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First name: Jennie

Last name: Pakradooni

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Chief Randy Moore:

I'm writing to most strongly urge you to select an alternative in the final version of the National Old-Growth Amendment (NOGA) process that, with only very limited exceptions, prohibits the cutting of remaining old-growth trees in all National Forests. The few remaining ancient trees in California's twenty National Forests are our most fire-resistant and resilient remaining trees. They are essential to sustaining water quality, provide critical irreplaceable old growth habitat for countless wildlife and plant species as they deal with the stresses of a warming planet and habitat loss, and they keep carbon in the ground and clean the air to help us fight climate change.

Unfortunately, none of the alternatives offered in the NOGA Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are sufficiently protective of our remaining ancient trees. I urge you to please act decisively to develop and select a better alternative in the Final NOGA EIS that prohibits the cutting of ALL remaining old-growth trees except for addressing safety concerns and for other such very limited purposes.

In the face of increasing fire and the damaging effects of plantation monoculture, we don't have many ancient trees left that we can save - we must take this opportunity to steward our remaining old growth forest and realize that these remaining ancient forests have value far beyond money. They are invaluable and irreplaceable and critical to the survival not just of the US, but of this entire planet. Please restore strong protections for these trees to keep them intact for another thousand years. We are very lucky to still have them and all the protection they offer us and future generations in the face of climate change.

Sincerely,

Jennie Pakradooni

San Rafael, CA