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Comments: Future generations will rightly view the cutting of old-growth trees as a criminal act, and the sale of their lumber as a repugnant display of our disrespect for the ecosystems that sustain us. Alternative 3 is the only permissible option, and even this is not quite strong enough to protect our forests.

The final record of decision should:

1. End the cutting of old-growth trees in all national forests and forest types and end the cutting of any trees in old-growth stands in moist forest types.

2. End any commercial exchange of old-growth trees. Even in the rare circumstances where an old-growth tree is cut (e.g. public safety), that tree should not be sent to the mill.

Cutting down old-growth trees to "save them" from potential threats is a false solution. They are worth more standing.

The DEIS fails to protect mature trees and forests. Mature forests and trees - future old growth - MUST be protected from the threat of commercial logging in order to recover old growth that has been lost to past mismanagement. Old growth doesn't come from thin air! Please note that protection of mature forests can indeed be accomplished in a manner that is consistent with addressing the threat of fire.

I urge you to take this opportunity to protect our oldest trees and forests. Failure to do so undermines the objectives of this amendment, contravenes the direction of EO 14072, and ignores 500,000+ public comments the agency received on last summer's advance notice of proposed rulemaking.