

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/10/2024 4:00:00 AM

First name: Chris

Last name: Daum

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As someone who has been hiking, back-packing and generally enjoying the wooded areas of several parts of the U.S., I can only say I hope great measures are taken to protect old-growth forests. Once gone, they cannot be 'restored' -- and they are also of incredible value to the wildlife what seeks this environment.

Standard 1 should be implemented so that old growth forests are not degraded or impaired. Giving the reins of their management to extractive interests is just the wrong way to go.

Mature trees are the future of old-growth forests, thus they also need total protection. In the U.S., we've damaged or removed so much of that which protects our precious wildlife, and also helps act to reduce carbon in our environment.

Please do all you can do to protect our old-growth and mature forests.