

I am commenting on the Northwest Forest Plan Amendments DEIS. As a resident of Oregon I understand that forest management is a complicated issue. I have spent many hours enjoying and appreciating the Siuslaw National Forest, as well as many other National Forests. The Siuslaw National Forest is not just a moist forest, it is a cool temperate rainforest or cool temperate wet forest, varying from north to south. This means that issues including wildfire, carbon sequestration, and forest growth must be assessed in that light, which is not provided for in the DEIS.

Roughly, the Siuslaw is approximately  $\frac{1}{3}$  past managed stands,  $\frac{1}{3}$  unmanaged stands between 80-119 years and  $\frac{1}{3}$  stands older than 120 years old. 75% of maximum carbon storage in cool temperate rain- or wet- forests is reached after trees are 120 years old.  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the SNF has not even reached that level of carbon storage. Given the rapidity of climate change, which is occurring more rapidly than predicted even a few years ago, carbon storage is an extremely valuable aspect of the SNF. Additionally the SNF is fire resistant, *if 70% of canopy cover is maintained*. With climate change driving extreme weather events and increasingly severe wildfires, the SNF is uniquely positioned to provide fire resistance and resilience. Relevant tribal recommendations for forest management should be followed or at least given heavily weighted consideration.

The Siuslaw National Forest is a unique forest with great potential for storing carbon and providing wildfire resistance, but it is also a uniquely special place for humans to explore and visit. If we are to preserve a planet capable of supporting vast amounts of human life, we must protect the SNF.

By way of reference, I endorse the Coast Range Association's (CRA) comments on the DEIS. Please fully consider the CRA's comments.