Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/7/2024 4:00:00 AM

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Title:

Comments: I am excited to see the plans to protect old-growth forests, and I encourage you to strengthen this draft even further to provide as much protection as possible for both old-growth and mature forests. By safeguarding mature forests, we can ensure they become the old-growth of future generations. The policy must establish meaningful protections for both mature and old-growth forests to address the most pressing environmental challenges of our time. I just got back from a cruise along Alaska's coast, and the forests there are gorgeous, a treasure that needs to be protected rather than exploited. The forests were so much more impressive than the ones back home, which have been logged repeatedly, yet even most of what I saw wasn't truly old-growth - evidence of just how much even remote areas have been subject to human greed for natural resources. Please, protect these areas for people to enjoy for generations to come, and to support all the many climate and environmental benefits of these mature and old-growth forests, including carbon sequestration and habitats.