Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/14/2024 4:00:00 AM

First name: Jolie Last name: McCoy Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a long time resident and avid hiker in the SD Black Hills, I would like to ask that we protect our old growth trees in the Black Hills and all of our national forests. The lumber companies would have us believe that this is beneficial for the growth of the forests but there are many scientists and foresters who disagree. Old trees store carbon, filter water and shelter wildlife. Current proposed action undermines the intent of the amendment and goes against the direction of Executive Order 140772 signed by the President on April 22, 2022. It is the old trees that make the Black Hills beautiful and adds to the recreational value of the National parks.