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Organization:

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Comments: As a bee keeper I have attempted to plant native species and wildlife friendly plants on my small (3.2 acre) piece of property. I have been amazed at the diversity of life that utilizes the small oasis. I am also a person that spends a great deal of time in the outdoors and forests of Michigan. It is incredible how the small changes in landscape with an active sound forest management plan can yield incredible results. The forest service can do this on such a scale that real impact is felt. The new growth and diverse age classes of the forest benefit all species not only game. I commend the Forest Service for using science and their resources to manage OUR land. They take the "break an egg to make an omelet" to yield actual beneficial results.

As a person that spends at least a few minutes a day in the forest and who appreciates the importance of healthy forest habitat, I support the proposed action (Alternative 2) as developed by the U.S. Forest Service in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). Alternative 2 directs the national forests toward stewardship, and I urge the USFS to stand by its choice to move in this direction even against simplistic and deceptive narratives opposing restoration.

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.

I imagine the Forest Service gets very few "Thank yous" or expressions of gratitude, but I would like to say just that. Keep up the good work managing OUR forests using scientific data and sound management strategies. It is appreciated by more people than you probably realize.