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Comments: There are numerous studies that show that young healthy fast growing trees store carbon dioxide at a much faster rate than older slow growing trees. [https://www.ncasi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/NCASI22\\_Forest\\_Carbon\\_YoungVsOld\\_print.pdf#:~:text=Old%20forests%20storemore%20carbon%20but%20sequester%20it%20much,is%20harvested%20from%20these%20forests%20to%20produce%20products](https://www.ncasi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/NCASI22_Forest_Carbon_YoungVsOld_print.pdf#:~:text=Old%20forests%20storemore%20carbon%20but%20sequester%20it%20much,is%20harvested%20from%20these%20forests%20to%20produce%20products). Also, older trees are releasing more CO<sub>2</sub> as they start to decay, as compared to younger healthy trees. Yes, there are some wildlife species that survive better in older mature stands, but at the same time there are many other species that do better in young open timber stands. Yes, there are a few places where we should allow timber stands to grow old and mature. But for the most part we should be managing our federal, state, and private timberlands to be the healthiest, most productive, environmentally friendly to all wildlife and plant species and at the same time consider the CO<sub>2</sub> situation. We should not be locking up our forests, merely because they are mature or old growth. On top of this we also must consider the risk of wildfire as this has a major impact upon CO<sub>2</sub> releases and the survival of our timberlands. A healthy well managed forest is what we should be managing for, not old growth forests.