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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a recreational user of our national forests, visiting forests to hike, ski, paddle, and collect forest products. I use national forests on a monthly, sometimes weekly basis. I am also a professional land conservationist with a working knowledge of forestry, forest health, and nature-based climate solutions.

I support the Forest Service's recent efforts to systematically define and map old growth forests across the United States. I strongly support the Service's proposal to amend all national forest plans to specifically address management of old growth forests. I urge the guidance to clearly state where and where, and under what conditions, the amendment applies. And I urge the Service to recognize that while wildfire is a threat to old growth forests, we need a widespread reintroduction of natural fire to reestablish forest health, especially under climate change. As much I hate to see old growth burn, this too is part of the process of forest restoration.

Thank you.