

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/20/2024 4:00:00 AM

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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Old growth forests are one of several succession stages for a forest's health ecosystem. It is necessary to have a balance between old, middle, and new growth forests.

Old growth forests are susceptible to fire, disease, insects, and climate change.

Applying local knowledge and expertise to forest management planning is essential. Wildlife habitat, climate resilience and carbon optimization are maximized when many forest ages are mixed across the landscape.

Please do not put an over emphasis on any one forest age and provide guidance for proactive forest management that leads to a collection of equally important age classes.