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Comments: With respect to any changes in how west coast forests are managed, I respectfully request that the Forest Service:

\*Strengthen protections for mature and old-growth forests to ensure habitat, water quality, and carbon storage, and utilize mature and ancient forests to restore a functional ecosystem.

\*Maintain or expand protections for the network of forest reserves to allow natural processes to flourish, ensure connectivity for wildlife, and support the recovery of imperiled species. Any reduction in forest reserve protections will increase harmful impacts such as habitat destruction, sediment in streams, and carbon loss, further endangering sensitive ecosystems.

\*Prioritize community safety and proven wildfire prevention measures, and end the use of the discredited argument that increased logging is a means of wildfire prevention and suppression.

Consult with and respect the sovereignty of Tribes, support tribal co-stewardship agreements, and ensure equitable access to planning processes.

\*Continue to analyze related environmental justice impacts, including the pollution of air, water, and communities resulting from logging and other resource extraction practices. A good example of these abuses is in the Oregon Coast Range, where reckless, near-unregulated logging remains so prevalent on state forest lands that wholesale watershed destruction and landslides have resulted affecting roads, property stability, residents, and communities.