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Comments: Defining a universal OLD GROWTH definition is a frugal and arbitrary exercise that will continue to allow our PUBLIC LAND to be subject to litigation and further delay much needed projects and work. Let our lands be managed by REAL FORESTERS and SCIENCE not by POLITICS. This is one more attempt by feel good environmentalists who don't understand forest dynamics or do and want to end the Forest Products Industry; who are vitally important at helping the USDA at implementing their projects and managing the forest. We have seen what past executive orders and political rulings have done ex.) Roadless rule and NSO. These forests, affected by these preservation tactics are burning to the ground! If we are going to continue to suppress fires in a fire adapted landscape we need to manage the fuels that accumulate with commercial treatments to maintain the infrastructure we currently have. We need to continue to move forward with management so these forests remain healthy and utilize the existing tools we have to maintain the forest health of high priority stands and landscapes. We can do this, but preservation and political rulings like fruitless attempts to define Old Growth by a trees age or size will only reduce our ability to keep forests healthy and sequestering carbon, filtering water, etc..

Go forwards not backwards - the fact that we even have to have a discussion on a universal definition of old growth is a slap in the face to all professional foresters and the USFS.