

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/18/2024 4:00:00 AM

First name: Nancy

Last name: Koppersmith

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Some of my fondest memories are from walking in old growth forests. The biggest disappointment in my life was not being able to walk in the Olympic National Park when we were vacationing there due to the Government shut down. Please preserve Old Growth Forests so that the forests are there for generations to come.

Please:

1) Stop cutting down 'We the Peoples' old growth Forests!

2) Immediately stop cutting old-growth in the Daniel Boone National Forest

3) The Forest Service should manage forests for their contribution to life on earth-not cut them down!

4) Old-Growth Management needs to have an eye to sustainability and mitigating global warming.

Any management in old-growth forests, including prescribed fire and under-story management,

should be the minimum necessary to support existing and future old-growth structure and

function.

5) Eliminate exceptions in the plan that allow forest managers discretion to convert old-growth to young forests, or to otherwise degrade or diminish forests' old-growth condition.

6) Recognize the importance of old-growth across all forest types, including disturbance-mediated forest communities like upland and fire-adapted oak forests and woodlands."

7) Ensure that the inventory and identification of old-growth is scientifically sound. Make the process of identifying old-growth forests transparent, consistent, and open to public input. Involve researchers, ecologists, and other outside experts in the identification and inventory process.

8) Require that mature forests be managed for future old-growth in a manner that ensures a variety of patch sizes, wide distribution, and good connectivity across the Daniel Boone National Forest, improving on the deficiencies in the current Forest Plan.

9) Develop a plan for a network of future old-growth forests through an open, participatory, and scientifically sound process.

10) Have a way to let our citizens be aware of where across the USA Old Growth Forests can be located and enjoyed.