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Comments: I am so happy about this proposed National Old Growth Amendment to better protect our old growth forests. I applaud the Forest Service for the work that has been done so far on this proposed amendment. Thank you for your hard work!

We are at such a critical juncture with our national forests for the many reasons outlined in this proposal. We must think proactively for many generations into the future. It's an enormous responsibility. Let's take this draft proposal and make it better.

Our forests are working hard for us just as they are, living and breathing entities, helping us and our planet in ways both known and unknown. We must learn to leave our trees alone and let them grow. We are their stewards. Logging in old growth forests, if allowed at all, must be tightly defined and tightly controlled by this amendment. Any allowed logging must be done sparingly and only in the right way. Any other uses within our old growth forests must be similarly tightly regulated and controlled. There must be no ambiguity about allowed uses. In addition, I recommend amending the proposal by reducing the age where trees are defined as "old growth" from 150 years to 100 years old. By any measure, a tree that has lived one hundred years deserves a designation of "old growth" and the protections provided by that designation. The proposal mentions place-based old growth forests. Some species of trees in certain places might be very old at 100 years. They deserve protections as much as some of the longer-lived species sited elsewhere.

The Q&A online mentions that the draft EIS "clarified or removed wording that caused confusion or misconceptions". I have found at least one remaining major wording loophole- the part where it says that the trees have to be "largely undisturbed" by human activities. This statement is way too vague. Please remove this provision from the amendment. Many groups could seek to exploit this ambiguous language for purposes that directly conflict with the intent of the National Old Growth Amendment. We must protect our old growth forests against such exploitation and the worst inclinations of some of our fellow humans.

Again, thank you very much for your work thus far and for this opportunity to provide my feedback on this proposed National Old Growth Amendment.