Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/22/2024 7:47:09 PM First name: David Last name: Stone Organization: Title: Comments: After over a century of unrelenting logging, old-growth forests are nearing the end of the line.

Wildlife across the country depends on mature and old-growth forests for their lives.

Old-growth forests take up a significant amount of climate-changing carbon.

Private forestlands continue to be converted to tree plantations that will never be allowed to become the large, natural forests that wildlife requires.

Mature trees must be protected so they can replace existing old growth trees naturally lost to wildfires, insect damage, windstorms, landslides and even volcanoes (think of all the trees lost to the geologically recent eruption of Mt. St. Helens).

Very few private mills still process those big old growth trees.