Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/20/2024 4:00:00 AM First name: William Last name: Byrd Organization: Title:

Comments: I regularly take my children into the Siuslaw forest to inspire them and show them what an old-growth forest in balance can provide for humanity. As well they are able to forage for wild foods that old growth forests hold and appreciate the birds and animals that call it their home.

The old growth areas naturally protect against out of control forest fires with the high canopy and resiliant adequately spaced trees. The natural water management and carbon sequestration of old growth forests is well known. Cutting any of these trees would be destroying one of the last truely effecient carbon sinks that still exist in the world today.