Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/5/2024 6:43:35 PM First name: Arriba Last name: Stature Organization: Title:

Comments: I've been living next to a monoculture forest of Weyerhaeuser hybrid trees for the last 34 years and it's not going well. When I first arrived, they were about 10 feet tall and by the time they became mature, they started falling over. Now with the drought, they are dying. These will never be logged because they're growing in a DNR conservation area. What a pity, if the second-growth forest had been left in place, this area would be if not thriving, at least surviving.

Now more than ever we need to protect our old and mature-growth forests that reseeded themselves after the first logging event in the 1800s. We can't keep mowing these precious forests down and replanting garbage trees in their place. Monoculture forests can't replenish themselves. They don't support native wildlife and seriously, we can do better.

Now more than ever we need to work alongside nature to keep our planet sustainable. I know it's tempting to generate easy income by using nature's resources but we can't afford to act like children anymore. It's time to grow up and appreciate what we've been given by protecting our forests.

Thank you,

Arriba Stature