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Comments: The Bighorn National Forest went through a Forest Plan revision culminating in a signed Forest Plan in 2005. Many hours of agency, cooperators, and public's time went into the negotiation for this plan. Many of these folks did this on their own time. This Forest plan used latest science to define old growth communities on the Forest. Guidelines were established to manage for old growth characteristics throughout the Forest. By usurping this process you discredit the Forest Planning process and slap the face of those who worked so hard together to develop this plan. A one size fits all decision made in a beltway back east is sure to fail. I would ask that you provide local preference over national dictates when it comes to definitions, and management of this resource.

To provide an example of how National dictates are misleading, there was a National representative at one of these meeting who told the group "we'll set these acres aside for old growth and it will be so forever". How utterly pretentious. Not only did they no know how forest succession works, but to believe we can preserve old growth from any changes is... ludicrous. Natural changes take place all the time, nothing stays the same. "The only thing you can preserve is jams and jellies, and even they have a shelf like".