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Comments: As a Ph.D scientist and a Christian concerned about life on this Earth of ours, I would like to thank the Forest Service for realizing the importance of drafting a management plan for our nation's Old Growth forests. As someone who grew up in the Green Mountains of Vermont several decades ago, I know the value of forests not only to the human psyche but also to the many other forms of life these places encourage, from large and small mammals to rare plants and wildflowers.

Old Growth forests, which I have also experienced, are even more important to our nation than those which had been forested several times over, where spent my childhood. Old Growth forests harbor life not always seen in other venues.

Indeed, I urge the Service to draft a robust Old Growth forest management plan. A plan that will designate Old Growth forests as valuable national resources; a plan that will prevent loopholes such as those used by the logging industry to exploit these areas; a plan that will prolong the lives of our old growth trees & protect the creatures that call these forests home!

Thank you again for the time spent on this management plan and the continued care of God's creation! And thank you for your time in reading this plea of mine.

In faith and hope,