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Organization:

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Comments: Dear USFS,

Thank you for taking action to conserve our forests for the climate, wildlife and communities. I am in support of the strongest measures possible to conserve old AND mature trees. I appreciate the components of this Notice about incorporating TEK and opportunities for tribal co-stewardship. Please consider incorporating these points in the NEED and PURPOSE sections of the Notice of Intent.

-The Forest Service should iterate that the forest plan amendment is an essential opportunity to advance Justice40 and ensure that amendments benefit frontline and underserved communities.

-The Forest Service should develop a nature-gap analysis of the old and mature growth forest Inventory to determine where forest conservation can create access to nature for nature-deprived communities.

-The Forest Service should develop an "equity layer" to the mature and old growth forest inventory for a spatial analysis of old and mature forest conservation opportunities near minoritized and disadvantaged communities that are overburdened by pollution.

-The amendment should develop the strongest measures possible for conserving old trees for all future generations.

-The amendment should clarify measures for mature forests to flourish; these younger stands will become the next generation's complex and invaluable old growth.

-The amendment should acknowledge that structural hardening is an essential first measure to protect communities from wildfire threats that should be taken before thinning trees. The Forest Service should support measures for property owners and renters to update building infrastructure and landscaping that will prevent structural ignition in case of wildfire.

Thank you!