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Comments: I am a former resident of Oregon who remains attached to the survival of its remaining forests.

***Our remaining old-growth forests are national treasures, whose biological value vastly outweighs the value of any timber that will be extracted from it and dumped onto markets for pulp and lumber whose gross waste into landfills is disproof of any acute need for supplemental inputs from federal land. This exchange of a high-value biological treasure for a low-value commodity of wood pulp and lumber is the exact antithesis of serving the public interest with a basis in rationality, science, and moral common sense.

The Forest Service must also divorce its fire risk mitigation from its logging program, which today are financially and administratively joined, but act at ecological and scientific cross-purposes. Old-growth forests are consistently found to be the most fire-resistant forest type, while the young-seral stands so beloved of timber planners most frequently erupt in flames in today's perennial fire season.***