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Comments:

I urge you to adopt policies that include Tribal forest management and the protection of old growth forests. This can be accomplished by replacing fire exclusion and suppression with a fire inclusion paradigm that uses regenerative fire in fire-adapted forests.

Currently, aggressive wildfire suppression is not really excluding fire; instead it's igniting human-caused fires during the worst weather and fuel conditions where high-intensity fire is almost guaranteed. This does not work and is economically and environmentally unsustainable. The only proven human means of actively managing forests for fire resilience has been through Indigenous cultural burning.

Please promote fire resilience in fire-adapted forests by adopting policies with ecological fire use.

The Northwest Forest Plan amendment must authorize a revival of Indigenous cultural burning along with large-scale prescribed burning and managed wildfire if it really seeks to restore fire resilience.

Thank you