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Comments: President Biden's Executive Order 14072 to protect mature and old growth forests on federal lands is a good first step toward saving these precious trees and ecosystems.

I want the Forest Service proposed plans to restrict logging of old-growth forests and provide more intentional stewardship of future old-growth forests. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for this proposal was released on June 21, 2024 and launched a public comment opportunity that will run through September 20, 2024.

Unfortunately, the agency's proposed action is more greenwashing and allows commercial logging of old growth to continue. It is extremely important that we look past this and politically engage! We need everyone to advocate for our forests by submitting personal comments by the September 20th deadline.

The NOGA DEIS fails to meet Executive Order 14072's intent to protect and restore old-growth forests in Regions 8 and 9, and even facilitates logging within what few old-growth stands remain. Unless there is a major course correction, the result of the NOGA under any alternative contemplated in the DEIS will result in little change or weaker protections for mature and old-growth forests in the Eastern US.

Please protect our old-growth forests. The value of trees is not just the price of board-feet of lumber. The value to current citizens is enormous, but the value to future generations is incalculable. Once old-growth forests are lost, they're gone. Please don't let that happen.