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Comments: I encourage you to resist pressure the abandon the Northwest Forest Plan, that it not go the way of the National Old Growth Amendment and be discarded.

I am encouraged by language in the agency's draft environmental impact statement to protect older trees in areas meant for timber production, to incorporate and include tribes in co-stewardship and co-management of these forests, and to encourage more use of cultural and prescribed fire. But I am also concerned about the potential for more logging of older trees in old-growth forests, called late successional reserves.

I recommend that you:

- *Include new standards that protect old forests in timber matrix zones - which are defined as areas for logging emphasis.

- *Utilize planning tools like PODs to help with natural wildfire ignitions.

- *Maintain Adaptive Management Areas as outlined in the original plan, and using AMA framework to engage communities and other members of the public in project planning.

- *Protect mature and old-growth in special reserves. Do not increase tree age to be harvested from 80 to 150 years old (as currently proposed). This will impact critical habitat for Northern spotted owls and other old-growth dependent species.

- *Avoid any requirements to establish timber quotas. We have learned that such quotas create incentives that drive harmful practices that are detrimental to our forests.

- *Include provisions that will support community preparedness for wildfire. There are many actions that communities can take to resist wildfire.

Thank you for responsible management of our nation's forests.