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First name: Robert Last name: Murray Organization:

Title:

Comments: Old growth forests are an essential part of the Earth's life support system. They are crucial for maintaining functional nutrient cycles and are an essential part of the hydrological buffering system that helps mitigate extreme weather events. They provide habitat to many endangered species and maintain biodiversity. They are absolutely necessary to the development of a sustainable environment for humans and other living beings and are essential to mitigate climate change. It is unconscionable to destroy old growth forests in the United States while we criticize other countries for destroying old growth forests in the Amazon and other parts of the world. The Forest Service should not allow the cutting of any old growth forests of any size in the United States.