

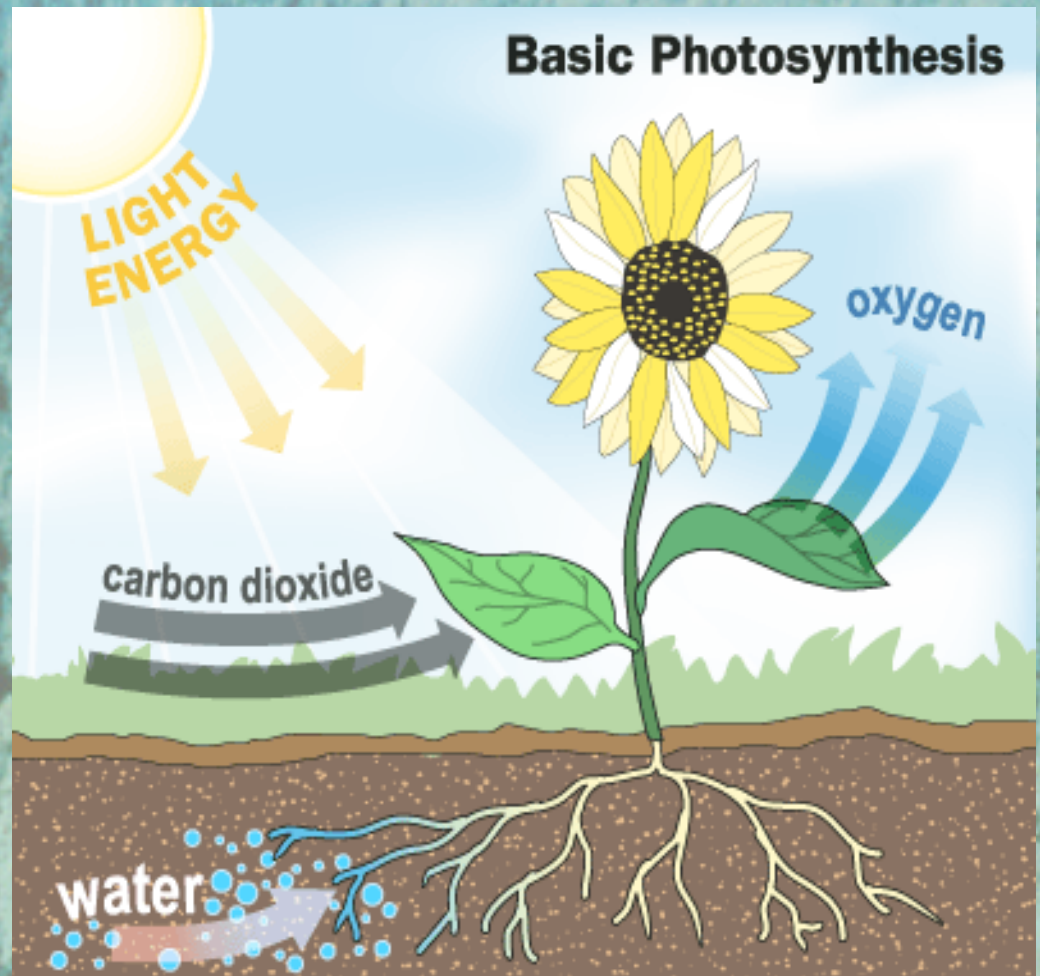
SINK OR SOURCE: HOW TO OPTIMIZE FORESTS FOR CARBON

DOMINICK A. DELLASALA, Ph.D.

CHIEF SCIENTIST

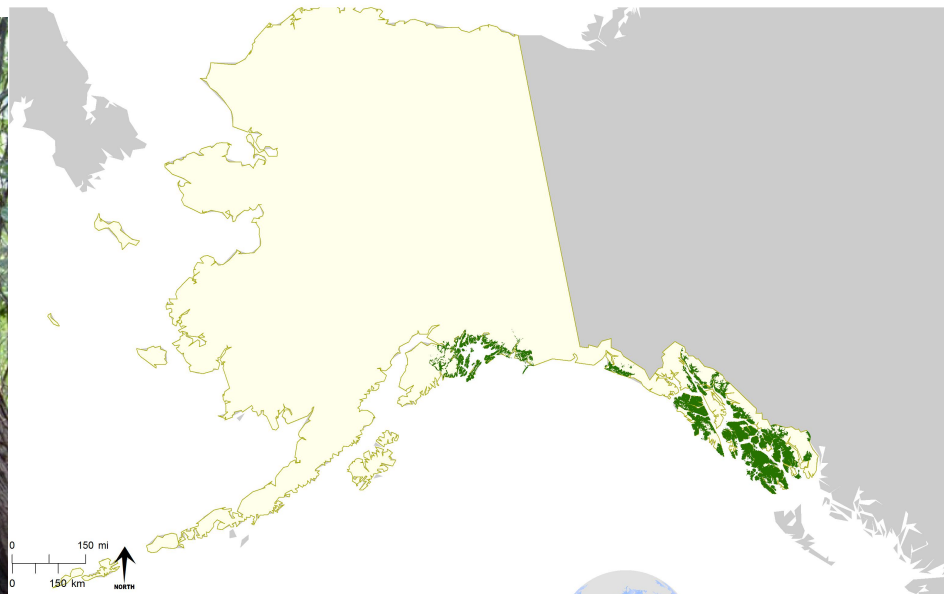
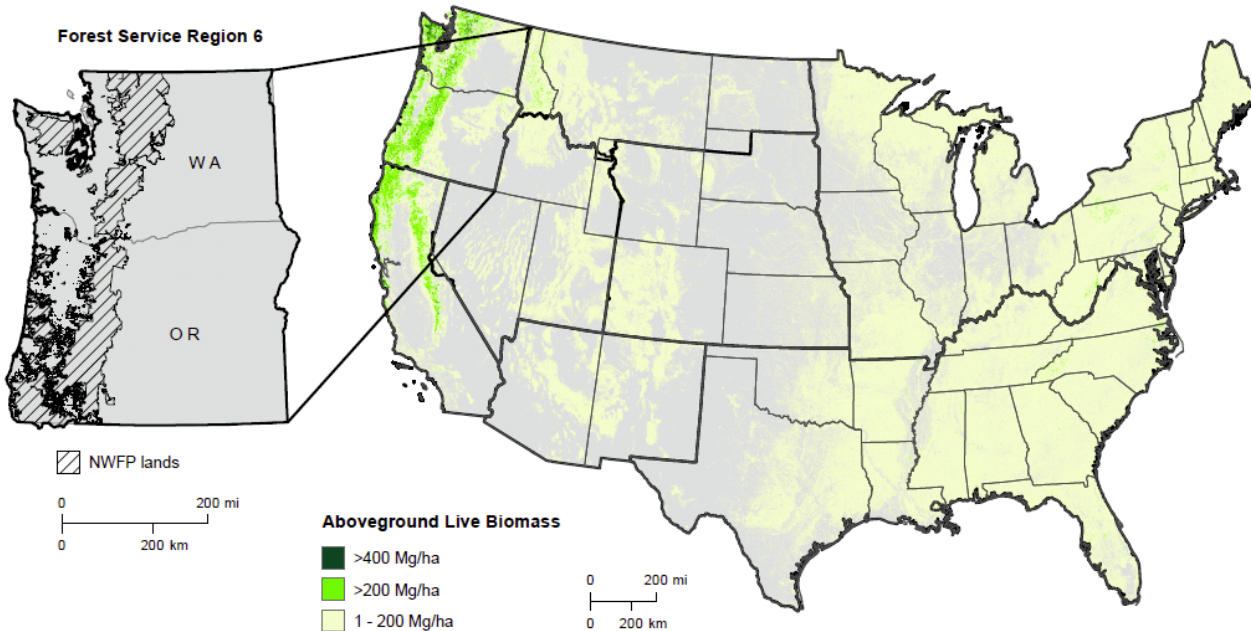
(dominick@geosinstitute.org)

FOREST AS A CARBON SINK



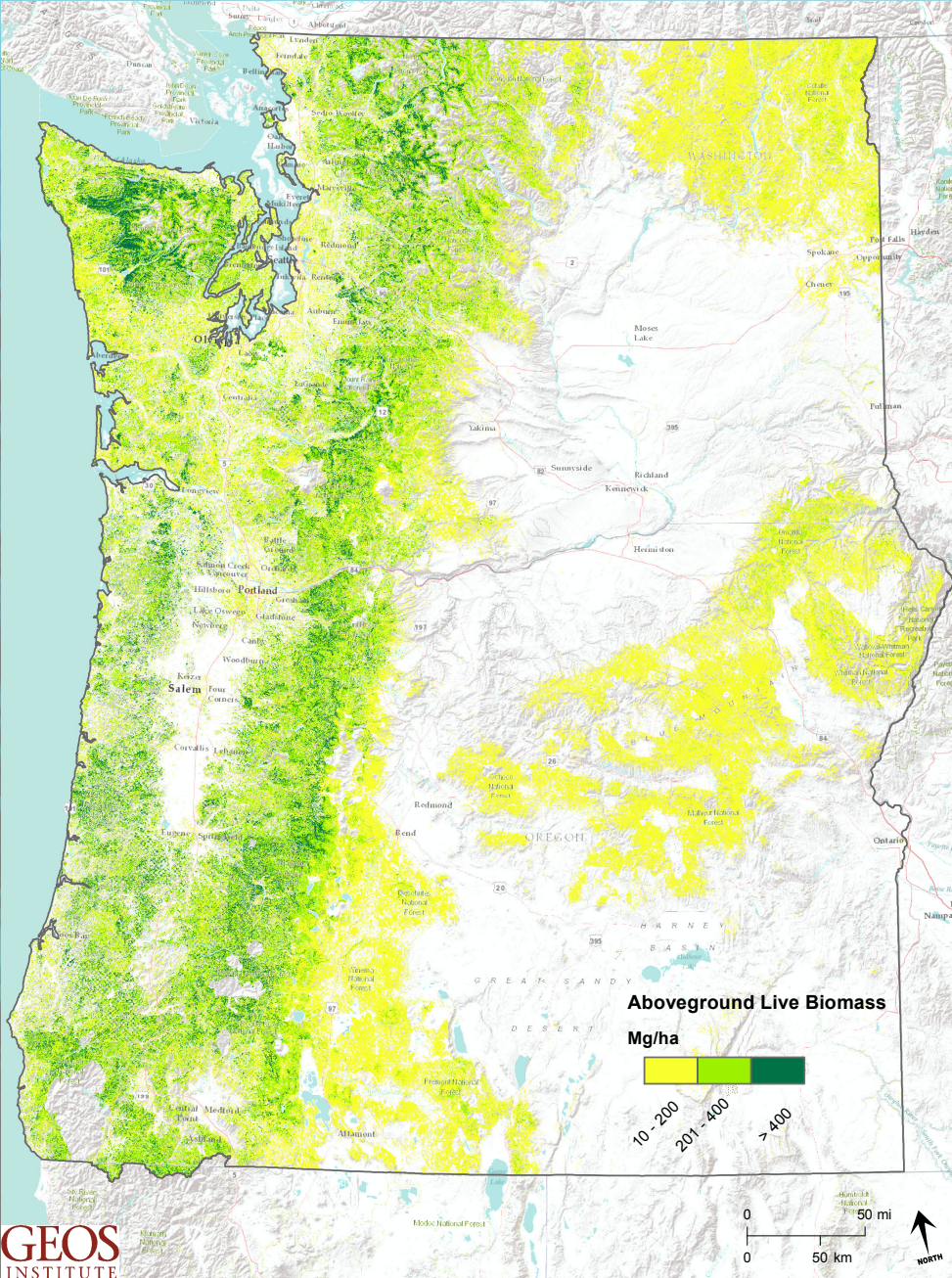
CARBON DENSE FORESTS OF THE US

Forest Service Region 6



FORESTS AS SINKS

- OR/WA high-biomass forests (USFS/BLM) 18 million ac = ~34 billion MMT CO₂ (e)
- OR (2010) plus WA (2008) GHGs = 120 million MMT CO₂ (e)
- Managing forests as sinks = 280 x State emissions
- Northwest Forest Plan = sink



FORESTS AS GHG SOURCES (2000-2008 C losses)

- **Public lands – 8% fire vs. 4% logging**
- **Private lands - 1% fire vs. 11% logging**
- **Thinning releases more stored C than fires**
- **Logging releases most of the stored C on high biomass sites**
- **Most carbon dense forests not protected and C in US forests underappreciated globally**

