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Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed emphasis on old growth forest over other types. Diversity is by far the best option. Old forests are one of several critical successional stages in healthy ecosystems.

Disproportionate emphasis on old growth - without respect to forest type and in a way that prioritizes them over other forest types - could hinder the USFS's ability to optimize wildlife habitat, carbon stewardship, resilience and biodiversity.

This would result in harming the many many species dependent on younger forests and potentially resulting in further listings on the Endangered Species List.

The lack of forest management will also result in increased wildfire hazards as evidenced by the current conditions. It's no coincidence that the only forests burning up are the older unmanaged areas. None of the private forests have these problems. And none in areas with a robust wood products economy.

Thank you