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Comments: Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Northwest Forest Plan Amendment.

A rapidly warming climate and biodiversity loss amounting to a mass extinction event frankly leave no logical choice but to conserve any and all vestiges of intact wildlands, and to begin the difficult work of forest restoration.

Logging of mature and old growth trees Pacific Northwest is thus an outdated practice and has no place on our public lands. Cutting a single old growth or mature tree from these lands constitutes a shortsighted theft from current and future generations of Americans. Instead, groves containing such trees must remain standing to serve as wild cores and genetic bastions as the USDA Forest Service shifts management toward restoration of yet more mature and old-growth trees. The amended Plan should allow for both prescribed and naturally ignited beneficial fire effects and limit heavy-handed fire suppression efforts to the immediate wildland-urban interface. Most importantly, Tribes with deep traditional ecological knowledge must be actively consulted and (where there is capacity) engaged and supported to guide restoration efforts.

Thanks again for this opportunity to comment.