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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Northwest Forests are some of the most vital landscapes in the PNW. They play a critical role in filtering our air and water, protecting biodiversity, and in turn help mitigate the climate crisis we currently face. Uplifting protections on these forests would be a detrimental decision for our community. It would allow for higher risk of water and air pollution, forest fires, landslides, and endangerment of native species. Growing up in the Willamette Valley of Oregon and now living in Washington I have been surrounded by the northwest forests my whole life. They are what made me fall in love with nature and being outside whether that be hiking, skiing, etc, as well as develop a passion for protecting our planet from climate change. Since I was a kid I have had the privilege to live just 10 minutes from these forests and see the benefits they impose and the hard work that so many forestry groups put into them. Growing up In my community I recognized the OSU forestry department as a critical safeguard of our local forests. I want future generations to continue to have the privilege to see, love, and enjoy these forests just as I have been able to do and learn the critical roles they play in protecting our environment. I urge you to reconsider this amendment and rather hold firm in the protections we have in place for our forests. Their beauty and importance are what make the PNW so unique and a leader in the mitigation of the climate crisis.