Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/1/2024 10:54:23 AM First name: Katherine Last name: Taaffe Organization:

Title:

Comments: I want to declare my support for the proposal to protect ALL old-growth forest nationwide. We, as a country with incredible natural resources, must work to protect and preserve, not exploit them. That is especially true now that we understand the importance of old growth stands in the process of fighting climate change. We need clear and consistent standards that can be applied nationwide that do no include loopholes that could allow old-growth to be damaged or destroyed. I understand that most things in life are not "black and white". But this issue is closer to that than most. Aside from the aesthetic value of keeping landscapes in place and aside from the decency that accompanies the protection of wildlife and wild habitats we must protect these places from the greed of humanity for practical reasons as well. So USFS needs to set clear and consistent standards and apply them across all jurisdictions for the good of us all.