

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/20/2023 3:14:45 PM

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Comments: [External Email]Northwest Forest Plan

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I have been involved in the building trades for four decades as a carpenter, builder and contractor. I'm very familiar with the higher quality of lumber from old growth trees.

But, it's time to reconsider our building practices to preserve as much of this timber as possible because of another more urgent priority - climate change. As global temperatures rise the iconic forests of the Pacific Northwest are at risk. Even slight temperature increases stress our evergreen forests making them more susceptible to disease and fire. The long term benefit of forests to human health may not be in the wood they provide for builders but in their capacity to treat and store carbon.

Much progress has been made in the wood products industry finding better ways to farm trees and innovate new building products to meet the growing demands for affordable housing. We can continue to do this without risking the long term health of our region and the old growth forests that protect us.

Sincerely,

Rob Wilkinson  
1837 East Shelby St.  
Seattle, WA 98112

Sent from my iPhone