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Comments: I wholeheartedly support the effort to permanently protect mature and old growth forests across all federal lands. It is important that ALL old-growth and mature forests, including dryland ecosystems as well as the better-known alpine and Pacific Northwest environments, and those remote and untouched areas in my treasured Appalachian mountains are conserved for the benefit of wildlife, air and water quality, climate adaptation, and so much more.

Please conduct a comprehensive inventory of mature and old-growth in all the areas I have mentioned and any others that are brought to your attention, including piñon pine and juniper forests on the Colorado Plateau, during this first stage of implementing the president's executive order.

Protecting mature natural habitats is an important step in combating climate change. We don't have to go back too far in history to see how the destruction of prairie lands contributed to the Dust Bowl. I urge you to protect these mature and old growth ecosystems now! Thank you.