Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/18/2024 3:32:03 AM First name: JL Last name: Angell Organization: Title:

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--we do not have time to regrow them to meet climate goals.

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--do not waste it and do too little now, later will be too late.

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.

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