-informed reforestation (and Restoration) plans (see above)

* Develop recommendations for community-led local and regional economic development opportunities.

If the true intent of the EO is to Strengthening the Nation's Forests, Communities, and Local Economies, then a cohesive, shared and unified approach to protecting and enhancing Legacy forests for the nation and their forest communities is warranted across the DOI, BLM and USDA lands and actions.

National Woodland Owners Assn