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First name: Irene Last name: Weiss Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear chief Moore,

Mature and old-growth trees and forests protect our climate by absorbing and storing carbon, boost Resilience to fire ,help regulate temperatures ,filter drinking water and shelter wildlife. I'm asking that we protect all old grow trees and forests to sustain them for the benefit of all living beings.

The draft environmental impact statement fails to protect all old growth trees and forests.. The Proposal allows old-growth trees to be sent to the mill and allows agency staff to manage old-growth out of existence in pursuit of proactive stewardship goals. The draft also contains ambiguous language that could be used to justified continued commercial logging of old-growth in the tongass national forest.

The final record of decision should include these statements.

End the cutting of old growth trees and forests in all national forests and all forest types.

End any commercial exchange of old-growth trees. Old growth meaning any trees over a 110 years old.

Recognize the important role that old-growth forests play in fighting climate Change.

Protect mature forests and trees. All trees over 80 years as they are soon to become the old-growth forest we are protecting now.

Reinstate standard one from the notice of intent which is established that management activities must not degrade or impair old-growth forests this non degradation standard was removed from the DEI S. Similarly new language and the DEIS says that there is no requirement that areas of old-growth forests. The forest service should clearly state that management activities with an old-growth first must not cause the forest to lose old-growth status.

Remove standard 2.b from the final amendment.

Modify guideline 3 of table one which discusses the protection of all growth trees located in younger stands. Change the wording to preserve the cultural historical and ecological value of old trees occur outside of old-

growth forest.

Thank you for considering my comments,

Irene Weiss Corvallis Oregon