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First name: Peter

Last name: Childs

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Folks, it's encouraging to see that you're taking up this important matter. A number of us who have been involved in it over the years have despaired as we watched our old-growth forests being continually decimated, with minimal attention being given to their value for anything other than timber.

Those values are not insignificant; they apply to all areas of life, and our having ignored them, basically concentrating only on dollar value, has caused us very serious problems, which those of us who were aware of them have tried valiantly but too often unsuccessfully to address.

I hope that you will address them seriously, with an eye to the quality of our future, and the role that these wonderful examples of God's Creation provide, in the quality of life that we (and so many other creatures) enjoy as a result of their presence and health. Very sincerely, Peter O. Childs