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Comments: This plan will cause incomprehensible damage for the ecosystems as well as locals and distant communities. These mature growth forests provide recreation, health, and visual values. There must be a stronger, more all encompassing Environmental Impact statement acknowledging the severity of these effects. This idea is contorted in the rhetoric of the statement claiming younger forests sequester carbon at faster rates. While this may be true it skews the message as older trees have a far greater capacity leading to a significantly larger, more beneficial impact. There has been a plethora of literature published on the vital need to maintain and restore mature growth forests as their potential for carbon sequestration, habitat support, and environmental health capacity far exceeds that of young forests. This process of deforestation will destroy habitats, ruin recreational areas, diminish carbon capture, and invite inventive species to colonize. Protecting our mature and old growth forests must be at the utmost importance of the state as we work to grapple with the impacts of climate change. However, through mechanisms such as this plan this environmental issues will only worsen over time. As seen last summer with the catastrophic flooding, we are not separate from climate change. Moreover, projects like this will increase the frequency of such events on both small and large timescales. At the local, short-term, level this act of deforestation will lead to increasing erosion and ground degradation which exasperates the occurrence of flooding. From a longer-term perspective this project is contributing to increasing CO2 concentrations which have a direct link to the greenhouse effect that drives climate change. Please reconsider this logging endeavor as it will severely degrade the physical and cultural environment of the area. It is our duty as stewards of this land to protect and promote prosperity. Why take actions to actively contaminate drinking water and air, increase flood risks, and worsen habitat fragmentation all while degrading the carbon sequestration capacity? The lack of protection to mature growth forests in this state must be prioritized which makes it devastating that the exact opposite action is marketed. These forest provide stability for animals, people, and systems alike, yet we continue to take that for granted in plans such as this one. Please, I ask you to reassess this plan to put the climate first.