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Comments: Sir Madam,

Conserving, protecting, enhancing the health of public "old growth" forests from wildfire threats - EO 14072 CANNOT BE ACHIEVED by traditional Dept of Agriculture thinning methods and will not be achieved by removing understory trees and large woody debris. High severity fires are uncommon in old-growth because of their qualities to resist such fires, unlike Second growth and monoculture forests; see three decade study by Bradely C., Hanson C., DellaSalla D., "Does increased forest protection Correspond to Higher Fire Severity..." Ecosphere 7. no 10 October 2016. MY STRONG RECOMMENDATION: Thin monoculture stands in adjacent lands close to oldgrowth with adequate buffers, leaving 20-30 stems /acre and underplant with mixed conifer species.

I view the current EO as misguided for typical revenue enhancing activities by Depart of Agriculture.

Thank you, Sincerely

Daniel Collins, Consulting Arborist - ISA ; PN-8028A; and Restoration Ecologist