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First name: Hannah

Last name: Leggett

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please don't cut as many trees down as plan, don't clear cut, and get local companies to cut the trees down. Mature forest is important, there's not a lot of it left. Clear cutting old growth will inevitably introduce invasive species. These will dominate the understory because they germinate, grow, and proliferate at much faster rates than native plants. So although you'd technically increase the diversity of a clear cut area through disturbance and introduction of invasive species, it's the type of diversity introduced that really matters. Even though you'll increase local biodiversity, global biodiversity will still decrease through the loss of native species- either through the act of clear cutting itself or displacement by non-native species. In other words, what you choose to do will effect the world (even if it doesn't feel that way) because you have the power to decrease, maintain, or increase global biodiversity. That being said, I don't see any guarantee that post-clear cut land would be managed in a way that favors native over non-native revegetation. On top of the clear detriments to native and global biodiversity that would result from this project, clear cutting would also have disastrous effects to the land itself through decreased capacity for capturing rainwater. This would dramatically increase flooding and landslide risk, especially because the area is so hilly. People live on this land too, so you're putting their lives in danger by choosing to clear cut.