

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/19/2024 4:00:00 AM

First name: Julie

Last name: Peyton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Cutting trees involves more than axes and chainsaws; it requires roads and heavy machinery that compact the soil below. When old growth trees are harvested using current equipment, the forest is changed not just by tree removal, but by the infrastructure of logging. Leaving true wilderness is important for entire ecosystems. We have already cut the vast majority of our old-growth trees, and it's time to let the remainder be, and to let already cut areas recover.

Public lands are not primarily "for profit" -- or they shouldn't be. You hold these lands in trust not just for the current time, but for the future. Listen to the science about sustainability and how the whole ecosystem depends on stopping the cutting of what exists now of our old growth, and on putting strong protections on mature forests.