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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please protect old growth forests in all forest management plans. They play an invaluable role in both micro and macro ecosystems. The outline document summarized their interconnected value well. Please work to expand and protect the adjacent areas around old growth forests to ensure sufficient buffer to further protect the forests. Please ensure that protections of old growth also respect treaty rights and where conservation may be ill-aligned with treaty rights, err on the side of protecting treaty rights. Innumerable Supreme Court cases have been decided in favor of the preservation of treaty rights. Please ensure consistency in this manner and to work with Treaty nations to collaboratively approach forest management whenever possible, and to respect treaty nation's rights to exercise their rights granted under signed treaties with the United States. Our forests are our future, sustainable management of them and protection of our elder trees will ensure a sustainable, habitable, and life-filled future for subsequent generations.