Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/18/2024 4:34:02 PM First name: Walter Last name: Sydoriak Organization: CAH328823972 Title:

Comments: Having spent years on fire and forestry field research teams in old growth forests, mostly in national parks, I deeply support all protections that can be given to the extremely complex ecological structures in old growth forests.

My concern is that not enough attention will be given to prescribed burns to reduce the fuel accumulation and crowding that has occurred over the last century. Even in national parks where prescribed fires have been done, this new climate warming and drying has led to large fires rolling right over places that were considered less fireprone. The amount of prescribed burning must be increased to levels similar to pre-historical times. That is a tall order and I hope funding and the will to do it will increase.

Insect damage is harder to control. It is tightly tied to warm, dry conditions that have been increased by the use of fossil fuels. I hope that the federal agencies can do more to reduce their use of fossil fuels to lead us away from this climate crisis.