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Comments: I read the plan and feel it has many considerations before moving forward.
The initial threat analysis found:
- mature and old growth forests have high exposure to a variety of threats and climate and disturbance
projections show this exposure will likely increase. -wildfire,exacerbated by climate change and fire exclusion, is
the leading threat to mature and old-growth forests, followed by insects and disease.
 -tree cutting is a relatively minor threat despite having been a major disturbance historically.
Two thirds of mature forests and about half of old-growth forests are vulnerable to these threats.

Climate change has increased the level of these threats and is likely altering where, and what types of mature
and old-growth forests can persist. Over the
next five decades, the growth of younger and mature forests is projected to result in an increase of mature and
old-growth forests despite increasing disturbances.

However, this report demonstrates gains lessen with each passing decade and the expanding wildland-urban
interface complicates mitigation of threats. This century, wildfires have been increasing in frequency
and extent, accounting for most of the losses of mature and old-growth forests on NFS and BLM lands.

Climate change projections predict greater than 90% of inventoried mature and old-growth forests will be at very
high exposure to wildfire-caused mortality by the end of the century.

Increased frequency of drought and more damaging wind or ice storms due
to climate change may increase the vulnerability of forests to threats from native and non-native forest insects
and disease. Even when mature and old growth forests remain after infestations, the changes to these forests
may have substantial negative social,cultural, and economic impacts.

Despite the threats highlighted in this analysis, theRPA assessment predicted
 an increasing trend in the amount of mature and old-growth forests on NFS
and BLM lands until at least mid-century (2070), as the large amount of younger and mature forest age into older
forests. This trend begins to decrease by mid-century under some shared socioeconomic and
climate change scenarios.

Projections of increasing mature and old-growth forests are tempered by the reality that American forests are
entering uncharted territory with climate
change. As our understanding of the implications of climate change evolves, so will understanding the places and
methods to best steward and conserve our older forests.

In the meantime, existing younger and mature forests provide for future mature and old growth. A sound
management approach is needed
help ensure that older forest species composition and structure fits its environment. A deep understanding of
ecological, social, and cultural
dynamics must play a critical role in this plan. Most importantly, the
environment of the predicted future, and not that of
the past, should guide policy considerations related to
mature and old-growth management.

We have the data needed to make a plan for the future. Let's do our best!