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First name: Tera

Last name: King

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Creating a national definition or policy for managing old growth is a terrible idea that ignores the intricacies of individual ecosystems and natural forest successional processes. This is a response to political pressure only and will ultimately reduce the amount of old growth on the landscape by limiting the agencies' ability to protect real old growth habitats, which by the way, are not static on any landscape or in any forest type. Please leave it to the LOCAL or regional professionals to determine not only how old growth is defined, but also how to truly protect it on their landscape and in consideration of the species that rely on old growth characteristics for survival.