

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/6/2025 4:07:11 PM

First name: Michael

Last name: Edwards

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I am a resident of Lincoln City, Oregon and I regularly hike and write nature articles for Oregon Coast Today. The Late Succession Reserves of the Siuslaw National Forest were protected in in 1994 in exchange for allowing massive cutting on private timber lands. By the looks of the GPS images and my hikes beyond the beauty strips along our state highways, the Oregon Coast's private timber lands have been rendered into stumps and neat rows of identical Douglas fir trees. Water systems like Jetty Creek near Rockaway Beach, have been wrecked by over cutting. Because Big Timber has mismanaged its timber-lands and politicians are getting gobs of cash from Georgia Pacific and company doesn't mean that American citizens are required to hand over the few intact federal forests to them. National Forests like the Olympic, Siuslaw and the Tongass are more beneficially intact than they are processed into Bezo's cardboard and ultra soft toilet paper. They house endangered species, sequester carbon and allow our waters to flow clear. People throughout this country retreat to the forests for spiritual renewal. These old forests don't exist to store wood-chips and two by fours. There's a reason why the fights got so hot and heavy in the 1980s and 1990s. People care about the federal forests deeply and our planet needs them to remain in tact more than ever.

My fear is that the person reading this email and emails like it have already been instructed to fire up the chainsaws so maybe this letter has no purpose. If you, you the person reading this email, think that you are saving your job by overseeing this catastrophe to our nation's forests then good luck. Loyalty with the current president is a one way street. When the last of the Siuslaw is leveled and you are out looking for some shitty middle management job in the private sector, how are you going to feel about what you did and didn't do for our nation's forests?

Protect the old forests that are left. If you have to resign in protest, then resign in protest. You are going to be fired eventually anyway. You might as well walk out with your head held high than crawl out.

Read up on the story of the Headwaters Forest in California twenty five years ago. Thousand year old redwoods leveled so some ass hole financier in Houston, Texas, Charles Hurwitz, could pay back his debts. Days after the cutting ceased, the proud loggers at Pacific Lumber were fired and looking for work at Wall Mart.

It's sickening.

Don't enable the next Charles Hurwitz!! You didn't go into forestry to wreck the planet; at least I hope that you didn't.