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First name: Carole

Last name: Scholl

Organization: Tourism

Title: CEO

Comments: I'm a tourism professional on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington state. Forest policies concern me because they affect the quality of life and tourism here on the Peninsula. Mature, healthy forests result in clean drinking water, preserved ecosystems, cleaner air, and, of course, mature forests are key to carbon storage.

As such, I urge you to define 'mature' as 80 years or more. This would create a safety net for our forests-preserving mature forests for tourism, climate benefits, clean water and a healthy ecosystem to be enjoyed by future generations. Losing more of our mature & old-growth trees and forests to logging will only make the climate crisis worse, affect tourism and increase wildfire risk.

Thank you.

I urge the US Department of Agriculture and US Department of Interior to work together to initiate as soon as possible a rulemaking based on a definition of mature forests and trees of 80 years, to permanently end the avoidable loss of their critically important carbon, water and wildlife values--destroying the economic vitality of tourism on the Olympic Peninsula and elsewhere.