Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 1:25:05 AM First name: Patricia Last name: Quinn Organization: Title:

Comments: I am in favor of efforts to conserve and steward existing and recruit future old-growth forest conditions and to monitor their condition across planning areas of the National Forest System. This will foster the long-term resilience of old-growth forest conditions and their contributions to ecological integrity across the National Forest System. An old-growth forest is much better at sequestering carbon dioxide than a younger forest or a tree plantation. Old-growth forests are much better at preserving biodiversity of trees, forbs, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals than second growth and plantation forests, and certainly better than "doghair thickets." They are much less likely to sucumb to wildfires.