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Comments: There are many reasons I am concerned about the plan to cut so many acres over the next few decades, not least of which is the impact on climate change and the importance of mature and old-growth forests for climate change mitigation. Old growth and mature forests act as essential carbon sinks, helping to absorb and store significant amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The USFS should align its practices with broader conservation objectives and contribute meaningfully to climate action efforts based on the best available science.

In addition, forests serve multiple important purposes that are not taken into account by the current plan, including recreation, animal habitat and protection of the landscape from landslides.