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Comments: Support for the protection of mature and old -growth trees is supported by all the credible science that relates to carbon sequestration, ecosystem sustainability, biodiversity conservation, watershed sustainability and water quality protection. This undertaking is long overdue and needs to be accompanied by effectiveness monitoring to assure the relevant agencies follow this directive (see Northwest Forest Plan). As a scientist that worked on the Northwest Forest Plan I would recommend this undertaken serve as a model for this new and long overdue initiative.