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Comments: The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) in December announced a Notice of Intent to amend the management plans for all units of the National Forest System to include consistent direction to conserve old-growth forests. This is an unprecedented process - never before have all forest plans been amended at the same time!

Old-growth forests are absolutely vital for a number of important reasons, including wildlife habitat, freshwater storage, and erosion control. And they are essential to mitigating the impacts of climate change, as old-growth forests absorb massive amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis, and store it safely underground in root systems.