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Comments: Although the Draft Amendment attempts to protect old-growth forests, this version would not achieve all of its intended goals. More words are needed about efforts to increase the amount of old-growth forests in the national forests. In addition, we need an alternative that would require the protection of mature forests.

Actions such as thinning and prescribed burns are not necessary in moist forests of the West. In these areas, passive management is sufficient.

Finally, the standards in this Amendment allow too many exceptions that might easily lead to the loss of old-growth forest.

Although I commend and support your efforts, I hope you will consider these changes to the Draft Amendment.

Thank you,

Diane Stone