Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/19/2022 4:34:43 AM First name: Len Last name: Richardson Organization:

Title:

Comments: The remains of old growth forests represent some of the best fire retardant bio structures on this planet. Their particular rhizome connections communicate biocelular defenses of which scientific Discovery has yet to study. The cellular structure composing 200+ year old trees is at least twice the defense of farm grown conifers or equal aged managed plantations. The carbon sequestion arising from old growth groves is also twice as much as young managed equal aged plantations Old growth forests retain a much healthier carbon exchange into the atmosphere to assist in atmospheric balance. Reducing old growth forests has been detrimental to the upper atmosphere surrounding our planet. It is critical now more than ever to retain our less than ten percent remaining old growth forests on public lands. It is known that old growth seedlings are hardier and more virulent in seed production than managed plantations. Scientific studies ongoing validate the need to continue research on old growth forest especially in regards to climate changes happening everywhere this planet. It is imperative now more that ever to protect our remaining old growth forests.