

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/25/2022 3:53:22 PM

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Organization: Salem Audubon Society

Title: Conservation Chair

Comments: On behalf of the membership of the Salem Audubon Society I write in strong support of protecting our remaining mature and old-growth forests, including dryland forests of piñon pine and juniper. Forests are a vital component of our efforts to mitigate climate change. Wildlife species dependent on old-growth forests, such as the Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet, have been in serious decline for decades and are now threatened with extinction. This is a sign that our management of these forests is out of balance and needs to be changed. It's time to protect mature and old-growth forests for the sake of wildlife and the health of our planet.