

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/3/2024 4:00:00 AM

First name: M

Last name: Stevenson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: We must protect forests. They are our best chance against climate change. They give us clean air and clean water. They have inherent value. Logging old growth, even in the name of "recreation," "wildfire" or "wildlife" has been scientifically found to hurt wildlife habitat and increase risk of wildfire. Protect mature forests to protect communities. I am from Oregon, a place reliant on mature forests for drinking water, carbon storage and for wildfire resiliency. I grew up among these forests and now study the science of their importance in college. I ask you to:

- End the cutting of old-growth trees in all national forests and forest types and end the cutting of any trees in old-growth stands in moist forest types

- End any commercial exchange of old-growth trees. Even in the rare circumstances where an old-growth tree is cut (e.g. public safety), that tree should not be sent to the mill.