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Comments: As a 73-year-old American I have the highest regard for mature, old growth and ancient trees and landscapes. We need to include in Forest Service plans a 20-year moratorium on removal of all these types of trees and disturbances. Protecting these areas must be our highest priority to maximize our chances for protecting threatened and endangered plants and animals and sequestering carbon taken from our atmosphere. No logging should occur in these areas and adjacent stream zones. All other forest areas should be managed to promote the recruitment of more mature and old-growth trees over time.

Where scientifically proven, Forest Plans should include use of beneficial fires to restore forests and maintain their health. No management using fire or mechanized equipment should be used in wilderness areas or study areas.

The Forest Service should work with Tribes as much as possible in these restoration efforts to promote Indigenous Ecological Knowledge and culturally relevant resources within the NWFP area. The Forest Service should also work with Tribes and communities to build a trained restoration workforce capacity in the regions most affected by the NWFP.

Thanks for allowing me to comment.