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Comments: Mature and old-growth trees and forests are an essential part of our country's ecosystem. They filter our drinking water, protect our climate, and provide habitat for wildlife.

The proposed options for the National Old-Growth Amendment include too many opportunities for the Forest Service to cut old-growth trees. All of the proposed alternatives allow old-growth trees to be managed out of existence. None of the alternatives do enough protect our oldest trees and forests.

I believe it's necessary to address these deficiencies: The Forest Service must end the logging of old-growth trees across our national forests; The Forest Service must end the commercial exchange of old-growth trees logged on forestlands managed by the agency. No old-growth trees should be sent to mills; The Forest Service must establish protections for mature forests and trees to increase the amount of old growth for our children and generations beyond.