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Comments: I understand that as part of President Biden's Executive Order 14072 to protect mature and old growth forests on federal lands, the Forest Service proposed a nationwide amendment to all forest 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.

However, I believe the agency's proposed action will commercial logging of old growth to continue and I am very opposed to that.

I think 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.

I request the U.S. Forest Service cease all plans to log in old-growth forests and protect the remaining parcels of these priceless forest segments.