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Comments: Back In 2014, a massive international study in Nature led by researchers with the U.S. Geological Survey showed not only that older trees store more carbon than younger ones, but that their ability to absorb carbon grows continually as they age. The research, based on direct measurements of more than 160,000 trees from 400 species covering every forested continent, shattered the notion that young trees can replace the capacity of old trees to remove carbon from the atmosphere in anything close to the amount of time that humanity has to address the Climate Crisis. In fact, because of soil disturbance after a so-called timber harvest, studies have shown that new young forests release more carbon than they absorb for 10 to 20 years after planting.

As you know, we are in the midst of a Climate Crisis. The vast majority of scientific study indicates we must do all we can to increase natural solutions such as increasing emissions capture and carbon storage. Clear cutting vast swaths of our Public Lands does the opposite. We must do all we can to leave a livable world to future generations.