

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/23/2024 1:59:00 PM

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Comments: Old growth forests are a more and more rare niche of plant community than ever before. Only sound science should be used to manage the survival of such ecosystems. This includes all the smaller ecosystems that aid in the health of an old growth forest (microbiomes of fungi, macro and micro invertebrates, etc.).

Mitigation of pests and disease should be done as naturally as possible. Cutting of individual old growth trees should only happen as a last resort for the health of the whole. Unless it is an emergency, such single-tree cuts should have multiple checks before actually taking it out. There are forests intended for tree rotations; however, old-growth forests are not part of that management plan. That should remain the focus of any management in these specific, specialized areas.