

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/17/2025 3:54:33 PM

First name: Steve

Last name: Knox

Organization:

Title:

Comments: There are tens of thousands (probably hundreds of thousands/millions) of acres in America, and on National Forests and public lands, allocated to the production of forest products (the timber base). Mature and old growth forests have values other than wood products, including biodiversity, healthy ecosystems, climate refugia, prevention of flooding and soil erosion, wildlife habitat, production of clean water, fire resilience, cultural values, outdoor recreation, scenery, wilderness values, and more - all things the Forest Service manages for under the mandate of Multiple Use and Sustained Yield. Our "timber base" is large enough. We should manage our remaining mature and old growth forests for values other than timber and other forest products. Looking forward to your response. Thanks for the opportunity to comment. Public lands belong to ALL Americans.