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Comments: Thank you for asking me to comment on Land Management Plan Direction for Old-Growth Forest Conditions Across the National Forest System #65356.

Conserving mature and old growth forests is of critical importance for mitigating climate change. Climate change with resulting high temperatures, low humidity, high winds, sea changes, decrease in biodiversity, and loss of wildlife.

The conserving of mature and old growth must be the priority before any other goals such as harvest numbers, economic numbers and cultural goals . Without conservation of mature and old growth we will no longer have life.

The conservation should applied to areas separate from within 1/2 mile of communities.

Thinning and fuel reduction in areas separate from communities is unnecessary and is to be avoided as it offers no practical outcome related to fire prevention , increasing resiliency and old growth characteristics.

We have not gained the wisdom to determine how to manage for mature and old growth in this time of climate change. Our old ways of management can no longer apply, we need to apply the precautionary principle.