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Comments: As a practicing forester for the last 47 years, I have been appalled by as the forest service has devolved from an organization that responsibly managed federal lands for sustained yield of multiple products to a left wing cadre that caters to environmental extremists. This obsession with old growth has done untold damage as management of federal lands has been halted, and no cut philosophies have led to unhealthy forest conditions.

I appears that the results of this do nothing management can no longer be ignored. Combined with over a century of fire exclusion, federal lands are an obvious embarrassment. Developing an old growth management plan full of bureaucratic buzzwords will do little to correct this. Efforts I have seen on the ground are done on miniscule in scale, but at a tremendous in cost. Scaling these efforts up to a meaningful scale would break the bank at a time our country cannot afford it.

Before the forest service and their environmental allies decimated the forest industry, active management generated rather than consumed federal revenue. It's about time the forest service got back to basics, and managed our national assets responsibly. There is certainly a place for old growth forests, but pursuing this as a singular objective will just perpetuate the mess that the forest service ha made of our national forests.