

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/2/2024 4:12:20 PM

First name: Chris

Last name: Bolgiano

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Multiple scientific researchers have documented the CONTINUING carbon sequestration ability of older trees, especially hardwoods, and the massive amounts of C sequestered in forest soil, especially around old trees. Biodiversity has suffered extensively from the loss of older trees. The national forests of the east are just now recuperating from deforestation in the period historians usually give as 1880-1930, as the still mostly virgin higher slopes and ridges became accessible due to railroad access. Legacy Sediment is the ongoing consequence, which some researchers will continue for centuries, and the enormous number of trees that fall over in even moderate winds belie the thin, eroded soils. I've seen so many poorly done logging jobs (BMPs? Haha) in the Geo. Wash. NF, largest in the east. Prescribed burning in eastern forests could be called a scam, as natural fire occurs only from lightening, and is usually drenched by thunderstorms, leading to small burns instead of the thousands of acres prescribed - even in several drought, as was attempted recently in VA until stopped by a human-caused wildfire that pulled all firefighters away from any prescribed fire plans. Logging and prescribed fire in all national forests should be severely curtailed, especially in mature and old stands.