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Title:

Comments: These comments refer to Land Management Plan Direction for Old-Growth Forest Conditions Across the National Forest System #65356. As a botanist and conservation biologist I urge you to create an old growth management plan that is consistent across the country and is as protective as possible of mature and old growth stands. There must be clear definitions of old growth that prevent logging of old growth trees in the few remaining stands in our national forests. Any logging, even of understory and younger trees in and very near to old growth stands will put the old growth at risk from blow-downs, wildfires, invasive plants and forest pests. Management plans should clearly delineate old growth and mature forests intended for becoming old growth. USFS staff and loggers must be held accountable if any of these areas are logged.