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Comments: North America has a fraction of the primary forests it once supported. If we fail to protect remaining old-growth and allow mature forests to age into old-growth, we are fundamentally failing to address a key impact of the climate and biodiversity crises at home.

In order to deliver on President Biden's Executive Order promises, there must be real protections for both mature and old-growth trees - including from the threat of logging and 'inappropriate management' techniques by the agencies.

There is an opportunity - right now - to create the most significant federal land protection policy we have seen in more than two decades.

We should not be selling old-growth trees on public lands. You can manage these forests effectively without selling those trees.

It is beyond time that the management of our national forests reflects their actual values: clean air and drinking water, species habitat, space for cultural practices, outdoor recreation and tourism - the list goes on.

Thank you.

Gerald Hallead