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Comments: I believe in science. I believe what the climate scientists say. We are in a time of climate crisis. I want us greedy, ignorant humans to stop our destructive ways and make intelligent decisions to protect our fragile, beautiful, life giving planet from further degradation. The Earth will survive without us. It will evolve. Do we wish to go extinct along with a myriad of other species because we want to remain in the status quo? Because we want to put more money into the pockets of the timber industry and the politicians that support them? These are OUR PUBLIC LANDS.

I suggest that we STOP LOGGING ON ALL PUBLIC LANDS. This would include not only lands managed by the BLM and the US Forest Service, but also developed recreation areas, wilderness areas, and conservation lands.

Completely stopping ALL logging on public lands would be radical. That is what it will take - IN ADDITION TO OTHER MEASURES - for the US to significantly make a difference in reducing our negative impacts upon the climate. If you will not stop logging on all public lands, I beseech you to stop it on all mature and old growth forests. The value of these trees to continue to function as great carbon stores, absorb carbon dioxide, emit oxygen, and resist fire are significant. You know this. You also know that there are several other values that forests provide. These include positive impacts upon our physical and emotional well being, providing recreational opportunities, providing homes to wildlife... the list goes on.

You may say that we need to log these forests to meet the country's need for lumber and other wood products. I live in Oregon. I know that most of this country's lumber now comes from private lands. We need to protect what is left of our public forest lands to compensate for the heavily over logged private forests. We've cut plenty of timber out of the checkerboard squares that cover our BLM lands. If we stop all logging on public lands, the shortfall of timber products could be made up by industry using other materials. People making a living in the timber industry can focus on cutting the private tree plantations or learn other skills. There is plenty of other forest related work available. For example, people can put their tree cutting smarts to work reducing fire danger around threatened communities throughout the west.

It is time for our government agencies to "do the right thing". Make bold changes to give future generations a livable planet.

Thank you for reading this.