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Organization:

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Comments: I am excited about this initiative to carry out the objective of Executive Order 14072 to safeguard mature and old-growth forests on federal land. As a resident of long-settled Georgia, I do not often get to experience such forests personally, but it is always memorable to see and walk among such settings and I want future generations to experience this too. I urge you to take an expansive view of defining mature and old-growth forests. Please include in this definition forests where tree loss has occurred because of wildfire, storms or other events that occur in nature, whether or not individual trees are particularly old. Whatever the root cause of wildfire or storms may be, these disruptions also occur without human interference. Additionally, as the frequency and severity of wildfire and storms are likely to increase with climate change, allowing these events to defeat characterization as old-growth forest could eventually make the exception swallow the rule. Please give the fullest effect to the Executive Order by defining mature and old-growth forests broadly.