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Comments: A review of species of conservation concern reveals that the majority of these species lack sufficient information to determine conservation status and many species that have been evaluated have threats that may be substantial.

How can any management activities be justified without knowledge of potential impacts to these species, particularly those management activities that do not mimic natural processes such as logging, road building, or other development? How can this long list of potentially imperiled species receive protection when so little is known of their ecology, population status, or susceptibility in the Tongas National Forest?

Management focus should be directed towards species inventory, status and conservation needs prior to the continuation or expansion of extractive industries. Natural ecosystems and their biological components are irreplaceable when lost and disruptions are difficult and expensive to reverse or repair even when possible. Old growth forest or other undisturbed natural areas always provide optimal habitat for biodiversity to flourish and is not given the high level of prominence needed.