Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 12:31:26 AM First name: Lori Last name: Powell Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am increasingly concerned about the timbering of old mixed wood forests in our area, then the replanting of fast growing pine, as well as spraying, to kill anything competing with the pine. At some point, industry needs to understand that short term profits are not generally good for the health of our environment, or selves. Years ago, an area abutting our property was timber3d, planted and sprayed. We lost 6 bee hives shortly after. In contacting the local forestey department about my concerns (I see Bees as 'the canary in the coal mine' of our world today), they acted as though I was nuts, saying: "ma'am, this isn't the days of Agent Orange..." and yet it is so much worse! I was completely disillusioned by the varying groups out there 'helping' our environmental concerns... no one would help. Since that time, and with each subsequent spraying of fields nearby as well, we have lost all of our hives, once healthy. I am saddened and will not replace them as long as the conditions exist because it seems unfair to perpetuate the Bees deaths while conditions remain the same. Aside from the Bees, what is it doing to other wild life that resided in old wood forests? The man who owned the land actually said: "we have enough wildlife around here". What? Now, instead of deer and owls, we have snakes and mice in the timbered trash, and excess pine pollen creating allergies that never existed before. Our ecology is our biology (and vice versa) - if we don't pay attention to the unnatural effect our actions have now, we will be too far past a point of coming back to appropriate balance between us and nature.