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First name: Kate

Last name: Cunningham

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To the US Forest Service:

Re: Proposed Forest Protection plan #65356

I write in general support of plan #65356 with necessary strengthening amendments that would protect All Old Growth Trees/Forests and all POG (Potential Old Growth) Trees/Forests on USDA Forest Service Lands. I am a native Kentuckian and have visited the Boone National Forest many times. I appreciate how special these lands are for KY and the entire US. I oppose timber sales on US Forest Service lands, as I know that only 5% of the US timber market is trees cut from publicly owned lands. Many of US Forest Service "timber sales" actually LOSE money as the cost of road building and admin to get the cut out is higher than the sale proceeds. This loss of revenue does Not even include accounting for the damage that sales and cuts do to forest floor compaction, habitat destruction, stream siltation and land erosion. We were again reminded in Eastern KY last year the cost of cutting trees on steep hillsides: as Eastern KY had record flooding and destruction of homes when heavy rains poured down denuded slopes. We can count on heavier rain events now, in the wake of climate change. We also understand better now the Essential Role that Mature and Old Growth forests play in capturing carbon and cleaning our air and water on our warming planet.

Please BAN all logging of Old Growth and POG forests in the US Forest system. Save the future of our forests and our planet by enacting a systemwide US Forest Service Plan that will Ban this logging.

Thank you for considering my views and plan now for 7 generations hence.