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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I am writing to convey my strong support for the proposal to conserve and properly steward old-growth forests on national forests and grasslands by amending forest management plans nationwide in accordance with President Biden's Executive Order.

I was very disheartened by the deeply flawed Nantahala-Pisgah National Forest management plan that was adopted in early 2023, in which more than 100,000 acres of old-growth forests, natural heritage areas, roadless areas, and sensitive habitats were placed in zones that are open to commercial logging. The old-growth forests of the Nantahala-Pisgah National Forests are home to several endangered species, including four species of bats and the Blue Ridge lineage of green salamanders.

I ask that the management plan be amended to protect these areas of old-growth and mature forest from commercial logging and emphasize the restoration of wildfire resilience and old-growth characteristics across the plan area. With the increasing pressures of climate change, it is absolutely vital that we protect intact, healthy old growth forests anywhere possible in our world today, but especially these incredible treasures right here in our own backyard that are home to incredible biodiversity.

Thank you for your consideration.