

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/28/2024 12:30:29 AM

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Comments: Hi! My name is Regan. I am a sophomore at Southern Utah University.

As I was reading about safeguarding old-growth forests, I realized this issue has many different sides. The nature around us helps us. Mother Nature has the ability to care for the ecosystem within. We need to be willing to help out not hinder those abilities. The old growth and mature forests are what make Southern Utah, and other areas, unique. Growing up I was surrounded by Juniper trees. Then I went to college and there still were Juniper trees. We need to respect the land we have.

We need to protect this land. But at what cost?

The lumber industry also has a say in this conversation. Many people are employed to cut down and harvest lumber. Without trees to cut down, they are without a means of providing for their families. As a result, they would need to find new jobs. What if we could live as a society where each person has a role? Where they could use and develop their talents to create a more united and strong society? There is a way we can each work together on this issue. Ultimately, I do think that there is a better way to go about lumbar. We can look into alternative sources. Trees just take a long time to cut down. Every tree cut down will then take many years to grow a new one. We need our Trees.