Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2023 2:26:06 AM First name: Colleen Last name: Ryan Organization: Title:

Comments: As a forest ecologist, I understand that active forest management can be an important tool for creating wildlife habitat and increasing forest health and climate resilience by diversifying forest structure and composition. This project has the potential to do both.

I agree with other commenters who stress the need for management that considers climate change in the current climate emergency, but I believe that climate-smart forest management needs to consider not just carbon in the forest, but also the ability of the forest ecosystem to adapt to future conditions. The goals of this plan (increasing structural and compositional diversity) are in line with current recommendations for climate-smart management. However, it is crucial that the harvests use low-impact logging with the most appropriate equipment for the conditions to minimize impacts on the residual stand and soil disturbance, which will help to maintain water quality and soil carbon.