

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/12/2024 2:36:39 AM

First name: Nathanael

Last name: Whitworth

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please protect as a very highest priority the limited forests in the USA. They are the lungs of the earth and extensive widely documented data show that, and how vital they are to the ecosystem. Climate catastrophes get worse every year, to address that requires more forest land, not less, and less land for wasteful purposes like CAFO (miserable concentration camps for livestock, or Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations). Do not put short-term profit as oil companies and US "industry" leaders have done and continue to do, over long-term well-being of our forests and our descendants who will enjoy them if they're there, or who will suffer if they keep dwindling. As noted by the ecology activist group Great Old Broads for Wilderness and many other people, "Old-growth forests are absolutely vital for a number of important reasons, including wildlife habitat, freshwater storage, and erosion control. And they are essential to mitigating the impacts of climate change, as old-growth forests absorb massive amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis, and store it safely underground in root systems."