Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/20/2024 4:27:59 PM First name: Andrew Last name: Swanson Organization: Title: Comments: The USFS needs to protect all of the remaining old growth forests on its land in the U.S. including territories such as Puerto Rico.

And more mature forests on these lands need to be allowed to become old-growth forests over time.

There must be legally binding permanent protections for both mature and old-growth trees including from logging, road building/expansion, etc.

The management of our national forests needs to reflect the true "multiple use" mandate from the people to provide everything else that the USFS has so often failed to provide, including clean air, carbon storage, drinking water (I drink water at my house from the Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon, by the way), species habitat (including the northern spotted owl and the marbled murrelet, which NEED large amounts of low-elevation old growth conifer forest (ie. Douglas fir), and recreation/tourism.