

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/24/2024 4:00:00 AM

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Comments: Creating 40-year plans for intensive logging of old growth and mature forest is absurd and irresponsible. The conditions on the ground are changing far too rapidly, in terms of intensive rain events, hotter temperatures, invasive species of trees, plants and insects, to create such an inflexible plan for moving forward.

Tying job performance of forest managers to logging volumes is clearly aimed at prioritizing short-term profits over maintaining the irreplaceable treasure of old-growth and mature, healthy forests. Who is putting the pressure on the forest service to ramp up these logging quotas? Certainly not the knowledgeable community of scientists and citizens concerned with preserving the diversity of species which form healthy forests and therefore support the health of every community member in the region. Clean air, clean water, viable pollinator communities necessary for pollinating over 70% of agricultural crops, stable topography, etc. all depend on a robust, intact forest system.

Serious consequences will result from the plan as it is put forth, in either version. Increased invasive species of trees and shrubs, which open the door for invasive insects with the potential to do hundreds of millions of dollars of damage to agriculture, will open a Pandora's Box of out-of-control problems. This is the expected result of forest disturbance of this magnitude.

Increasing severe rain events have caused landslides wherever the stabilizing forest cover is removed from steep terrain. These events have caused heartbreaking and expensive loss of life and property.

These and many other concerns are the reason the current Federal administration has prioritized preserving American old-growth and mature forest systems. They have recognized that these are irreplaceable resources which should not be exploited for extraction and short-term profit.

The only way to adequately review this plan would be for reputable, qualified experts in forest ecology to fully analyze it, and for their recommendations to be taken seriously.

These forests are rare and irreplaceable. Only ignorance of their value to human health would give rise to a plan of this kind.