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Comments: Thank you for creating the National Old Growth Amendment (NOGA) land management plan to describe a unified, long-term plan to conserve old-growth forests throughout the National Forest System.

Old-growth and mature-growth forests can help slow the climate crises by removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it.

Forests also: Absorb rainwater reducing erosion, protecting water quality, and reducing flooding.

Are watersheds that supply drinking water to 50% of Americans.

Lower air and soil temperatures.

Remove airborne pollutants.

Add oxygen to the air.

Provide diverse habitat for iconic and endangered species.

I encourage you to strengthen the NOGA by:

Immediately stopping logging old-growth trees. If an old-growth tree is cut for public safety, that tree should not be sold to a lumber mill.

Protect mature forests and trees from commercial logging so they can grow to become old-growth.

Please protect our old-growth and mature-growth trees and forests. Follow the vision laid out by

President Biden's Executive Order 14072 Strengthening the Nation's Forests, Communities, and Local Economies: "[hellip] forest on Federal lands be managed "to promote their continued health and resilience; retain and enhance carbon storage; conserve biodiversity; mitigate the risk of wildfires; enhance climate resilience; enable subsistence and cultural uses; provide outdoor recreational opportunities; and promote sustainable local economic development."

Thank you.