

From: Jene L. McCovey <jlm159@humboldt.edu>
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:04 PM
To: CALFIRE Forest Climate Advisory Team
Subject: FOREST CARBON PLAN

Clearcutting logging is not a best management practice. Clearcut timber harvest plans should be at least considered as a point source of pollution under the Clean Water Act. The land is denuded, the soils are made dirt and fallow--fails to retain water, carbon, and nutrients. The ecosystems are destroyed. Selective logging helps negate the need for thinning and the use of herbicides that suppresses fire in thick stands young trees of planted clearcuts. Large trees are more fire resistant than small trees.

Large old trees sequester more carbon faster than smaller trees. The California commercial foresters and private land owners practice 30 to 40 year logging rotation. The plan acknowledges that a “300-plus-year-old sugar pine contains more carbon than one hundred 30-year old white firs.” This plan has an ability to educate citizens about the important tree’s biological cycle of sequestration of CO2 out of the atmosphere and that of expiring oxygen into the air we breathe.

No more clearcutting is a potential mitigation measure to offset climate change. The plan sets no targets or incentives to encourage forest managers to allow trees to grow longer before harvesting them.

from

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