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First name: Kim

Last name: Porter

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear U.S. Forest Service Chief Randy Moore,

I fully support your proposal to conserve and steward old-growth forests on national forests and grasslands by amending forest management plans nationwide in accordance with President Biden's Executive Order. This should be done to the fullest extent possible and prioritize the complete protection and conservation of old-growth forests over other interests, especially industry and logging.

I live in western North Carolina and I am avid recreational user of the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forest. I was deeply disappointed that the new management plan that was adopted early in 2023 allowed for more than 100,000 acres of old-growth forests, natural heritage areas, roadless areas, and sensitive habitats to be placed in designations that allow commercial logging. I hope that this, and other management plans throughout the nation will be amended to protect these areas of old-growth and mature forest from commercial logging and emphasize conservation, human powered recreation, the restoration of wildfire resilience and old-growth characteristics across the plan area.

This is a critical opportunity to correct some of the critical deficiencies within the forest management plan for the Pisgah-Nantahala and other National Forest lands in the U.S. so that they reflect our current climate crisis and the overwhelming public support for the conservation of old-growth forests and biodiversity.

Thank you,

Kim Porter