Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/20/2024 1:40:27 PM First name: Kathryn Last name: Middleton Organization:

## Title:

Comments: I applaud and support the National Forest Service in their efforts to conserve, recruit and promote ecological integrity through science-based stewardship to preserve and enhance our old-growth forests. Science-based planning and place-based collaboration for geographically adaptive management considerations that follow the trust responsibilities, treaty rights, and cultural, religious, and other tribal interests and eco-cultural practices associated with old-growth forest conditions is technical, but critical for best results. It is also very important that management plans include science-based best practices for direction on the recruitment of young and mature forests for succession into old-growth forests as an integral part of long-term planning to sustain our old-growth national forests for climate resilience, habitat preservation and multiple-use for future generations.