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Comments: We need a forest plan that PROTECTS and recovers old-growth forests. We need to maintain and increase protections for these forests, not diminish them. Old growth forests are essential component of this vibrant and unique PNW ecosystem. Honoring and protecting our forests is essential for our future-- the future of humanity and of the diverse biological ecosystems our forests foster and support.

The climate crisis poses greater and greater threat to our well-being and survival every day. Increasing logging and destruction of these ESSENTIAL forests will only heighten and speed up the effects of threatening climate changes. Our forests are powerful and crucial carbon sinks, we need to protect them! Mature and diverse forest ecosystems are more resilient to forest fire, providing humanity with added protection and buffers to these ever-increasing fires.

We must support Tribal inclusion in our forest plan. The NW forest plan encompasses lands occupied and stewarded by over 80 Tribes since time immemorial. The Forest Service must consult with Tribes, recognizing their sovereignty and providing resources to support their full participation in decision making.

Our forest plan must protect imperiled species and biodiversity. Conservation measures that prioritize habitat for Salmon, Spotted Owl, Marbled Murrelet, and the myriad other species that make our forests vibrant and unique must remain at the heart of any NW forest plan update.

Our forests are an absolutely integral component of our life and culture in the Pacific Northwest.

We must honor and protect what we have.

Future generations are depending on us to do the right thing!

Our forests belong to the people of the PNW, and decisions about their use and management should be made by and FOR the people, not by private industries looking to increase profit. Our future is linked with our forests, not with the profits of a few.

NOW IS THE TIME TO DO THE RIGHT THING.