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Comments: Tell the USFS to Conserve and Protect Old-Growth Forests

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.

The USFS is accepting scoping comments about this amendment process until February 2nd. Scoping comments are an opportunity for us to tell the USFS what we think they should consider as they create guidance for old-growth forests.

NOTE: This USFS proposal to amend all forest plans is replacing the anticipated Mature and Old-Growth Forest rulemaking. If you submitted comments on that rulemaking, you will need to submit new comments on this proposal!