

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/15/2024 5:00:00 AM

First name: Betty

Last name: Palmer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: USDA Forest Service

Re: Old Growth forest management planning

Dear USDA Forest Service staff,

Old Growth forests provide ecologically important, comparatively undisturbed habitat for many imperiled species, including those protected under state and federal laws. These forests provide critical habitat for fisheries, avian and other wildlife, maintain riparian habitat, slope stability, water temperatures, and biodiversity. They are already threatened by the increasing temperatures of the anthropocene epoch. Furthermore, the presence of old stands brings wonder, and a narrow degree of hope that something good remains amongst "progress."

In the modern world of technology & climate change, there is no justification for the logging of old growth trees anywhere on the planet. While I understand that the SEC and shareholders don't agree, these old and ancient stands are more "valuable" as trees than as timber.

The world has changed since the beginning of the agency and the historical directives. Our greed has denuded millions of acres. We need to leave and let live these precious few places that remain.

Kindly,

Betty Palmer

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ATTACHMENT: Maintenance of hydrologic function & fish habitat - document won't open; Adobe says the file has been damaged.

UPDATE FOR ATTACHMENT: Maintenance of hydrologic function & fish habitat - opened document in NotePad and all it provides is the link below:

<https://oldgrowthforestecology.org/ecological-values-of-old-growth-forests/ecological-processes-and-functions/maintenance-of-hydrologic-function-and-fish-habitat/>