

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/26/2024 4:03:51 PM

First name: Katrina

Last name: Rhinestone

Organization:

Title:

Comments: [External Email]Protect old-growth forests

[You don't often get email from katrinah13@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

[External Email]

If this message comes from an unexpected sender or references a vague/unexpected topic;

Use caution before clicking links or opening attachments.

Please send any concerns or suspicious messages to: [Spam.Abuse@usda.gov](mailto:Spam.Abuse@usda.gov)

Dear Chief Moore,

I'm a community college administrator who just wants a livable world for future generations.

I am writing to urge you to protect all old-growth forests in the United States. The Nantahala National Forest in the Southern Appalachians is the latest victim in this unnecessary destruction.

Every year, the U.S. Forest Service and Department of Agriculture establish "timber targets", mandating specific volumes of timber be harvested. This is causing harm to local communities, wildlife, and the environment.

Forests store vast amounts of carbon, and even more as they age. Logging these trees releases much of that carbon back into the atmosphere.

Taking advantage of these carbon sinks is one of the easiest and most cost-effective climate change solutions available to us. Mature forests also provide clean air, filter water for communities living downstream, and create habitats for endangered species.

It is time to stop this harmful practice. Please take steps to protect the Nantahala National Forest and all old-growth forests!

Sincerely,

Katrina Hanson

Eureka, California

Katrina