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Comments: Hello,

I am a visitor and resident near these incredible forests. These forests are the most important thing we can give to the future generations to experience, learn from and enjoy, generations of people, plants and animals. These forests must remain wild, these forests are critical to human health and animal health. Wilderness is the best example of preservation areas. Managing and logging these forests is not acceptable, these practices erode forest health and biodiversity.

There should be no logging, thinning, or cattle grazing in these special forested areas.

I urge the USFS to Strengthen protections for mature and old-growth forests to ensure habitat, water quality, and carbon storage, and recruit more mature and old 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 would increase harmful impacts such as habitat destruction, sediment in streams, and carbon loss, further endangering sensitive ecosystems.

Genuinely consult with Tribes, respect their sovereignty, and provide resources to support their full participation in decision-making. The Forest Service must support co-stewardship agreements, cultural burning practices, first food harvesting, and youth education while ensuring equitable access to planning processes. Pairing these components with the Forest Service's plan for weakened environmental protections is a false choice manufactured by the agency.

Address environmental justice by analyzing impacts on air, water, and communities and ensuring fair, sustainable working conditions.

Shift wildfire strategies to prioritize community safety and proven prevention measures over logging.

The Forest Service must reject plans to weaken core protections of the Northwest Forest Plan. Maintaining and expanding protection for forest reserves is critical to preserving biodiversity, clean water, and the long-term climate benefits our forests provide.

Kodiak Greenwood