Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/14/2022 6:01:43 PM First name: Julie Last name: Dugger Organization: Title:

Comments: I live in western Washington State. We don't have a lot of old-growth forests left. The hills and mountains here have been patch-worked with clear-cuts all my life.

I'm the granddaughter of a logger, but I don't understand the people today who want to take down the remaining old growth woods. There's just not that much left. What do they think they're going to do when they take the few remaining ancient forests down? Logging companies boast that they are in a sustainable business because trees grow back. If that's the case, they should be able to work from what they've already taken, without taking more. This is not about jobs: the jobs won't last any longer than the forests will, and the forests will go quickly (too many of them already have). This is about fast profit for a few rich people who care for nothing but money.

I urge the US Department of Agriculture and US Department of Interior to work together to quickly initiate rulemaking based on a definition of mature forests and trees as 80 years or older and to permanently end the avoidable loss of their critically important carbon, water and wildlife values to irresponsible logging and other threats.