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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to request that the FEIS spare all mature and old-growth trees from cutting. Mature and old-growth trees provide critical wildlife habitat, help protect the integrity of our rivers and other streams, and are the trees most likely to survive fire. I am a fire survivor from 2020 and I have been working as a biologist for over 20 years and conducted my master's thesis work on Spotted Owls and specifically worked in the Six Rivers National Forest in Northern California. The mature trees in these forests are not only critical for the federally listed Spotted Owl, but the ecosystems they are key components of offer habitat and food and the last niches for ecological evolution in the Pacific Northwest. Ancient forest stands are dwindling across the globe and we still have so much to learn from these areas about unique systems, clean air to acquire from their existence, and protection of humans and the forests we love as they will most likely not let a wildfire move to a crown fire. We do not need the board feet from these mature and old-growth trees, we need the unique structure they add to the landscape. Board feet should come from managed forest groves where cutting has already occurred. Please consider your children, your grandchildren, and your legacy when voting on the Northwest Forest Plan; humans need wild places as much as the animals.