Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/21/2024 5:06:22 PM First name: Julie Last name: Ratner Organization: Title:

Comments: Nature is our home, not just a place to visit. Let me dispel the myth mentioned earlier. As trees grow and age, carbon stocks actually increase continuously. With their larger and denser wood composition, they are able to store increasing amounts of carbon, thereby contributing significantly to carbon sequestration and storage capabilities. When we cut down a tree we loose decades of stored carbon. They are the most resilient to wildfire. Stop cherry picking; there is plenty of other timber to harvest.

Why not listen over 100 conservation groups and Biden's federal rule to protect legacy forests from logging. MatureForestPressRelease.pdf It's a egregious that you are ignoring Thurston county officials and behaving as if law suits were not pending. The department is ignoring statutory obligations to protect and restore legacy forests on state forestland. Protect the oldest remaining legacy forests of the USA.

A group of citizens testify month after month, for years, to illustrate that we stand united to save our legacy forest. Please listen to the public and take action today by not allowing the sale or harvesting of legacy forests.