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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Protecting old growth or creating old growth

I am the owner of a small forest in the Yachats River valley in the general area next to the Siuslaw National Forest at Yachats OR. We are 7 miles inland along the North Fork of the Yachats River. While I agree with the Coast Range Association (CRA) that the (NOGA-FW-MA-01b) needs to provide a map of designated old growth

We face a national emergency of climate change due to the increasing presence of green-house gases. The Siuslaw national forest is in the words of CRA a super-carbon-storehouse-forest, the goal for proactive stewardship should not be only to maintain the 35 % of the forest that is currently old growth but to create the condition where this is as much as double the current portion of old growth. Protective stewardship should set the goal of doubling the old growth designation within a defined number of years. While a difficult task, it is an appropriate goal of placing forests of the coast range in Oregon as a world leader in combating global warming.

As the owner of a small forest since 1992 I have been observing the rewards of planting mixed conifers in the part of our land along the North Fork of the Yachats River. With the aid of conservation groups in our area, we have obtained and planted Red woods, spruce, hemlock,

douglas fir and Cedar along the river trails. Because our forest had been logged in the late 1970s it had mostly alder. Even though it has been only 25 years since our first planting the results in causing a retreat of the salmon berry and the invasive blackberry has produced a more beautiful and sustainable environment. We currently sequester about the carbon produced by 540 average american families, In 100 years we might qualify as old growth depending on how that is defined.

I believe that a sustained effort to achieve doubling of the old growth with the forests of the coast range would allow the forest serve to achieve recognition as a leader in world sustainability. Photos of the year-by-year growth and the increased carbon sequestration would increase public support for your efforts. Although the doubling of the old growth in these forest may be a long term project the documented changes could bring increased recognition to your agency

ATTACHMENT: Comments of forest plan revised.docx - this is the same content that is coded in text box; it was also included as an attachment