Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/13/2024 6:02:26 PM First name: Nora Last name: Privitera Organization: 350 Bay Area Action Title: Chair, Federal Team

Comments: On behalf of 350 Bay Area Action, as well as myself, I commend the Forest Service's plan to to amend the management plans for all units of the National Forest System to include consistent direction to conserve old-growth forests. Old growth forests are national treasures, containing trees that have lived for hundreds of years that should be preserved so that future generations can view them. They provide habitats for countless wildlife species. They are part of our national heritage. In addition, they sequester much more carbon than younger trees. In these days of climate change, they are critical to keeping as much carbon sequestered as possible to mitigate the climate crisis. Protecting old growth forests is absolutely the right thing to do, for the planet, for wildlife, for future generations, and for all life on Earth. Thank you for taking this essential step to protect and preserve these beautiful, wondrous, magnificent forests.