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First name: Tiffany

Last name: Garner

Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Tiffany and I've been a resident of the PNW for 50 years. For the last 10 years I have been an avid mushroom forager and forest appreciator. I spend every weekend in either the Mt Hood area, Gifford Pinchot forest or the Oregon Coast.

Finding public forested areas around the Coast has always been a challenge because of amount of land owned by Weyerhaeuser, the thought of losing more to our greedy administration is nightmare fuel.

I have learned so much from our forests, from identifying plants and trees, to seeing new animals, to knowing exactly where to find a precious edible mushroom. I've had the opportunity to share my knowledge of mushroom foraging with several people and have seen the power that nature has on people. With every step we took their love and understanding of nature increased.

Last year I took a woman of Japanese decent to find Matsutake mushrooms and when she spotted her first cluster she knelt down and cried because it brought memories of her childhood flooding back.

Public forest lands are absolutely crucial to our environment, that is a scientific fact, but more importantly they are crucial to human happiness and well being. If you don't agree with me I invite you to join me on a foray this spring or fall so I can share the beauty of our forests with you.