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Comments: Pacific Northwest forests have been dramatically altered by 150+ years of genocide and the associated shift from Indigenous ecologies to settler colonial land management.

Regardless of what administration changes occur, the need for upholding these values for old growth forests needs to exist. Protecting mature and old-growth trees and forests is essential for confronting both the climate and biodiversity crises. There is no need to see this as an issue that will not be "fixed," the future of generations of all living beings need to be considered when altering our forests. We've always heard that they are the lungs of our communities which is a serious inclination to how they help us breath physically, mentally, and intergenerationally. Exclusion of Indigenous cultural practices with fire has been far too long suppressed. Along with invasive species management and the shift in forest species composition. These consistent alterations to tree and canopy density along with the expansion of various conifers is not sustainable now nor to the future of our lungs. Indigenous voices need to be heard and valued when it comes to tending to the needs of the forest. It is not a hands off approach, trees need us as much as we need them.