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Comments: The proposed NFP amendment is generally a step forward in protecting old-growth forests and trees, restoring fire to the landscape, and improving the ecological resilience of dry fire-prone forests. It also directs the Forest Service to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge in decision-making and expand co-stewardship opportunities to address Tribal cultural needs better.

But the NFP amendment needs improvement in five key areas to meet its goals: The proposed action, Alternative B, must be modified to add or incorporate standards and guidelines to recruit mature trees better to restore old-growth, burn more dry forests, improve habitat connectivity, protect aquatic ecosystems, and restore old forests in Reserves.

Thank you to consider these points with attention.