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Organization:

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Comments: Thank you for your ongoing work on the Northwest Forest Plan.

I urge you to retain the current NW Forest Plan's allowance to log only trees younger than 80 years. As a 5th generation Oregonian, I understand the important part logging has played in our state's economy. But in the past 150 years, as the human population has grown and we have learned more about the interdependence of all species, reverting to past practices which allowed logging of older trees no longer makes sense and is not sustainable. Young forests are appropriate to be treated as crops and logged to provide material for human society. But older forests are essential to many critical things, especially sequestering carbon to mitigate climate change but also to save the biodiversity that makes our systems resistant to disease and climate change.

Thank you for your consideration in working toward the future health of our magnificent, diverse old-growth forests and, thus, of humans who share our world with them.

Kelly Scott MD