

Please put an immediate moratorium on logging in Jackson State Demonstration Forest. The Mendocino Coast is one of the last areas where Californians can experience forest in its natural state. This Forest. It not only sequesters carbon, it cools and carries the ocean breezes contributing cooler air to the heated Inland areas of California.

We no longer need to harvest Redwood. It is commonly used for decks and fencing because of its resistance to weathering. Trex and other simulated wood products made from recycled plastic and wood waste do a better job of that, and are now readily and affordably available. It is time to turn to other wood products for construction. Bamboo is the most commonly used construction material in the world. Some of it grows a foot a day. It would be a great Improvement to import bamboo construction materials from Asia instead of plastic junk in plastic packaging .

Our Coast is now a tourist based economy. We are within a Friday night Drive for hundreds of thousands of people who leave the fundamental physiological stress of living in a city seeking the peace that nature provides. I know. I grew up in Los Angeles. I didn't know what a forest was. When I came here in my teens, it changed my life.

Have you been to this Forest? If you have, you know the definition of "management" is a misnomer. The concept of fire prevention is a farce. You have seen the trucks hauling tree trunks down the highway. Those trunks are devoid of all Limbs and leaves. The limbs and leaves are left scattered on the forest floor to dry into kindling. It is an accident waiting to happen. Instead I suggest we value this Forest at its true value, not as a commodity based on monetary value. And yes, it can still generate income.

It is unique in all the world. The Mendocino Coast offers everything from accessible ocean to pygmy Forest to trees that have lived here successfully since before this County was a county, before this state was a state, before this country was a country. Ancient is a model we desperately need to learn from. I suggest that this Forest can become a part of our Coastal Environmental Education destination. There is work to be done. There are lessons to be learned. There is a huge opportunity for outdoor education, restoration, and Recreation. All of this can provide the income to replace logging that is no longer viable.

Thank you for acting on behalf of your constituency, and the residents of all species in the forest, and those future generations, of all species.

Sincerely,  
Shelley Green  
(aka Coben)