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Comments: Please strengthen protection of old growth and mature forests from logging and mining.

I've travelled by road in 12 states in the last year and it is discouraging that almost all the forestland I've seen has been logged in my adult lifetime (60 years). Even in the National Forest closest to me (Allegheny National Forest), there seems to be less old growth and mature succession forest left. As a teen in the 1960s I spent weeks in Superior National Forest (now Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness) and my hope is that future generations of Americans will have the experience I had in mature forests.

Some old growth and mature forests are lost every year by fire, naturally, and by criminality. Therefore, it is even more important to set aside a larger stock of old growth and naturally maturing forests, without logging or mining, to ensure that the experience of immersion in an old growth forest, or natural succession forest older than 100 years, will be available to a majority of Americans for the next 250 years.