

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/5/2022 2:45:11 PM

First name: Maddie

Last name: Kiszewski

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I was disturbed to learn the Forest services idea of forest management included logging old growth. It's becoming rare to see trees older than 100 years because of the American settlers clear-cutting land and using the grand old trees to build ships. Do not make the same mistake that those who came before us did. Old growth needs to be protected, not exploited. If your goal is to increase biodiversity maybe consider giving land back to Native Americans who understand how to properly manage North American forests. We need people to increase biodiversity by planting native plants in already cleared areas AND removing invasive plants. Leave the old growth alone, there's plenty of projects for you to help with that will increase biodiversity without killing old native trees in the process. North American forests were once grand and full of food, but our exploitative management practices have ruined that.

I am a botanist who has worked with rare plants, invasive species, and the federal government. I do not think you are properly managing this country's land. Please refocus your efforts to restoration, not logging rare old growth forest.