Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/25/2024 4:03:18 PM First name: Eric Last name: Johnson Organization: Amphibian Refuge Title: Executive Director Comments: Amphibian populations are declining worldwide, and amphibians are experiencing high extinction rates due to habitat loss, chytrid fungus, pollutants, pesticides, and climate change. Amphibians are the most threatened class of vertebrates.

We support the Land Management Plan Direction for Old-Growth Forest Conditions Across the National Forest System. By implementing optimal management approaches, the US Forest Service will ensure the protection of Old-Growth Forests, which provide habitat for many amphibian species. As part of old-growth forest management, the US Forest Service should implement long-term monitoring of amphibian populations. Research Natural Areas should be established for amphibian research.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

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