

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/1/2024 7:26:07 PM

First name: Maresa

Last name: Pryor-Luzier

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear US Forest Service:

I had written a letter before but after seeing your zoom presentation and reading on the requirements for old growth and mature forest I would like to add some comments.

In New Mexico and other states we have mature forest of Pinyon Pines. Some pines are hundreds of years old. Where I live is one of them in the Cibola National Forest in Catron County. We have Pinyon pines as large as live oaks. They need protection from logging, development, and cattle operations. These trees are vital to some of the species who inhabit these areas. They are easy to knock over with a tractor due to their shallow roots. They cannot withstand fire. So, when fire happens they are destroyed and the junipers take over. With global warming they are dying off due to long-term drought, beetle infestation, hotter temperatures, and development and land management for clearing for cattle. They need protection under the mature trees in the forest. Please address this in your management plans.

Sincerely,