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First name: Elizabeth

Last name: Masur

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear USDA,

I am writing as a citizen of Indiana who is concerned about global warming. According to the Hoosier Environmental Council, of which I am a member, a great way to counter global warming is to have old growth forests.

So, I am writing to ask you to restore old growth forests in the Hoosier National Forest, leave mature forests alone, stop burning central hardwood forests, and to stop logging mature hardwood forests.

On a personal note, here is an example of how it is necessary to prioritize what is best practice over what is most profitable. We have a walnut tree in our yard. It is valued at over \$30,000. We could have sold it to help pay college tuition for our children, but its value to the environment of our community is more valuable than the short term gains we could have made by cutting it down and selling the wood. Planting a young tree to replace it is a false equation...it would take 100 years before it would provide the benefits of the mature walnut.