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Comments: As a person of faith and conscience, I want to see the rich biodiversity in our oldest forests protected. I oppose opening up logging to over 800,000 acres of previously protected forests and creating loopholes for older trees to be logged.

We need the carbon capture of our forests desperately. We also need to protect the biodiversity for research into how to preserve health and growth in nature for both our natural and our human populations - possible medicines, interventions for problems which are on the horizon, understanding of fungi and mycelium for the study of remediation of depleted soils and natural areas. WE cannot afford to lose these; they are vital to the survival of humans.

Instead, I urge the Forest Service to protect all remaining mature and old-growth moist forests in the Plan area to preserve ecosystems, save more carbon-storing trees, and improve fire resilience.
The proposed increased logging could reduce the landscape's resilience to wildfire. The logging that could occur pursuant to the Proposed Action and Alternative D under the guise of "fuels reduction" largely represents a handout to the logging industry and could make wildfires worse by removing older, fire resilient trees. It would also cause harm to biodiversity and watersheds.

The Forest Service should modify and select Alternative C to better protect ecosystems, increase carbon storage, and meaningfully incorporate Tribes into forest management. While Alternative C is more protective of ecosystem function than the Proposed Action, it fails to incorporate the tribal involvement provisions contained in the Proposed Action and should be modified to include the same robust commitments to Tribal stewardship contained in the other action alternatives. Alternative C should also be modified to prohibit post-fire salvage logging, which harms an ecosystem's regeneration processes, pollutes our water, removes important habitat features, and reduces carbon storage.