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Comments: It's imperative to protect old-growth forests, now and forever. These trees take over 150 years to mature to their status as keystone strongholds in the unique, fragile ecosystems of the United States. Old-growth oak trees alone are needed by over 2,000 species of plants, animals, and insects for shelter, nutrients, and structure. Second-growth forests, by lacking the time required to build vast underground root growth networks with neighboring trees, are unable to provide such support at this time. These forests are also responsible for filtering our air and water, and they provide unmatched flood mitigation for regions prone to high amounts of rainfall. Sustainable second-growth logging already exists and it would behoove the flora and fauna of this country to increase protections on old-growth forests; when these ecosystems thrive, humanity thrives. We cannot exist without a healthy natural world.