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Comments: Having managed our 40 acres of ponderosa forest in Taos County, supporting old growth characteristics, for the past 30+ years I can tell you how important it is for the forest service to adopt this management approach. I've been convinced through careful observation of our forest over the years that increased bio-diversity, uneven-age stand thinning and attention to maintaining a significant canopy are all important factors in achieving resilience for our national forests in the face of global climate change. I especially believe attention paid to supporting forest soil health is of vital importance here in New Mexico as water absorption and retention should be a key management goal moving forward. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important shift in forest policy!