Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/27/2024 9:06:50 PM First name: Edward Last name: DeCarlo Organization:

Title:

Comments: National Forests are crucial for sequestering carbon from the atmosphere. Old forests are unable to capture carbon at the same rate as younger forests. National Forest should be managed for sustainable yields. Old growth is important but so is keeping forests healthy. We we need to manage our forest for protecting risk from loss. Protecting our watershed is more important for water, quality and wildlife values. Risk of loss from fire is unacceptable. A managed forest can produce protection around old growth stands and yields that strengthen our economy, capture carbon and protect our watersheds. Forest management practices can include longer rotations and uneven age management in old growth settings to allow for hazardous feels reduction. It's not all black and white. Burned forests are natural occurrences and burned forests can also produce quality forest products and quality habitat and safe drinking water. Efforts that include discussion of preservation of all grow habitat miss the mark. Hands off is not an option.