

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/18/2022 12:00:00 AM

First name: Fred

Last name: Swanson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am familiar with old growth as a scientist (PNW Research Station of USFS) based in the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest (Oregon Cascades), deeply invested in close collaboration with Federal forest land managers, and through processes for giving input to Federal policy makers, the public, and others for over 50 years. For the past 20 years I have worked in the context of the Spring Creek Project for Ideas, Nature, and the Written Word (privately funded and housed in Oregon State University) to bring more than 100 writers, artists, theologians, and others to the old growth forests of the Andrews for inspiration, scholarship, and creativity in conjunction with scientists.

I believe that an essential part of any inquiry to the nature of native forests, especially old ones, is to include serious attention to inquiry into their nature by artists and people in the humanities. Emotional and non-utilitarian dimensions of these forests are at the roots of joy, awe, wonder, and, therefore, human conflicts concerning old growth. You must take that head on.

A body of works from the long-standing residency program at Andrews Forest is on The Forest Log on the Spring Creek webpage:<https://liberalarts.oregonstate.edu/centers-and-initiatives/spring-creek-project/programs-and-residencies/long-term-ecological-reflections/forest-log>

Thank you for consideration of this suggestion.