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First name: Kay

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear United States Forest Service,

As a retired business executive from Athens Ohio who walks in the woods every week and deeply values the treasures of our country's national forests - and particularly those containing old- and mature-growth trees -- I am submitting my comments regarding your DEIS which responds to President Biden's 2022 Executive Order 14072.

I believe that the DEIS does not sufficiently protect our old-growth and mature-growth forests. By recommending "Alternative 2," it proposes MORE commercial logging of old- and mature-growth forests as a tool to help guard against the threats of insects, disease, and fire. While these threats are real, this proposed "remedy" offers a false solution. I believe that, to succeed in protecting old-growth forests, commercial logging must be eliminated. Furthermore, all sales, exchanges, and milling of old-growth trees should be prohibited. Lastly, mature trees and stands - our future old-growth trees - must also be protected from commercial logging.

We must take this opportunity to provide meaningful protection of our remaining old-growth forests, and ensure that our mature-growth forests thrive.

Sincerely,

Kay Tousley

Athens, Ohio