

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/20/2024 4:00:00 AM

First name: David

Last name: Alba

Organization:

Title:

Comments: We must protect and increase the carbon rich old growth forests because they sequester climate warming carbon from the air. Please include special guidance in the final document for super-carbon-storehouse-forests like the Siuslaw.

My wife and I live in the Oregon coast range and we value the integrity of the forest. We recently visited a section of the Siuslaw National Forest and once again witnessed the power and intactness of mature forests. Here is a sample of what we saw:

On Forest Road 3412, off of the Alsea Highway, we measured Douglas Fir trees from 32' in diameter (44.35405 degrees North, 123.80827 degrees West), 36' 6" in diameter (44.35405 degrees North, 123.80723 degrees West) and 34' 4" in diameter (44.35415 degrees North, 123.80702 degrees West). We also saw a great diversity of species, including cedar, maple and alder trees; salmonberry, thimbleberry, blackberry, elderberry, vine maple, cascara, salal, ferns, moss and lichen. We observed signs of bear (scat) and rabbit (live).

Intact old growth in the Siuslaw is vitally important as a natural solution to climate change and is naturally fire resistant. I am very concerned that a stakeholder process that includes the timber industry will abuse the proposed management theory of "proactive stewardship." Please do all you can to protect these forests!

ATTACHMENT: IMG_1804.jpeg - Person in the forest, measuring large tree's diameter

ATTACHMENT: IMG_1803.jpeg - Person in the forest, measuring large tree's diameter

ATTACHMENT: IMG_1802.jpeg - Person in the forest, measuring large tree's diameter