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Comments: Re: Land Management Plan Direction for Old Growth Forest Conditions Across the National Forest System #65356

I support and urge a moratorium on logging of any Mature and Old-Growth trees on National Forests and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands while the Old Growth Amendment proceeds. They are vulnerable to multiple timber sales and logging. We cannot afford to lose any more of these vital trees.

The forest management plans should prohibit all future logging of mature and old growth trees. These trees and forests are critical for carbon sequestration and biodiversity. No more logging of our public assets for private gain. We have lost too much already.

Fire is not the biggest threat to mature and old growth forests. Logging is the biggest threat, along with climate change. Do not allow fire to become a reason for removal of mature and old growth trees.

Mature forests need protection too, not just old growth. Mature forests will be the old growth of the future. Let's have strong measures to protect and steward these maturing forests included in this amendment.

The Tongass needs to be included in this amendment. It is an area with the highest concentration of old growth forests in the nation. It should not be exempted from protection.

Make this amendment strong and enforceable, including definitions that are clear and simple. Include accountability and monitoring measures as well.

Now is the time to protect our forests now and for the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.