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Comments: Old-growth forests host unique and irreplaceable characteristics quite different from younger forests. Many animals have evolved to rely partly or entirely on old-growth. I live in Northern California and the perfect example of an old-growth forest obligate is the spotted owl. According to the organization Defenders of Wildlife, the spotted owl has already lost 77 percent of its old-forest habitat in Washington, 68 percent in Oregon and about 50 percent in California.....then there is the marbled murrelet and the fisher. There are many rare and endangered species that rely and depend on old growth forests for their survival and that is probably why many are going extinct.

Storing and filtering water, providing top-quality recreation are two more services that old-growth provides. Maybe first and foremost is its relationship to carbon which in our time of climate crisis has become a very important issue. Old-growth sequesters far more carbon than younger forests.

Just these few reasons alone should show you how extremely crucial it is that we hold on to those remaining old-growth forests for as long as we can. This is serious and once you cut down an old-growth forest it is hundreds of years, if ever, that they can regrow. Truthfully, this is a scenario that is really sad and besides that it is disrespectful. It reminds me of the way many in the west feel about elders. The wisest of us all are treated with the least respect.