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Comments: Old growth forests in the U.S. have been decimated by logging for well over a century and what's left of this ecosystem is in small patches or in mountainous areas that can't be accessed by logging by normal means. We were lucky years ago. The spotted owl forced the government to protect much of the remaining patches or "groves". But now that the timber industry has found a scapegoat in the barred owl as another culprit for the spotted owl's demise, the industry will do everything in its power to claim logging wasn't the problem. Every national forest has on-going and future timber sales, many based on fuel reduction (another timber industry ruse). For instance, in just the Colville National Forest as of June 2024, there are 35 timber sales. These sales are part of the "wildfire crisis strategy" and "forest health treatments". They don't call it logging anymore. It's not as if the timber industry is hurting for trees. Chances are, any old growth will be sold to Japan, where it is highly prized and very expensive. Mature forests and old growth forests provide a specific habitat for wildlife, produce clean water, and capture more carbon than any other environment. I strongly recommend in the future we place a complete ban on old growth logging in national forests and adjacent mature forest areas of these old growth areas to sustain and enhance the environment and wildlife habitat they provide.