

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/1/2024 1:46:44 AM

First name: Karlynn

Last name: Wierer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I think that the old growth protection rule is the right thing to do and has been the right thing to do for at least 50 years. Unfortunately, it has come too late for a lot of our trees and forests. We had already lost so many acres of old forest to logging and now we are losing incredible amounts every year to fires, drought, heat, and insects, as a result of climate change. It is really disheartening. I saved some of the ash that fell on my car during the fire that destroyed the Opal Creek Wilderness in September 2020. I still can't believe that we lost so many special forests in just a few days. We cannot continue to allow the destruction of earth's ecosystems and our treasured natural heritage. We must protect as much old and mature forest as possible before it is all gone. Thank-you for proposing this rule.