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Comments: The Land Management Plan Direction for Old Growth Forest Conditions provides a sound basis for future protection of old growth and mature forests. However I recommend that the plan provide additional restrictions on the commercial removal of mature and old growth species when other harvesting operations are being made. For example, when timber management is used to help reduce wildfire potential or eliminate diseased/insect hazards, old growth is protected where practicable.

Secondly, the Forest Service should attempt to provide old growth forests in all states where there are current national forests or national monuments. This would help increase awareness about old growth forests and would help preserve genetic diversity / unique genetics that may exist.

Thank you for your consideration.