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Comments: USFS needs to have all management tools available. An arbitrary number is not good management, nor is it relying on the best available science.

In addition to the Forest Ecosystem being impacted by the 21" rule, Union County and the socio/economic fiber of our communities has been greatly impacted by this arbitrary rule implemented a quarter-century ago. We are still dealing with the aftermath of sawmill closures, job loss, waning county receipts intended to support essential services, population declines and a loss of our way of life in rural Oregon. I strongly encourage you to not only consider and address how the 21" rule has negatively impacted forest health in eastern Oregon, but how it has impacted socio-economic conditions of nearby communities, industries, and local economies.