Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/19/2024 4:00:00 AM First name: Jennifer Last name: Hole Organization:

Title:

Comments: Old-growth and mature trees are a treasure and our national heritage and should be protected as such. We have enough degraded land that can be farmed for toilet paper and charcoal (though this should also occur responsibly, with respect to local communities of humans, plants and animals.) All remaining old-growth should be maintained and protected. I celebrated President Biden's 2022 Executive Order and it gave me hope for the future of our country in a way I have not felt in a long time. I beseech you to develop policy in accordance with the spirit of that document. One tree is not exchangeable for another and one forest does not replace another. I know you are working hard and doing your best and trying to be thoughtful and there are lots of considerations. I'm just letting you know that big old trees are really, really beautiful, for one thing, and also store a ton of carbon, for another, provide homes, inspiration, fresh air, and resources and support to other trees nearby. They also grow fungus, which is cool. You know all of this because you do this for a living and I do not. But if you need one more person to say: I really care about this, I will be that one more person. I really care about this. And a lot of trees I know do too. Thank you for the work you do, I appreciate that you are dedicating your energy to taking care of forests.

Respectfully,