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Old growth forests are the cathedrals of nature, they provide cultural and spiritual sustenance, a home for priceless, diverse species, and in this time of human-caused climate change, much needed carbon sequestration. For these reasons and those outlined below, we must do all that we can to preserve old growth and mature forests.

North America has a fraction of the primary forests it once supported. If we fail to protect remaining old-growth and allow mature forests to age into old-growth, we are fundamentally failing to address a key impact of the climate and biodiversity crises at home.

In order to deliver on President Biden's Executive Order promises, there must be real protections for both mature and old-growth trees - including from the threat of logging and inappropriate management techniques by the agencies.

There is an opportunity - right now - to create the most significant federal land protection policy we have seen in more than two decades.

We should not be selling old-growth trees on public lands. You can manage these forests effectively without selling those trees. End of story.

It is beyond time that the management of our national forests reflects their actual values: clean air and drinking water, species habitat, space for cultural practices, outdoor recreation and tourism - the list goes on.