

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/20/2024 12:40:35 AM

First name: Taffy

Last name: Williams

Organization: NY4Whales

Title: President

Comments: \* Protect for mature and old-growth forests. Although the Northwest Forest Plan protects some older forests, it does not protect all older forests. Given the increased pace of wildfires and other disturbances it's imperative we protect all older forests, especially those on the cusp of becoming old-growth.

\* Carbon Mitigation and Carbon Reserves: Carbon mitigation should be a primary objective of at least some areas on each national forest. I'd like the agency to consider creating carbon reserves that are primarily managed for carbon mitigation and storage.

\* Treat westside forest fire mitigation differently than eastside forest fire mitigation. Moisture-rich Westside forests within the cascades are very different from drier eastside forests. Thinning for fire risk mitigation is not effective for meaningfully reducing fire risk in wetter westside forests and the Northwest Forest Plan should reflect the nuances of each forest type when crafting plans to increase forest resilience.

\* Update the Northwest Forest Plan with a climate change focus. An amendment to the Northwest Forest Plan focused on climate resilience would be a good way to incorporate policy changes needed to ensure our forests in the northwest are resilient to climate change.

\* Support for tribal inclusion & co-stewardship. I support a greater focus on incorporating tribal knowledge and creating co-stewardship opportunities in the updated Northwest Forest Plan.