Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/20/2024 4:00:00 AM First name: Jennifer Last name: Shaw Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am disturbed by the ongoing efforts to log in old growth forests, especially on the east coast. As seawaters rise, the blight affecting coastal forests on the Atlantic, especially in the Carolinas, will further erode the ability of old growth east coasts forest to sustain themselves. Logging will not help, and will in fact damage the ecosystems already in place. Old growth forests are a precious national resource for this country and should not be sacrificed for logging needs: there are plenty of tree farms that can handle the demand for wood. Once an old growth forest is gone, it is gone forever. We cannot point fingers at other countries for not protecting their natural resources (example: Brazil and the Amazon) if we are not willing to do the same. We should not be repeating the same mistakes made in the past: forest growth is finite, not unlimited, and logging is not a form of maintenance: instead it results in the destruction of ecosystems which we desperately need.