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Comments: The Importance of Old-Growth and Mature Forests: Mature and old-growth forests are natural carbon-storing champions, resilient against wildfire, and critical to mitigating climate change. We should have strong protections for mature and old growth forests. Logging them would worsen the biodiversity and climate crises.

Wildlife Habitat and Clean Water: These forests provide essential habitat for imperiled species like the northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, and coho salmon. They also filter and protect drinking water for communities across the Pacific Northwest.

Forest Reserves Are Vital: The Forest Service should strengthen or expand protections for forest reserves under the Northwest Forest Plan to attract more habitat, protect streams, and enhance carbon storage-not reduce them or open them to logging.

Support Tribal Sovereignty and Environmental Justice: Management decisions should reflect Tribal stewardship practices, uphold sovereignty, and ensure meaningful consultation and engagement with Tribal communities. Pairing these components with the Forest Service's plan for weakened environmental protections is wrong. We should be doing everything we can to protect mature and old growth forests. and advancing ecological protections in our national forests.

Our forests are such a treasure for for all generations. My family and I love to be in these forests and cherish these mature and old growth trees and habitat. We need to value the preservation of these forests and the value they have on so many levels.

This plan should also look at the recreational value these forests provide in regard to a healthy lifestyle and the the revenue that is generated each year - estimates are \$450 million each year from outdoor recreation in Oregon National Forests.

Please do everything you can to preserves these mature and old growth trees in the national forests.