

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/25/2024 12:21:39 AM

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Comments: Our remaining old growth and our mature forests are a precious and irreplaceable resource which must be preserved to the greatest extent possible.

Our mature forests, thanks to conservation efforts since the plan was created, are now a carbon sink which makes them a vital climate solution. Not all our mature trees were protected under the original plan, so the amendment must assure that they will be protected going forward.

In addition to their carbon sequestering property our mature trees provide wildlife habitat for many threatened species, and contribute to the health of our waterways. They hold tremendous value for recreation and the quality of life in the PNW, and thus are a revenue generating source now and in the future.

The Siuslaw, Deschutes and Willamette National Forests are close to home for me and a big reason I live where I do. These west side forests do NOT require thinning for fire management as east side forests do, so the Plan must not apply the same prescription to them.

Please insure that the amendment is not rushed through, but is reviewed carefully addressing modern science, tribal concerns, and the needs of future generations. We cannot afford to lose one more mature tree to the short term gain of another board foot.