Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/10/2022 4:00:00 AM

First name: David Last name: Lefkowitz

Organization: Law Office of David Lefkowitz

Title:

Comments: I appreciate your efforts to push President Biden's Executive Order on Strengthening the Nation's Forests, Communities, and Local Economies. We should put protection of the little remaining mature and old-growth forests and trees as an example of smart climate policy.

EO 14072 helps, but can be improved by including on-going logging as an imminent threat to older federal forests and trees. "Mature" trees therefore should be defined as trees 80 or more years old. Using an 80 year definition framework as a benchmark would capture the most fire resistant trees and carbon storing forests.

In summary, thank you, and please ensure USDA and DOI collaborate to create policies using a definition of mature forests and trees of 80 years to help address catastrophic climate change.