

## *Attributes of Healthy California Forests*

- **Resilient**- Forests that naturally regenerate after disturbance and adapt to changes in climate and precipitation regimes. Forest resiliency is characterized by:
  - **Dynamic growth and complexity** – Forest tree species, sizes and age classes are within the historic range of natural variability.
  - **Diverse structure** – Forest stand structure is variable and may include open areas that reduce susceptibility to wildfire and environmental stressors (e.g. drought, over-crowding, air pollutants, insects, and disease).
  - **Healthy soils** – The productive capacity of the soil to support forest vegetation and soil carbon is maintained long-term.
  - **Endemic levels of insect and disease** – Levels exist that are associated with natural mortality.
  - **Carbon storage** - Serves as a net carbon sink over time.
  - **Water** – High water quality and sustainable water supply exist.
- **Biodiverse** – All forests are able to sustain a wide range of habitat for wildlife and fish species.
- **Economically and Ecologically Sustainable** –Healthy forests are able to support ecosystem functions and processes while meeting current and future needs of people for aesthetics, recreation, health, products, and other ecosystem services.