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Comments: Greetings,

Preserving old-growth forest for future generations to enjoy should be the primary objective of the proposed National Old-Growth Amendment. No amount of short-term economic benefit gained by exploiting these irreplaceable ecosystems.

Specifically, I strongly encourage the following priorities in review of the plan:

1. NOGA should be amended to include passive management as an option for managing old-growth forests.
2. NOGA should include a non-degradation clause for cases where proactive stewardship methods are employed.
3. The Forest Service should remove the exception that allows for development at an "ecologically appropriate scale" and employ clear, already defined language to improve NOGA's clarity.
4. NOGA should be amended to include a clear plan for recruitment of mature forests into old-growth conditions.
5. NOGA should better characterize threats and more specifically prescribe management actions based on forest type and location.

Thank-you for this opportunity to comment on this important topic.

Sincerely,

Charles Brown