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Comments: I am writing to applaud the USDA Forest Service's mission to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The agency's motto, "Caring for the land and serving people" is a serious responsibility - one that must be undertaken with constant diligence and transparency. It is in the spirit of supporting the long-term goals and objectives necessary to assure achievement of sustaining the health, diversity and productivity of our national forests that I submit the following comments, as each of them contributes to assuring that the agency's responsibilities are carried out with integrity and transparency. As a resident of Kentucky, I first encourage that the cutting of old-growth trees in the Daniel Boone National Forest be stopped immediately! Failure to do so is unconscionable and detrimental in ways that do not bare elucidation at this point. Further, old-growth and mature-growth forests management should always be approached from a "first, do no harm" perspective. Certainly, doing so mandates the elimination of any exceptions that allow the conversion of old-growth to young-forests, and any other actions that diminish the forests' old-growth condition. In order to meet these requirements, there must be a scientifically sound inventory of old-growth forests that is transparent and consistent - and open to public input. Said plan must recognize all types of old-growth forests and include disturbance-mediated forest communities like upland and fire-adapted oak forests and woodlands. Certainly, there are costs associated with each of these charges - but failure to do any of these brings their own costs that are of such importance they must not be ignored or delayed until "a better time." The time is NOW, the neglect is too consequential. Make certain that the public knows the situations and the consequences and how we can help every step of the way. These forests are ours and must be protected!