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Comments: I am pleased to hear that the US Department of Agriculture has released a proposal to alter forest management plans to conserve 128 old-growth forests - including the Nantahala and Pisgah national forests. While I understand the need for harvesting trees for a variety of purposes, there are many areas where this can be done. On the other hand, old growth forests are a rare resource that is not replaceable. Trees can be planted, but an old growth forest is a system that takes hundreds or thousands of years to develop.