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Comments: I'm writing to express my profound opposition to these amendments, which would call for an increase in logging in mature and old-growth forests, actions that not only threaten wildlife populations but our very access to clean air and healthier communities.

The Northwest Forest plan covers a region whose greatest asset is its natural beauty, an asset that brings millions of dollars in tourism across Oregon, Washington and Northern California. Thousands of Americans, as well as international tourists, plan destinations to old-growth forests each year. Increased logging threatens the very prosperity of forest-towns that depend upon outdoor recreation to survive.

I implore the USDA to listen to reason: our nation depends on our old-growth forests. Without them, we lose more than air and wildlife: we lose the very soul of this nation.