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Comments: Dear Forest Service,

It is of utmost importance that our policies and practices afford greater protection to all the trees and ecologies of our land. Cutting practices have been far too aggressive. Re-planting with non-native species has caused harm. It is not benign. Please protect and restore our native forests and ecologies.

Forests are the great connectors between the soil biome and the leaf and sky biome. The synergistic symbiosis created by the joint force of these two biomes maintains climate stability. Together the soil biome and the leaf and sky biome evapotranspire, cooling Earth. When the vapor they create condenses at the top of the clouds, heat escapes to space. That condensation also creates a vacuum that fuels the global rivers of rain. The clouds are a heat pump, cooling Earth and moving moisture globally. These forces are described as The Biotic Pump. Please consider the crucially important Biotic Pump in your policy and practice decision making.

Simultaneously, that synergistic symbiosis between the soil biome and the leaf and sky biome supports photosynthesis, moving CO<sub>2</sub> into sugars that feed the soil biome. The resulting healthy soil holds carbon and creates a healthy soil able to absorb more rain, prevent flooding and support a stronger ecology. Healthy soil stabilizes Earth against extreme weather. These many effects are good reasons to review and revise our forest policies and practices carefully to protect and restore our native forest ecologies.

To improve these beneficial processes, we must protect healthy, native ecologies, and restore degraded lands with native species. By doing so, we will cool Earth and drop the atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> level. Please restrain all forest cutting, protect existing native ecologies, and restore degraded lands to their former native health.

Thank you,

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