Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/16/2025 8:01:48 PM First name: Joseph Last name: Gniadek Organization:

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Comments: Born in 1996 I have grown accustomed to young forest in the Appalachian region. It wasn't until 2021 that I was finally able to make it out to the Pacific Northwest. Here I was able to stand amongst giant cedars and spruce in old growth forest that had not been touched by the metals of men. These forest provide an unmatched sanctuary for so many living animals as well as humans that seek refuge from the day-to-day busyness of our modern society, it is our responsibility to steward our lands, not destroy them. Leave the old growth alone, there is not a timber frame structure impressive enough to justify taking down a 200-year-old tree. Walk out to these old growth, forests, and find out for yourself how important they really are.