Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/18/2025 5:00:00 AM First name: Naomi Last name: Zurcher Organization: Title:

Comments: As a long time forestry professional, I am personally and professionally aware of the importance of protecting, conserving and retaining old growth.

I am also aware of the allegiance and subservience the USDA FS has always shown to the logging industry and although President Biden issued an Executive Order requiring the protection and conservation of old growth, the FS has dragged its feet on issuing and implementing new regulations to give the logging industry more time to decimate as much old growth as it can.

And now, instead of adhering to the Executive Order, the FS is proposing to weaken the the Northwest Forest Plan which would greatly increase old growth logging and the destruction to habitat, wildlife and water resources that such indefensible management instigates.

This is professionally unacceptable. These are public lands - my lands - and although I am in New York, healthy functioning forest ecosystems benefits the entire world, no matter where we are located. In destroying old growth and in allowing highly destructive logging practices, you undermine the well-being of the entire ecosystem and its ability to mitigate the Climate Crisis which is increasing its impact on a daily basis.

DO NOT WEAKEN THE NWFP - PROTECT AND CONSERVE THE LANDS YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BY MAKING THE NWFP STRONGER!!!