

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/13/2024 4:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To the directors of the National Forest Service:

I am a graduate of environmental sciences and know several forest ecologists and conservation biologists. In addition, I own 88 acres of forest in WI that has been in my family for nearly 80 years, and I have seen how normal forest regeneration there for the past half century has not been possible because of over-browsing by a deer herd that is not in balance with habitat.

I feel that all forests in our country are now stressed and threatened by several factors: Climate change with drought and increased fires, invasive insect and plant pests, habitat destruction to make room for more agriculture and residential/commercial building sites, and wild deer herds that have been chronically far too large for the forests they live in due to poor management and perhaps, politics.

I feel that unless and until most, if not all of the above factors are mitigated to the point where normal biologically diverse forest regeneration can occur, absolutely no logging of our old growth forests should occur. These old growth forests are scarce , and hold value as huge carbon sinks, habitat for threatened wildlife , and of course, genetic reservoirs for future forest species . If we are true stewards of today's old growth forests, we will do everything we can to make sure they are here for our children and all other generations to come .