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First name: Jeff

Last name: Boyle

Organization:

Title:

Comments: My family cares deeply about the environment that supports all of humanity. This was no accident. Our children have spent some of their most formative moments wandering amongst the trunks of the giant firs that give the Pacific Northwest its distinctive character. The filtered rays of sunlight that strike the forest floor, blanketed in enormous ferns, offer a primeval feel that is missing from most of modern civilization.

This proposed change that weakens protections for threatened species and old growth / mature forests is absolutely the wrong direction to be taking at this time. We live in a world imperiled by rising global temperatures and collapsing ecosystems. The well known roles that trees play in absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere while providing homes for countless species of animals and plants, plus buffering watersheds from flooding and droughts are all very good reasons to leave these majestic woodlands alone.

Thank you for considering my input. Now is NOT the time to weaken environmental protections and expand logging.