

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/11/2024 11:54:15 PM

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Comments: As someone who moved to the Pacific Northwest just 5 years ago, I have only now come to fully realize and understand how inestimably valuable, important and beautiful are the old-growth forests in this region.

They benefit PNW residents but also the thousands of visitors to the region from other parts of the US where such forests do not exist. They also are gigantic carbon sinks and benefit everyone from a climate mitigating point of view.

I urge you to do the utmost possible to preserve tracts of old-growth forests as large as possible. There are plenty of private and public managed planted forests to supply the lumber and wood product industries without needing to encroach on any of the remaining old-growth areas.

Thank you for your consideration.