Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/9/2024 5:05:54 PM First name: Carol Last name: Diamond Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for considering the change in your policy about cutting old growth after ignoring President Biden's Executive Order and being threatened with law suits. I like to believe that humanity's consciousness is becoming kinder and less greedy, albeit slowly. More and more people are becoming discontented with capitalism and the selfish rule of the wealthy.

It makes me sad to think of young people entering the Forest Service because they love trees and all of nature, only to discover that their jobs require destroying so much of it.

Personally, I'd like to have Native Americans put it charge of their local National Forests. This idea may seem radical to the point of craziness to some, but such is the way that change begins. This was their land, after all, before it was stolen by broken treaties. In Wisconsin the Menominee have been sustainably harvesting their forest for over 170 years. Their forest can be seen from space as one of Earth's much needed green places. In his excellent book, A Trillion Trees: Restoring Our Forests by Trusting in Nature, Fred Pearce quotes Liza Grandia, "Some conservationists refused outright to deal with local communities, regarding them as 'squatters' even though most of Guatemala's protected areas were carved out of [their] territory. But the squatters turned out to be the best forest protectors."

Sincerely,

Carol Diamond