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First name: Anna
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Dear Forest Service,

I call on you to protect the biodiversity and rich history of the Northwest Forest, while prioritizing Indigenous knowledge and voices.

I am not a native Oregon resident. I grew up in Dallas, Texas surrounded by concrete building, six lane highways, and suburban neighborhoods with houses the size of mansions. Moving to Oregon was a refreshing break from the rough, bland concrete I had been surrounded by all my life. The amount of diverse nature that surrounds me is astonishing. The first time I saw an Oregon waterfall I couldn't look away. I think it's easy to take for granted the beauty that surrounds us in the Pacific Northwest. The amount of thriving nature and endangered species these forests support is crucial to maintaining the ecosystem and overall well being of the earth.

We can't turn on back on the environment. We are reaching a crucial point of no return and must do better to protect the forests. We must look to Indigenous tribes and work with them to determine the best course of our forests. Indigenous tribes know these lands and have a deep knowledge that should be embraced.

That is why we must:
- Manage for biodiversity and culturally important species to Tribes.
- Collaborate with Tribes to identify their desired ecological and cultural conditions.
- Incorporate a holistic worldview consistent with Indigenous kinship and stewardship concepts.
- Protect old growth and endangered species.