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Comments: As a Christian and a citizen, I believe strongly that all creation is united and interdependent. All creatures must be respected and valued. Some provide more "environmental service" than others and deserve special protection. Such are our old growth trees and old growth forest, which sequester tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, even after completing their growth, and provide resources for neighbors in the forest (see Suzanne Simard).

I support the Forest Service's plan to draft a robust management plan that prolongs the lives of our old growth forests. It is crucial that it is effective and does not include loopholes that would allow the logging industry to harvest these environmentally necessary and sacred trees and forests.

Thank you.