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Comments: Findings reported by Charney and Cohen indicate that forest resilience is may be slowing down or declining in the western US

"Predicting long-term trends in forest growth requires accurate characterisation of how the relationship between forest productivity and climatic stress varies across climatic regimes. Using a network of over two million tree-ring observations spanning North America and a space-for-time substitution methodology, we forecast climate impacts on future forest growth. We explored differing scenarios of increased water-use efficiency (WUE) due to CO<sub>2</sub>-fertilisation, which we simulated as increased effective precipitation. In our forecasts: (1) climate change negatively impacted forest growth rates in the interior west"

Charney et al (2016)

The above is a forecast, based on model simulations. Observed (real world) evidence points in the same direction;

"Beginning in the mid-90s, forest decline-related disturbances associated with diminishing forest health (e.g., physiological stress leading to tree canopy cover loss, increases in tree mortality above background levels), especially in the Mountain West and Lowland West regions of the US, increased dramatically," and "Decline-related disturbance rates reached as high as 8% per year in the western regions during the early-2000s"

Cohen et al (2016)