Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/17/2025 7:36:11 PM First name: Kaye Last name: Sitterley Organization: Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my strong opposition to to expand logging in the old-growth forests of the Pacific Northwest. The NWFP was "intended to conserve late successional and old growth forest ecosystems and associated species", and you have abandoned that intent. When will you draw the line on how much destruction of the old growth forests is enough? If this moves forward, it will become clear that your intention was never to protect old growth forests. Your intent was always to sell out to the highest bidder.

The logging of these irreplaceable ecosystems poses significant harm to biodiversity, climate stability, and the long-term health of our natural heritage. Old-growth forests are vital not only for their unique and diverse wildlife habitats but also for their critical role in mitigating climate change. These forests sequester large amounts of carbon, making them invaluable in the global fight to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Logging these forests would not only release stored carbon into the atmosphere, exacerbating climate change, but would also destroy the habitats of numerous endangered species that depend on mature, undisturbed ecosystems. Of course, you all know this. I shouldn't have to remind you.

I am begging you to reconsider logging these irreplaceable ecosystems, and prioritize conservation and sustainable forest management practices that protect our natural resources, promote biodiversity, and mitigate the impacts of climate change.