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First name: Mollie

Last name: Brown

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am an ecologist in the PNW. I have worked to revegetate degraded areas, but I know one important truth: the first step to preserving something rare is to identify it, then protect it. Destruction of old-growth forests cannot be dismissed by gesturing to future restoration endeavors. The value of these ecosystems has been forged over the course of centuries, and cannot be replaced within a manner of a few years or decades.

Old-growth forests must be protected, not merely replaced. These are a vital resource for both humanity and wildlife. The degradation and destruction of these precious forests is a travesty, and we are all poorer for it.