Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/20/2024 4:00:00 AM First name: Norman Last name: McLain Organization: Title:

Comments: In regards to the National Forests Old Growth Amendment I wonder do we really need more red tape and added bureaucracy to our forest management??

Severe wildfires, Insect infestations and tree diseases are constantly at work on our forests, let us prioritize active forest management to lessen these threats. We need policies to accelerate forest thinning and create a more diverse mix of wildlife habitat.

Old Growth forests do not benefit all species of wildlife, in fact many of the species that require young second growth habitat have decreased since 1970, as a result of our forests continual aging.

I have attended National Forest Service meetings for 30 years and they have never been able to meet the promised cutting quotas for aspen management or forest thinning. This needs to change if our forests are to remain healthy and remain viable habitat for ALL species of wildlife.

Thank-you for allowing me to comment. Sincerely, Norm McLain.