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Comments: I am 85 years old. and. in my lifetime I have witnessed a distressing shrinkage of natural environment generally and virgin or old growth forests in particular. I once visited areas of hundreds of years old Sequoias in California and these are still being cut for timber when other, faster-growing trees are a better choice. no-one NEEDS to build with wood from those trees when other species are still available. Remaining old-growth forests should be preserved before humans even forget what they were like.