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Comments: As a lifelong resident of the Pacific Northwest and avid outdoorsman, I am heavily opposed to amendment #64745. The proposed amendment would allow logging in some of our nations most pristine forest landscapes, including mature and old growth forests that are not only beloved by locals for their awe inspiring beauty, but also vital in maintaining a healthy ecosystem that is resilient in the face of climate change, worsening wildfires, and ever increasing habitat fragmentation. These forests provide numerous benefits standing as is to people and nature alike, including the highest rates of carbon storage and sequestration, water filtration, erosion control, wildfire resilience, cultural/recreation value, and high quality habitat for endangered, vulnerable, and sensitive flora/fauna. Additionally, I find it maddening that our president and other people in power use the excuse of wildfire prevention as a means to open up our national forests and mature/old growth to logging. Older forests that have naturally regenerated are by far the most fire resilient, and even require wildfire in order to maintain soil health and clear out excessive underbrush. On the other hand, timber monocultures (the likes of which threaten to replace our mature forests) are much more susceptible to severe wildfire as a result of being planted close together, at the same time, and more often than not with a single species of trees. Historical fire suppression has only worsened the issue, creating timber box conditions in these monocultures that burn like a match during our increasingly hotter summers. Considering ecological significance or not, at the end of the day it is clear that the people of the northwest, whom spend the most time in these woodlands want to PRESERVE our old growth. Not a single person I have spoken to has been supportive of this amendment and what it proposes. I hope that the people in power will make the right decision to keep our old growth standing and not allow our national forests to be put on the chopping block in order to preserve our natural heritage and legacy of environmental stewardship for decades to come.