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Title:

Comments: I agree with the simple definition of Old Growth Forest as 10 trees per acre of at least 100 years old. And with the proposal to protect a million acres of Old Growth on Forest Service lands. And to continue with Native American land management of prescribed burning. ---- My primary rationale is to protect the genetic diversity of the breeding stock of trees. If the breeding stock is derived from specially selected nurseries, this automatically causes a genetic bottleneck for the propagated species, such as Longleaf, Loblolly and Short Leaf Pines. ---- These ideas were presented at the scoping meeting in Louisiana's Kisatchie National Forest on July 10th, 2024. ---- Members of a couple environmental groups present voiced concerns this simple definition of 10 century trees per acre was not adequate. A couple of tour members representing the logging industry voiced concerns the saw lumber of these century-age trees would be off limits to harvest via bidding, with only trees from thinning made available for the low-priced pulpwood market. These two extremes represent the views of "not enough" versus "too much" protection for Old Growth. Hence the advantage of the compromise position of the simple definition of 10 century trees per acre.