

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 10:50:27 PM

First name: Linda

Last name: Mezieres

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

It is very important to me that the U.S. Forest Service help protect the remaining ancient trees across Northwest California!

I am told the USFS has launched a planning process to determine the future management of the remaining ancient trees within seven National Forests in northwestern California and across millions of acres in western Oregon and western Washington and I want to urge the USFS to spare our last remaining ancient forests! This new planning effort by the USFS will update the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) of 1994 and I would like to suggest the following list of recommendations concerning this update.

Please protect all remaining mature and old-growth trees from logging.

Promote the recruitment of more mature and old-growth trees over time.

Increase the use of beneficial fires to restore forests and maintain their health, especially in more remote regions.

Working with tribes as much as possible in these restoration efforts in order to promote indigenous ecological knowledge and make good use of culturally relevant resources within the NWFP area.

Working with tribes and communities to build restoration workforce capacity in the regions most affected by the NWFP would also be highly recommendable.

Thank you for taking these suggestions into consideration.

L.E.M. Mezieres