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Comments: Hello,

I am so thankful that we are finally prioritizing the protection of the remaining old growth in our National Forests. I have worked in and around the N.F. for my entire career and I am well aware at the loss of old-growth and fragments that are still left. Old growth creates a very unique and fragile ecosystem that cannot be replaced. The trees are resilient to draught and fire and provide critical habitat to numerous species that are either threatened or endangered. There is nothing in the NF system that I would rather visit with my children then an unspoiled and health old growth stand. Please ensure these trees are protected for generations to come and thank you again for taking this on.

Respectfully,

Marc Gauthier