Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 5:00:00 AM First name: Dorothy Daniela Last name: Gioseffi Organization:

Title:

Comments: It is utterly essential that the United States Department of Agriculture (Department) amend all land management plans for units of the National Forest System to include consistent direction 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. The Forest System must foster the long-term resilience of old-growth forest conditions and their contributions to ecological integrity across the National Forest System. Forests cannot rejuvenate without their hub trees, or parent trees, kept alive as long as possible until a new hub tree is ready to take over nurturing a community of trees. So much has been learned about how essential old growth forests are to preserving our atmosphere and our biosphere. CLIMATE CRISIS IS HERE AND OLD GROWTH FORESTS PLAY A BIG PART, A HUGE PART in PRESERVING A LIVABLE EARTH from CLIMATE CATASTROPHE. Scientists will have many papers and studies to attach, but we lay people who care about preserving a livable planet are more aware than ever about the need to preserve old growth forests and their hub or parent trees. We are depending on the US Dept. of Agriculture to realize this urgent need.