

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/2/2024 11:26:26 AM

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Comments: It is so important to protect old growth forests AND mature forests that will become old growth forests if they are left alone. It is important to provide habitat for wildlife, especially birds that need deep forest habitat for successful nesting and reproduction. So many species are in decline now.

It is important to not log or burn mature forests like the Hoosier, where fire has NOT been a natural occurrence through the centuries. If a mature forest is burned or logged, it will never become an old growth forest. We know that old growth forests are crucial for climate health, as well as for dispersed recreation, meditation, and experiencing beauty and solitude.

Old growth forests and mature forests contribute to a more pleasant and peaceful planet. Please protect them from fire and logging. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.