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Comments: I am a retiree who lives in Washington state. I am writing to express my dismay over the most recently proposed amendments to the Northwest Forest Plan.

I am particularly disturbed by the parts of the amendments that would strip protections from our old-growth and mature forests. Increased logging will irrevocably change these Forests, which currently store carbon, protect watersheds, and provide habitat for endangered species.

In addition to these environmental benefits, these forests attract many tourists and visitors. I have taken my children to many of the old-growth forests in the Pacific Northwest, and have enjoyed sharing the beauty of nature there: the trees, the wildlife and the hiking trails.

Please consider science-based management, rather than logging-driven policies. Once these trees are felled, it would mean the loss of a prized possession of this country...and the damage could never be undone.

Put the long-term health of our forests before the short-term profits of the logging industry.