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Title: Executive Director

Comments: Dear Deputy Chief French and Director Stone-Manning;

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. On July 15, 2022, the Biden Administration published a Request For Information (RFI) in the Federal Register, seeking input on the development of a definition for old-growth and mature forests on Federal lands and requesting public input on a series of questions.

Please define old growth to ensure the survival of all old growth-associated species on National Forest are not adversely affected by logging old growth stands, and include the scientific references these conclusions are based.

How are the requirements of the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) being met without ensuring conservation of all wildlife species associated with old growth?

Due to climate change resulting in more forest fires, please include a plan to protect replacement old growth forests.

Please identify forest stands that provide old growth habitat for the fisher; define where the 50% mature/old growth more dense forests are available in the national forest landscape; assess the impact of the proposed openings on the quality of fisher home ranges, where 5% openings may occur. For the flammulated owl, please identify the clusters/patches of old growth forest patches of 35-40 acres that have a canopy cover of 35-65% for nesting habitat.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our comments.