

1 **Supporting Information for**

2 **Maximizing carbon sequestration potential in Chinese forests through optimal**
3 **management**

4
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32 **This PDF file includes:**

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34 Supporting text

35 Figures S1 to S18

36 Tables S1 to S9

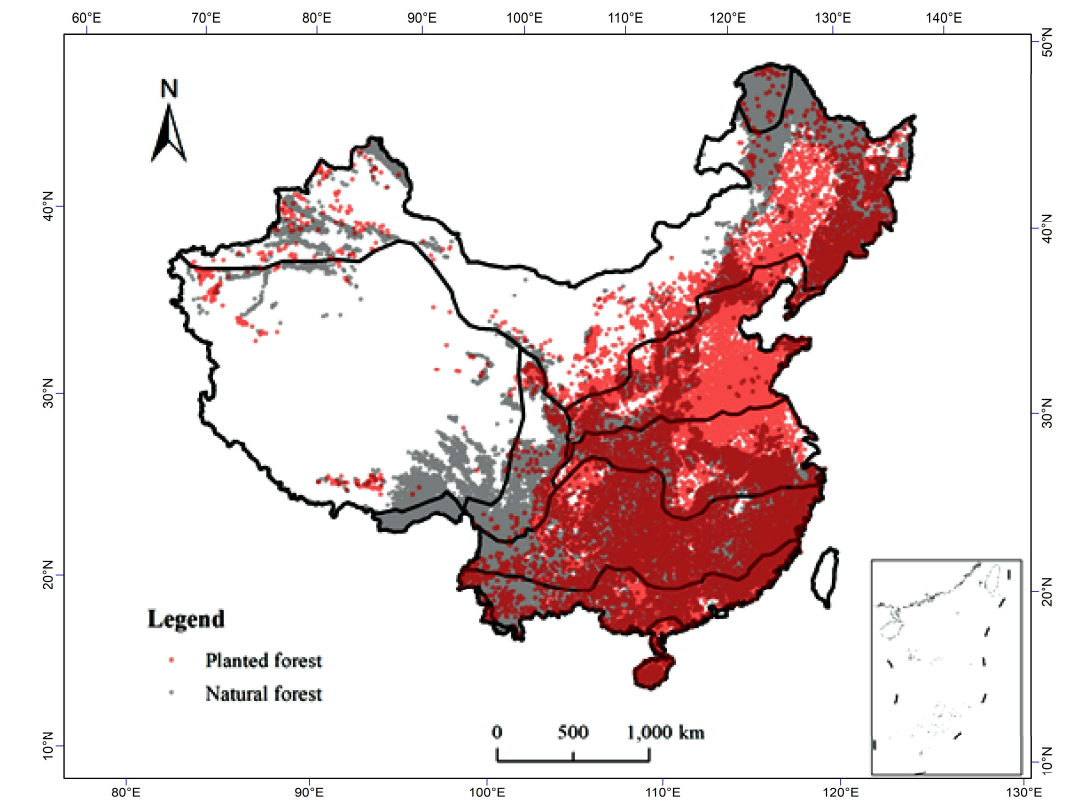
37 SI References

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39 **Supporting Information Text**

40 **Spatial distribution of the forest plots surveyed during national forest inventory**

41 About 415, 000 permanent plots were set up in China for routine survey each five years. Among
42 these plots, nearly 30,000 to 50,000 surveyed plots were covered with trees during the period of
43 the 6th (1999-2003) to 9th NFI (2014-2018) (Figure S1). For each forest plot, trees with diameter
44 at breast height (DBH) \geq 5cm were labeled, measured, and recorded. In total of 18,116,071 tree
45 were recorded, and the tree volume was calculated by referring to the one-variable tree volume
46 tables for each species specifically developed in each province (Ministry of Agriculture and
47 Forestry of China, 1978). The stand volumes were summarized to plot level from all recorded
48 trees.



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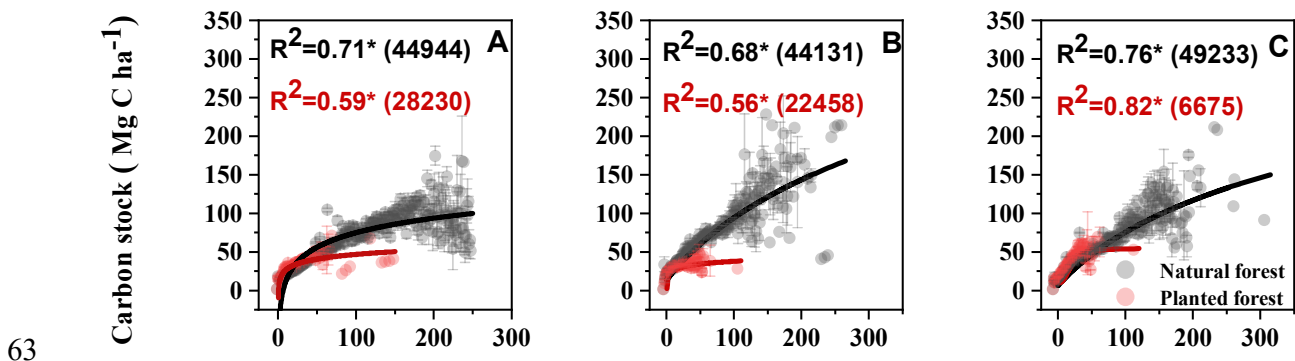
50 **Fig. S1. Locations of the national forest inventory plots in China. Red and gray dots indicate**
51 **plots of planted and natural forests.**

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53

54 **Forest carbon stock and age**

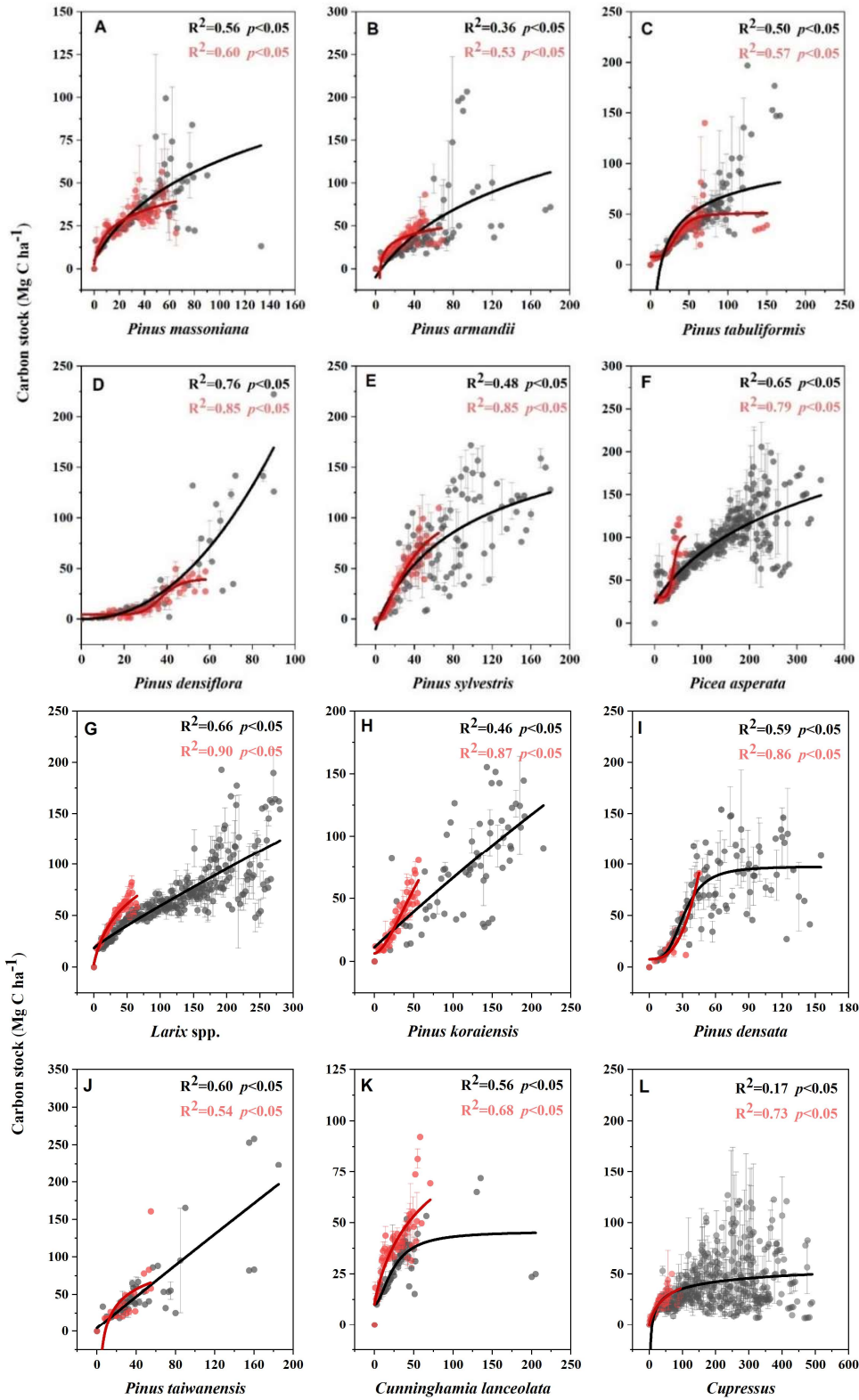
55 We converted the tree volume data into biomass carbon stock using the continuous biomass
56 expansion factor method (Table S1) and the species-specific carbon conversion parameters
57 (Tables S2). We examined the biomass carbon stock changes with stand age in natural and
58 planted forests (Figure S2). As expected, forest carbon stocks increase with stand age but
59 saturate as they proceed to mature (Figures S2A-C). The relationships of forest biomass carbon
60 and age were used to estimate the species-specific carbon stock in 2018, which serve as the
61 reference for calibration and validation of the simulations using process-based model (DLEM).
62 Besides, the age and biomass carbon for each major tree species were showed in Figure S3.



64 **Fig. S2. Relationships between forest biomass carbon accumulations and ages.** Panels A-C:
65 relationships of forest stock volume and stand age; error bars indicate 1 standard error from the
66 mean; * indicate significant at $p < 0.05$ level.

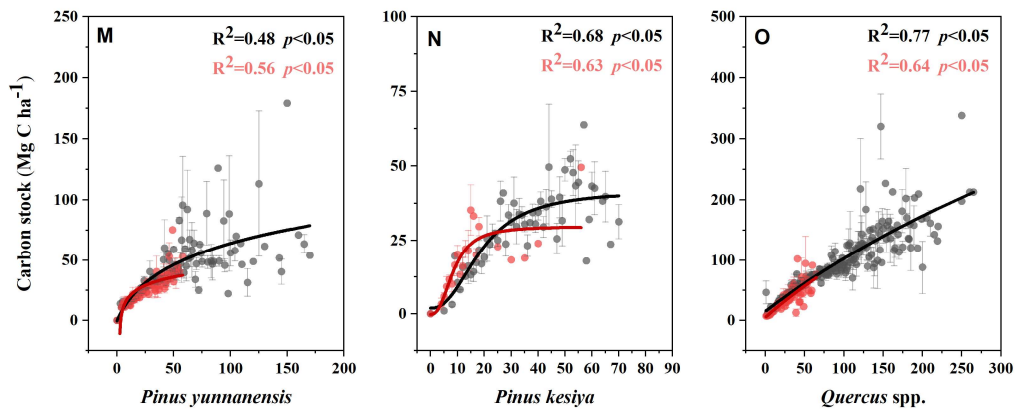
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68 The age and biomass carbon relationship of different tree species in needle-leaf forests



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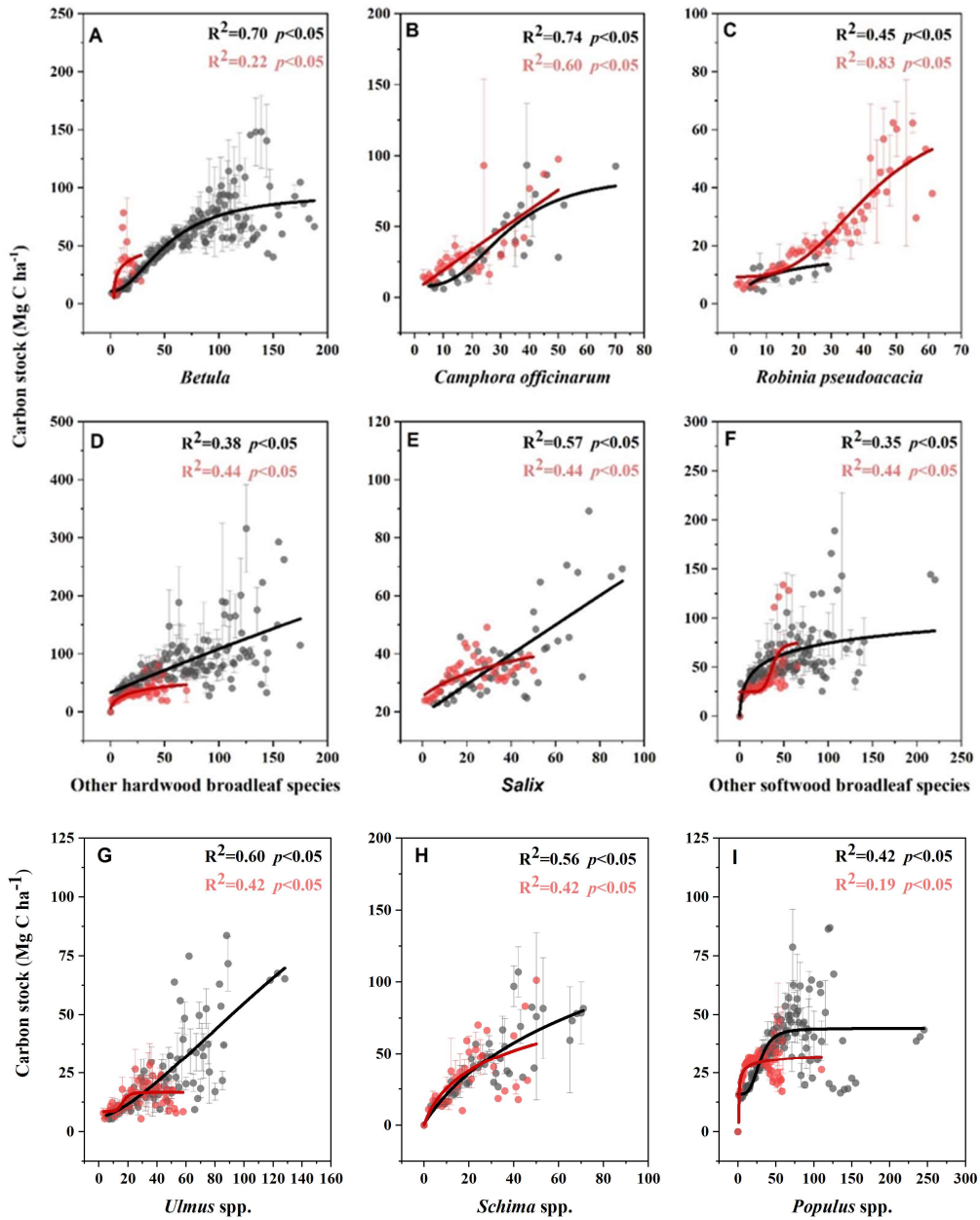
71

72 **Fig. S3. The age and biomass carbon relationship of different needle-leaf tree species**
 73 **derived from the 6th to 9th national forest inventory data.** Panels A-O indicate *Pinus*
 74 *massoniana*, *Pinus armandii*, *Pinus tabuliformis*, *Pinus densiflora*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Picea*
 75 *asperata*, *Larix* spp., *Pinus koraiensis*, *Pinus densata*, *Pinus taiwanensis*, *Cunninghamia*
 76 *lanceolata*, *Cupressis*, *Pinus yunnanensis*, *Pinus kesiya*, and *Quercus* spp., respectively. Error
 77 bars indicate the standard error of means.

78

79 The age and biomass carbon relationship of different tree species in broadleaf forests

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81

82

83 Fig. S4. The age and biomass carbon relationship of different broadleaf tree species derived

84 from the 6th to 9th national forest inventory data. Panels A-I indicate *Betula*, *Camphora*

85 *officinarum*, *Robinia Pseudoacacia*, Other hardwood broadleaf species, *Salix*, Other softwood

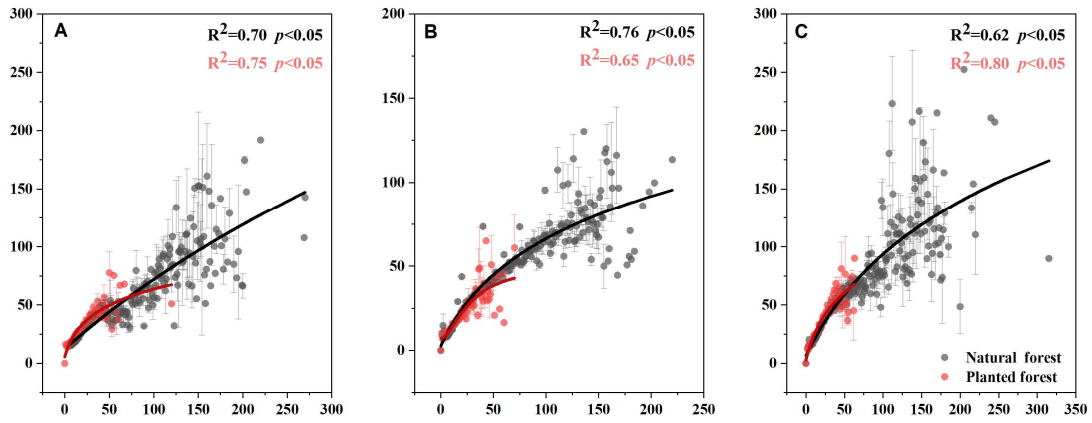
86 broadleaf species, *Ulmus spp.*, *Schima spp.*, and *Populus spp.*, respectively. Error bars indicate

87 the standard error of means.

88

89 **The age and biomass carbon relationship in mixed forests**

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91

92 **Fig. S5. The age and biomass carbon relationship of different mixed forests derived from**

93 **the 6th to 9th national forest inventory data.** Panel A-C indicate need-leaf mixed forests,

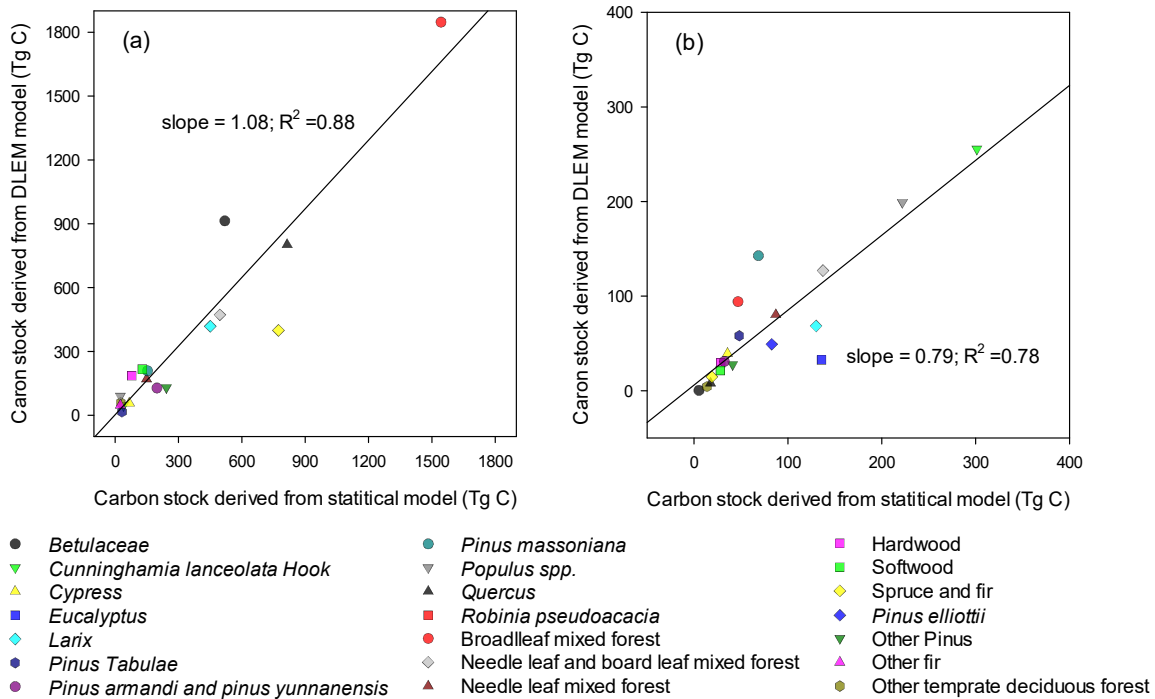
94 broadleaf mixed forests, and need-leaf and broadleaf mixed forest, respectively. Error bars

95 indicate the standard error of means.

96

97 **Forest carbon stock and sink calibration and validation at species level**

98 We compared the forest carbon stock derived from inventory data and process-based
 99 biogeochemical model (DLEM) for each species of natural forest and planted forest (Figure S6).
 100 We further compared the forest carbon sink in 2020 derived from inventory data and process-
 101 based biogeochemical model for each tree species (Figure S14). Specifically, the sink of the no
 102 harvesting scenario from the process-based model was compared with the results derived from
 103 the statistical model. We also compared the temporal changes in forest biomass carbon sink
 104 derived from statistical model and the process-based biogeochemical model under no harvesting
 105 scenario (Figure S7).

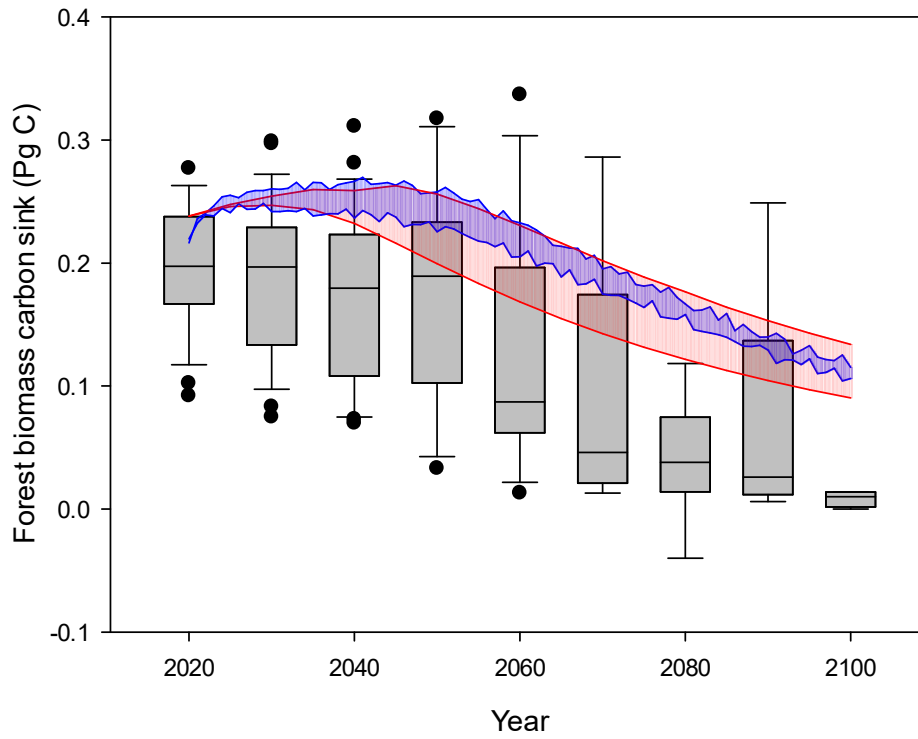


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107 **Fig. S6. Comparison of carbon stock derived from statistical model and process-based**
 108 **model at species level in 2018. Panel a: natural forest; Panel b: planted forest.**

109

110 **Comparison of carbon sink derived from statistical and process-based model with**
111 **exclusion of wood harvest**

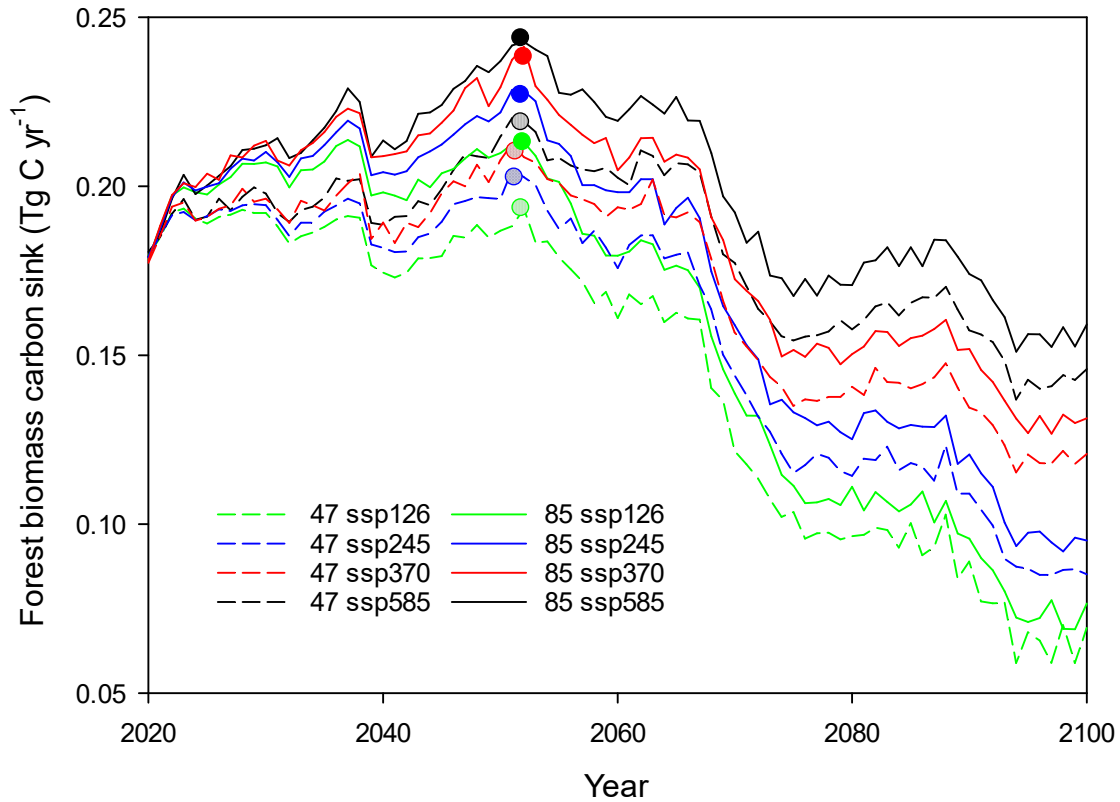


112
113 **Fig. S7. Comparison of carbon sinks derived from projections with exclusion of wood**
114 **harvest.** Red shaded area indicates the carbon sink derived from statistical model; blue shaded
115 area indicates the carbon sink derived from process-based model (DLEM) with exclusion of
116 wood harvest, climate change, and rising CO₂; boxes indicate the carbon sinks reported in other
117 studies. Results of DLEM simulations were derived from group 3 experiments.

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120 **Peak year of the forest biomass carbon sink under different SSPs**

121



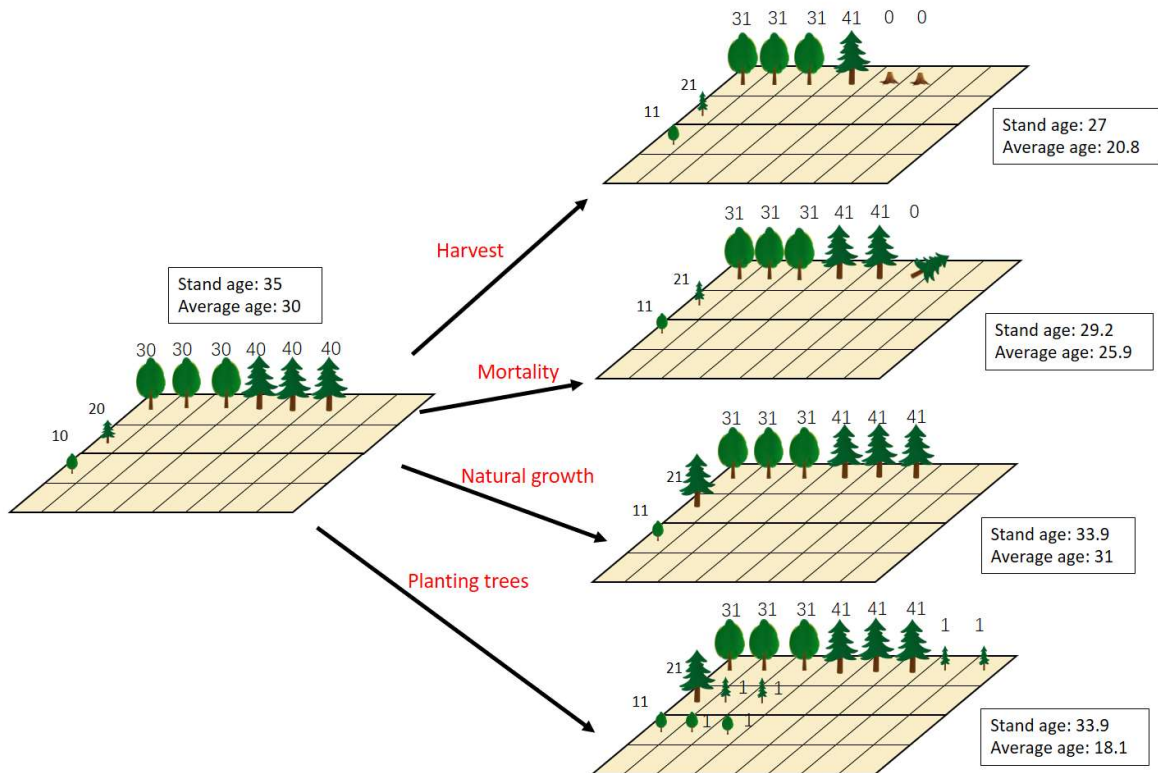
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123 **Fig. S8. The modeled biomass carbon sink and the year of sink peak under different**
124 **scenarios.** Dash line and solid line indicate the carbon sink under the scenarios of current tree
125 survival rate (47%) and elevated tree survival rate (85%); ssp126, ssp245, ssp370, and ssp585
126 indicate simulation of climate and CO₂ under the scenarios of SSP1-2.6, SSP2-4.5, SSP3-7.0,
127 and SSP5-8.5; Dotted circle and closed circle indicate the biomass carbon sink peak under the
128 scenarios of current tree survival rate (47%) and elevated tree survival rate (85%), respectively.
129 Results were derived from group 1 experiments.

130

131 **Diagram showing forest age change and age impacts on carbon accumulation**

132 Stand age is the average age of trees at canopy level, but average age was derived from all trees
 133 in the plot (Figure S9). Generally, stand age was more widely used in statistical model, while
 134 process-based models rely on average age. However, process-based model using average age
 135 may cause bias in representing the growth rate (Figure 4). For example, Cohort1 and Cohort2 in
 136 Figure 4 indicate a young age plot and an aged plot, in which the carbon accumulation rate F_{ave}
 137 (instantaneous growth rate, the first-order derivative of the growth curve) at the average age is
 138 high, but in reality, the average growth rate (average of F_1 and F_2) is very low. Thus, age
 139 dynamics should be particularly tracked in modeling of tree growth.

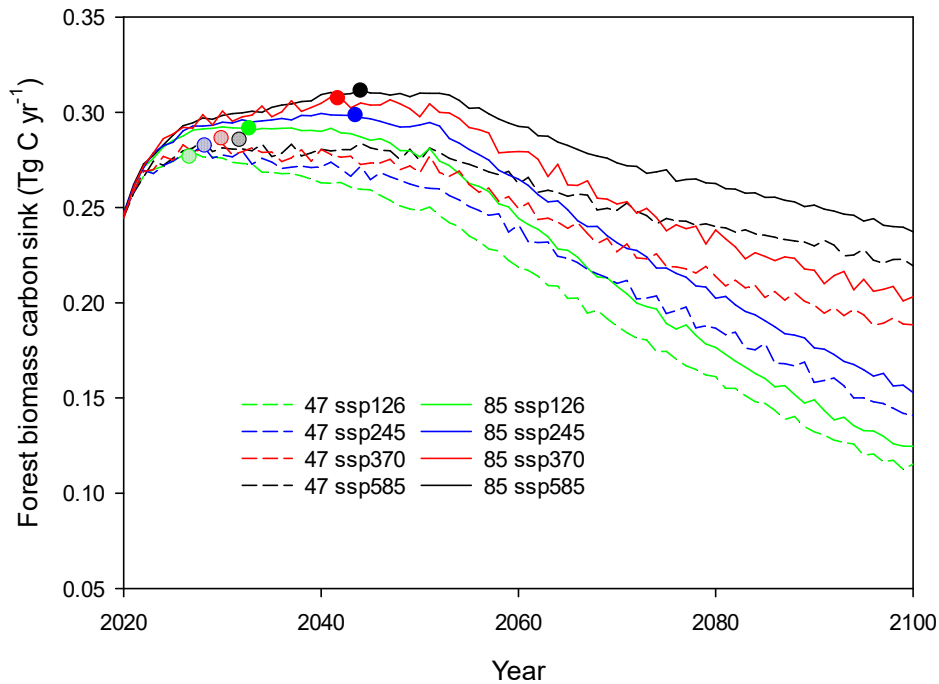


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141 **Fig. S9. The dynamic of the stand age and average age in a plot due to wood harvest,**
 142 **mortality, natural growth, and tree-planting.** Stand age: average age of the trees in the
 143 overstory level; average age: averaged age of all trees in the plot. The numbers above trees
 144 indicate the tree ages in the plot.

145

146 **Peak year of the forest biomass carbon sink under different SSPs assuming no harvest and**
147 **annual age accrual at 1 year per year**



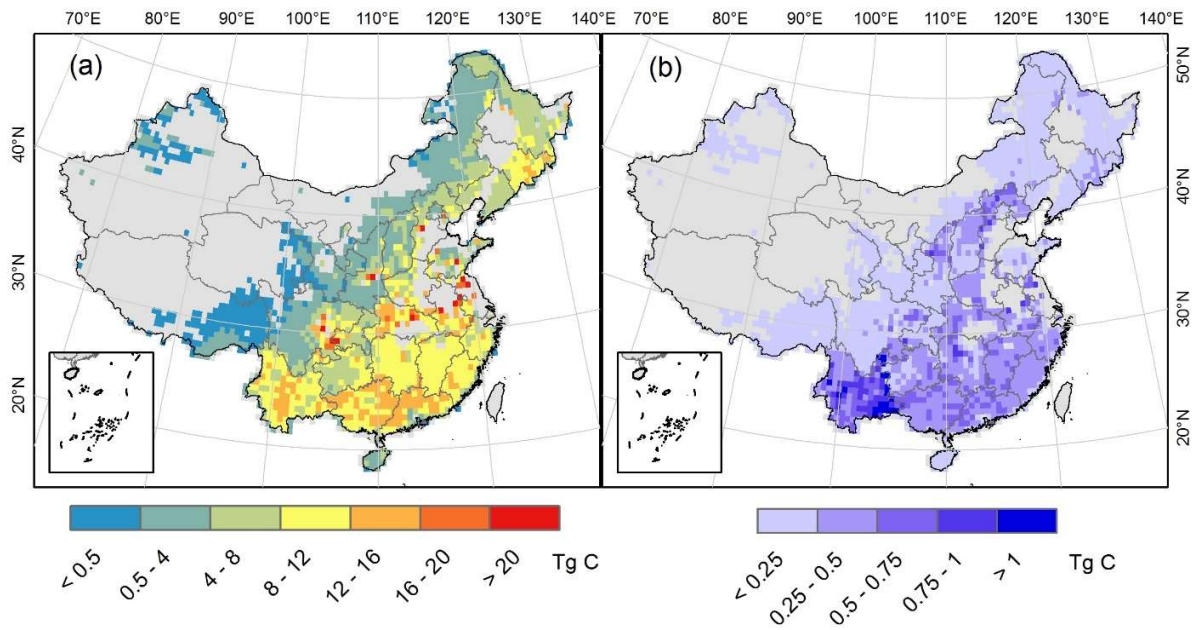
148

149 **Fig. S10. The modeled biomass carbon sink and the year of sink peak under scenarios**
150 **assuming no harvest and annual forest age accrual at 1 year per year.** Dash line and solid
151 line indicate the carbon sink under the scenarios of current tree survival rate (47%) and elevated
152 tree survival rate (85%); ssp126, ssp245, ssp370, and ssp585 indicate simulation of climate and
153 CO₂ under the scenarios of SSP1-2.6, SSP2-4.5, SSP3-7.0, and SSP5-8.5; Dotted circle and
154 closed circle indicate the biomass carbon sink peak under the scenarios of current tree survival
155 rate (47%) and elevated tree survival rate (85%), respectively. Results were derived from group 3
156 experiments.

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159 **Model simulated biomass carbon removed by wood harvest**
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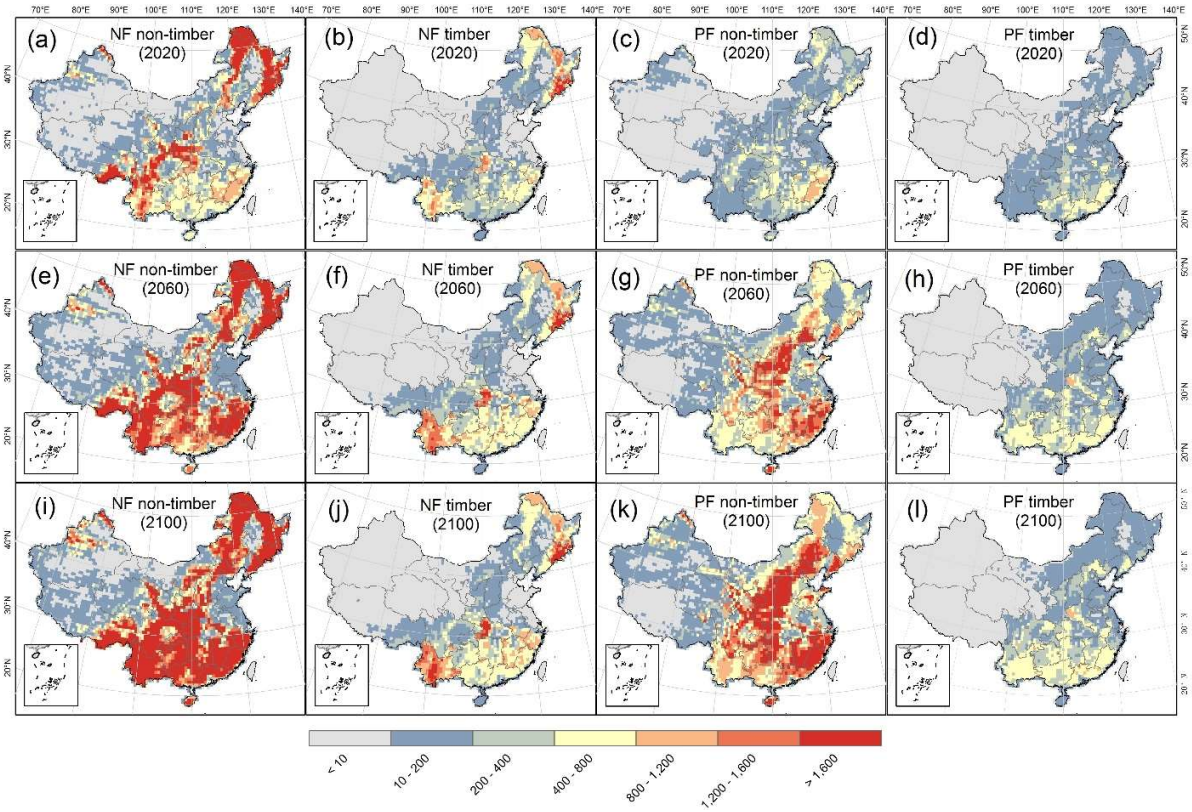
162 **Fig. S11. The modeled biomass carbon removed by wood harvest in China during the**
163 **period 2020-2100. Panel a: average of wood harvest; panel b: standard deviation of the harvest**
164 **wood; Unit: Tg C per grid cell. Results were derived from group 1 experiments.**

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167 **Model simulated forest biomass carbon stock in 2020, 2060, and 2100**

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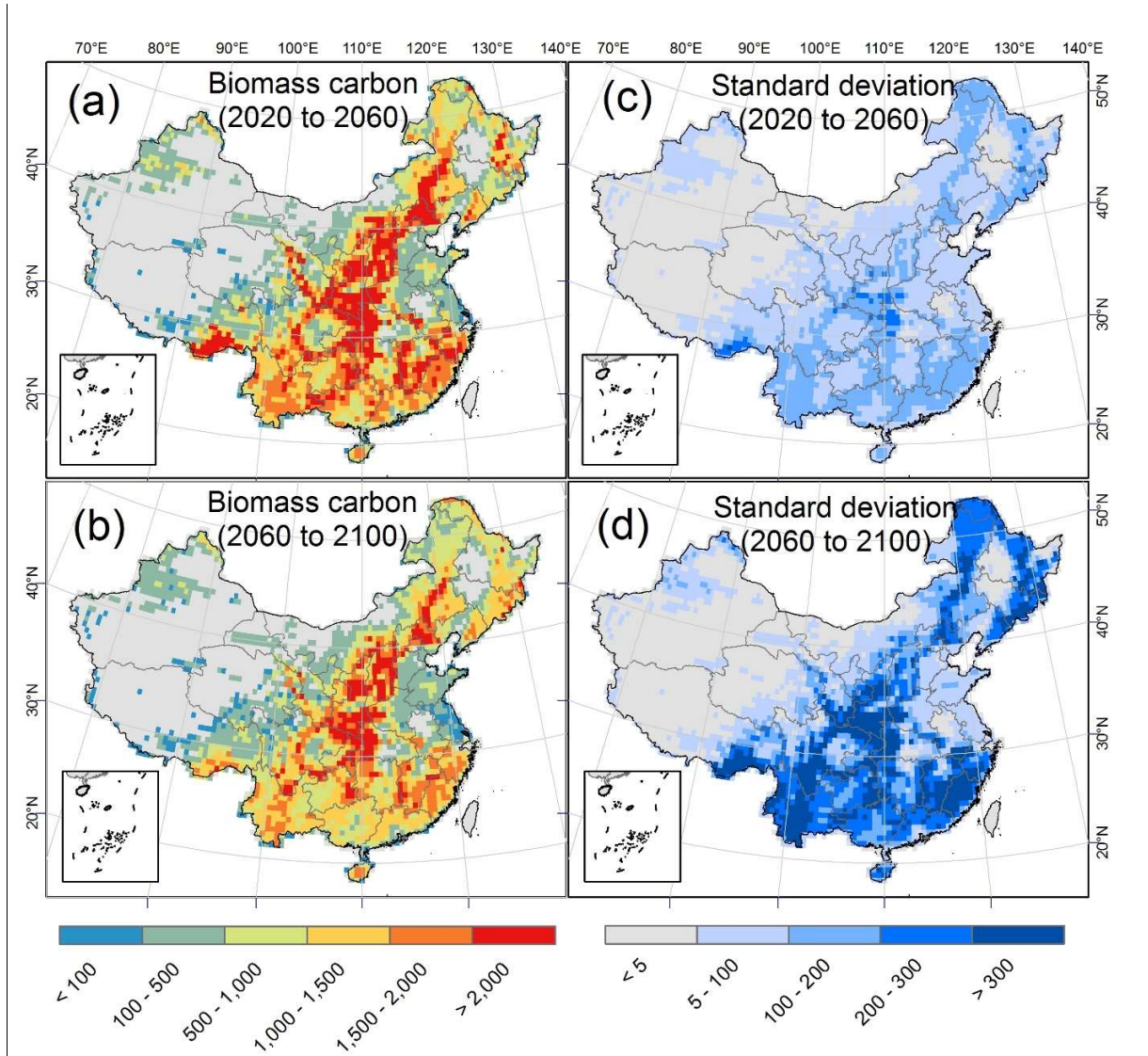
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170 **Fig. S12. The projected biomass carbon stock in China's forests.** NF non-timber, NF timber,
171 PF non-timber, and PF timber indicate non-timber natural forest, timber natural forest, non-
172 timber planted forest, and timber planted forest; panels a-d, e-h, and i-l indicate the spatial
173 distribution in 2020, 2060, and 2100, respectively; unit: g C m^{-2} . Results were derived from
174 group 1 experiments.

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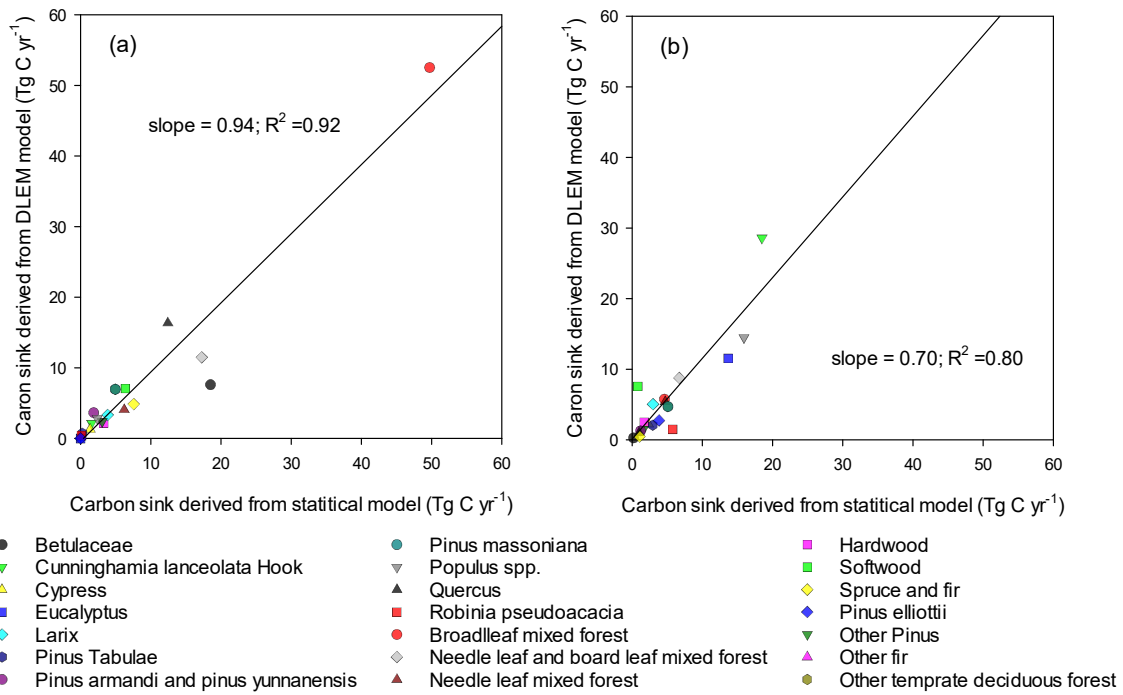
177 **Spatial distribution of the changes in model simulated forest biomass carbon stock during**
178 **the periods of 2020-2060 and 2060-2100**
179



180
181 **Fig. S13. The modeled biomass carbon stock changes in China.** Panels a-b, and c-d indicate
182 the biomass carbon stock change and the standard deviation from 2020 to 2060 and from 2060 to
183 2100, respectively; unit: g C m^{-2} . Results were derived from group 1 experiments.

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186 **Species-specific carbon sink derived from statistical model and process-based model**

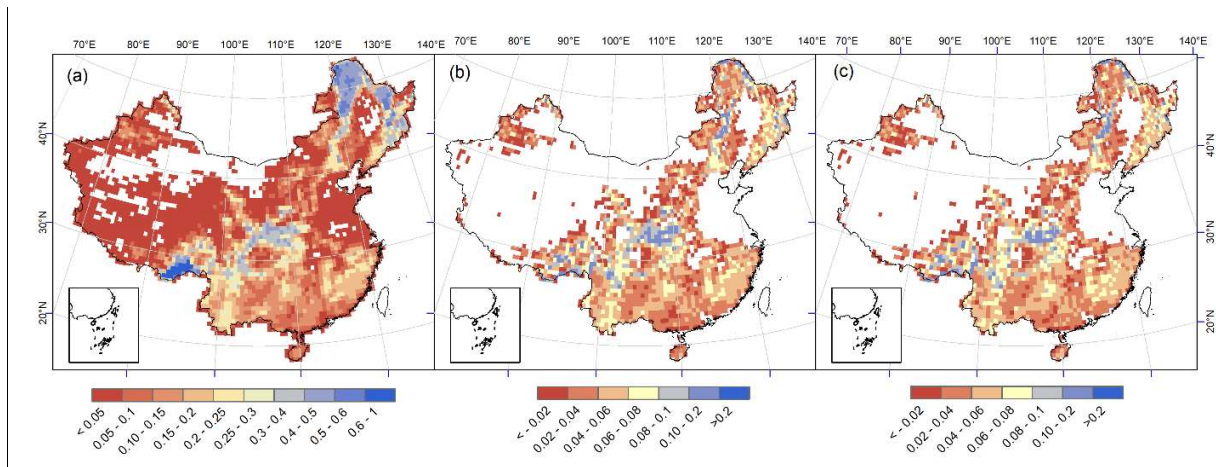


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188 **Fig. S14. Comparison of carbon sink derived from statistical model and process-based**
 189 **model at species level in 2020. Panel a: natural forest; Panel b: planted forest.**

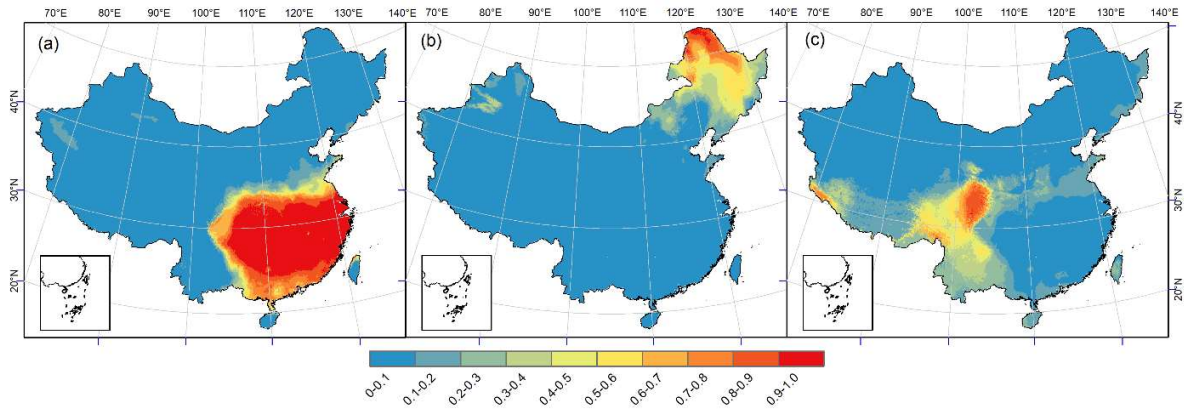
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191 **Spatial distribution of the existing and new forests in China.**
192



193
194 **Fig. S15. The distributions of the existing and new forests.** Panel a: forest coverage in 2018;
195 panel b: new forests from 2018 to 2100 under a 47% tree survival rate; panels c: new forests
196 from 2018 to 2100 under 85% tree survival rate. The number indicates the coverage percentage
197 of the forests.
198

199 Spatial distribution of the habitats suitability index of *Pinus massoniana*, *Pinus sylvestris*,
200 and *Picea spp.* under climate change.
201

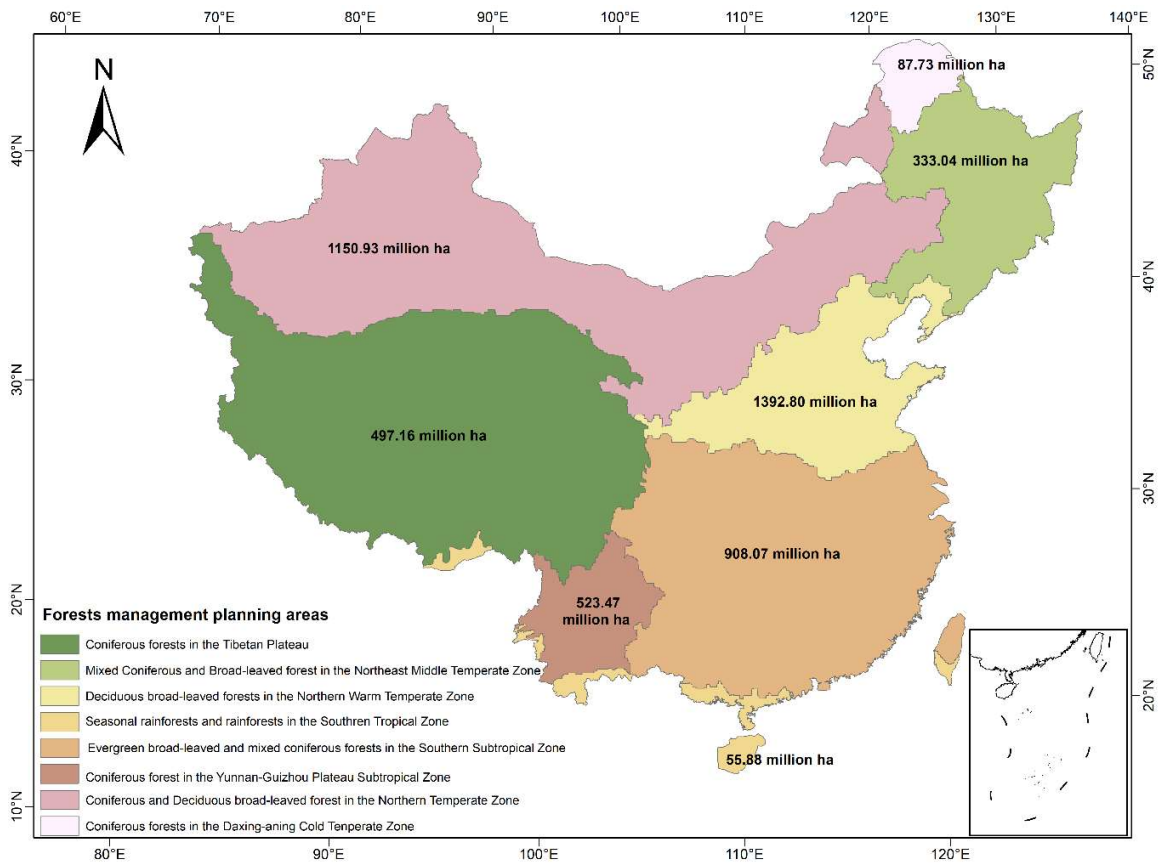


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203 **Fig. S16. The suitability index distribution maps of (a) *Pinus massoniana*, (b) *Pinus***
204 ***sylvestris*, and (c) *Picea spp.* in China under future climate change. Suitability index ranges**
205 **from 0 to 1. Higher value indicates higher suitability for the species.**

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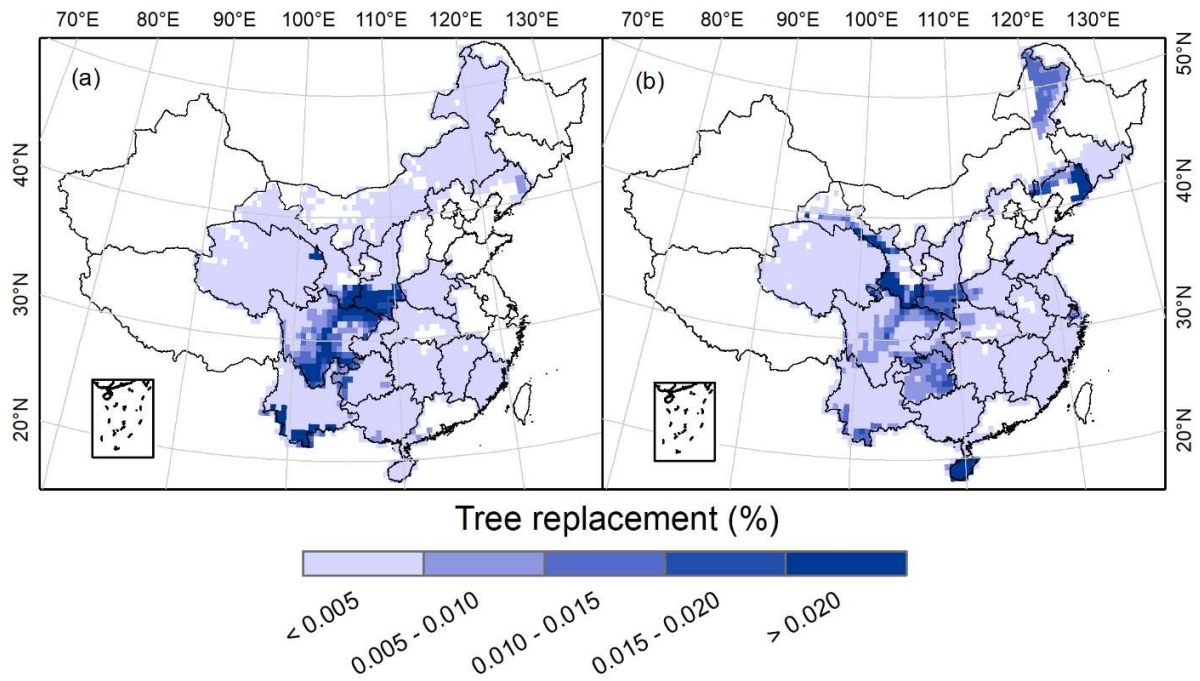
207 **Spatial distribution of forest management zones**



208

209 **Fig. S17. The forest management zones designed by the state forestry administration. The**
 210 **planned forestation areas were showed in each zones.**

211 **Spatial distribution of tree replacement practice**



212

213

214 **Fig. S18. Spatial distribution of tree replacement practice.** Panel a: natural forest; Panel b:
215 planted forest; the value indicates the percent of trees to be replaced in each grid cell.

216

217 **Table S1. Projected carbon stock and sequestration rate reported in China's forests**

Approach	Stock (Pg C)		Year	Source	This study
	Initial*	Increase**			
Statistical model	16.47	4.16	2040s	(2)	4.54
	7.63-10.32	2.34-5.52	2050	(3–6)	5.38
	8.79	12.03	2063	(7)	7.76
Process-based model	7.07	13.86	2100	(8)	13.6±1.5
	20.79	4.21	2100	(9)	
Approach	Sink*** (Pg C yr ⁻¹)		Period	Source	This study
Statistical model	0.105-0.236		2020-2040	(2, 3)	0.173±0.017
	0.198-0.300		2020-2050	(10, 11)	0.178±0.016
	0.124-0.253		2020-2060	(12–14)	0.179±0.014
	0.20		2020-2100	(15)	0.172±0.04
Process-based model	0.106-0.209		2020-2100	(8, 9)	0.172±0.04

218 *Initial carbon stock in 2020; **Carbon stock increment from 2020 to the last year/decade
 219 reported. Carbon stock Increment in Zhang et al (2022) is abnormally high due to unrealistic
 220 increase of forest area; ***Carbon sinks of the periods between 2020 and the last reported year
 221 were listed.

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 223

224 **Table S2. Biomass expansion factor (BEF) and its parameters for China's major tree**
 225 **species. (BEF = $a + b/x$, where a and b are constant, x is mean stock volume per hectare).**

Forest type	Parameters		Reference
	a	b	
<i>Abies</i> spp.	0.5519	48.861	(16)
<i>Picea</i> spp.	0.5519	48.861	(16)
<i>Tsuga</i> spp.	0.4158	41.3318	(17)
<i>Keteleeria</i>	0.4158	41.3318	(17)
<i>Larix</i> spp.	0.6096	33.806	(16)
<i>Pinus koraiensis</i>	0.5723	16.4890	(16)
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	1.1120	2.6951	(16)
<i>Pinus densiflora</i>	1.0945	2.004	(16)
<i>Pinus thunbergii</i>	0.8200	16.414	(18)
<i>Pinus tabulae</i>	0.869	9.1212	(16)
<i>Pinus armandii</i>	0.5856	18.7440	(16)
<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	0.5034	20.5470	(16)
<i>Pinus yunnanensis</i>	0.5034	20.5470	(16)
<i>Pinus kesiya</i>	0.5101	1.0451	(16)
<i>Pinus densata</i>	0.8100	11.892	(18)
Foreign pine (other pines introduced from other countries)	0.5292	25.087	(16)
<i>Pinus elliottii</i>	0.6800	19.7590	(18)
<i>Pinus taiwanensis</i>	0.5168	33.2378	(16)
Other pines and conifer forests	0.5292	25.087	(16)
<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i>	0.4652	19.141	(16)
<i>Cryptomeria</i>	0.3491	39.816	(16)
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	0.4158	41.3318	(19)
<i>Cupressus funebris</i> Endl	0.8893	7.3965	(16)
<i>Quercus</i> spp.	1.1453	8.5473	(17)
<i>Betula</i>	1.0687	10.237	(16)

<i>Betula platyphylla</i>	1.3300	-2.881	(18)
<i>Betula costata</i>	0.9300	16.459	(18)
<i>Fraxinus mandshurica</i>	0.7564	8.3103	(20)
<i>Juglans mandshurica</i>	0.7564	8.3103	(20)
<i>Cinnamomum longipaniculatum</i>	1.0357	8.0591	(17)
<i>Phoebe zhennan</i>	1.0357	8.0591	(17)
<i>Ulmus</i>	0.7564	8.3103	(20)
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	0.7564	8.3103	(21)
<i>Schima</i>	0.9200	19.808	(18)
Other hardwood broadleaf species	0.9600	29.083	(18)
<i>Tilia tuan</i>	0.6800	54.484	(18)
<i>Sassafras</i>	0.9788	5.3764	(16)
<i>Populus</i> spp.	0.4969	26.973	(16)
<i>Salix babylonica</i>	0.5100	44.003	(18)
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.	0.8873	4.5539	(16)
<i>Acacia yunnanensis</i>	0.8100	10.371	(18)
<i>Casuarina</i>	0.7441	3.2377	(16)
Other softwood broadleaf forests	0.6200	33.931	(18)
Mixed Needle-leaf forests	0.5292	25.087	(16)
Mixed Broadleaf forests	0.6255	8.3103	(17)
Mixed Needle-leaf and broadleaf forests	0.8136	18.466	(17)

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227

Table S3. Biomass-carbon conversion coefficients for different species

Forest type	Coefficient	Reference	Forest type	Coefficient	Reference
<i>Abies</i> spp.	0.4990	(16)	<i>Quercus</i> spp.	0.5004	(17)
<i>Picea</i> spp.	0.5208	(16)	<i>Butula</i>	0.4914	(16)
<i>Tsuga</i> spp.	0.5022	(17)	<i>Betula platyphylla</i>	0.4914	(18)
<i>Keteleeria</i>	0.5207	(17)	<i>Betula costata</i>	0.4914	(18)
<i>Larix</i> spp.	0.5211	(16)	<i>Fraxinus mandshurica</i>	0.4827	(20)
<i>Pinus koraiensis</i>	0.5113	(16)	<i>Juglans mandshurica</i>	0.4827	(20)
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	0.5223	(16)	<i>Cinnamomum longipaniculatum</i>	0.4916	(17)
<i>Pinus densiflora</i>	0.5141	(17)	<i>Phoebe zhennan</i>	0.503	(17)
<i>Pinus thunbergii</i>	0.5146	(18)	<i>Ulmus</i>	0.5000	(20)
<i>Pinus tabulae</i>	0.5207	(16)	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	0.5000	(21)
<i>Pinus armandii</i>	0.5225	(16)	<i>Schima</i>	0.5000	(18)
<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	0.4596	(16)	Other hardwood and broadleaf forests	0.4834	(18)
<i>Pinus yunnanensis</i>	0.5113	(16)	<i>Tilia tuan</i>	0.4392	(18)
<i>Pinus kesiya</i>	0.5224	(17)	<i>Sassafras</i>	0.4848	(16)
<i>Pinus densata</i>	0.5009	(18)	<i>Populus</i> spp.	0.4956	(16)
<i>Pinus elliotii</i>	0.5000	(18)	<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.	0.5253	(16)
<i>Pinus taiwanensis</i>	0.5000	(16)	<i>Acacia yunnanensis</i>	0.500	(18)
Other foreign <i>Pinus</i>	0.5000	(16)	<i>Salix babylonica</i>	0.5000	(18)
Other pines and conifer forests	0.5000	(16)	<i>Casuarina</i>	0.4980	(17)
<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i>	0.5201	(16)	Other softwood and broadleaf forests	0.4956	(18)
<i>Cryptomeria</i>	0.5235	(16)	Needle-leaf mixed forests	0.5111	(16)
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	0.5013	(19)	Broadleaf mixed forests	0.4900	(17)
<i>Cupressus funebris</i> Endl	0.5034	(16)	Needle-leaf and broadleaf mixed forests	0.5009	(17)

Table S4. The tree species and the number of forest site-records (plots) used in this study

	Natural forest		Planted forest	
	species	Sample size	species	Sample size
Needle- leaf forest	<i>Abies</i>	3243	<i>Abies</i>	38
	<i>Cryptomeria fortunei</i>	22	<i>Cryptomeria fortunei</i>	403
	<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i>	3269	<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i>	11223
	<i>Cupressus</i>	4153	<i>Cupressus</i>	1853
	<i>Keteleeria</i>	218	Foreign pines (other pines introduced from other countries)	276
	<i>Larix</i>	6080	<i>Larix</i>	3586
	Other pines	107	<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	207
	<i>Picea</i>	9255	Other pines	172
	<i>Pinus armandii</i>	491	<i>Picea</i>	482
	<i>Pinus densata</i>	3589	<i>Pinus armandii</i>	510
	<i>Pinus densiflora</i>	190	<i>Pinus densata</i>	28
	<i>Pinus kesiya</i> var. <i>langbiamensis</i>	399	<i>Pinus densiflora</i>	143
	<i>Pinus koraiensis</i>	79	<i>Pinus elliottii</i>	842
	<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	10942	<i>Pinus kesiya</i> var. <i>langbiamensis</i>	80
	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	215	<i>Pinus koraiensis</i>	256
	<i>Pinus tabulaeformis</i>	1788	<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	4815
	<i>Pinus taiwanensis</i>	116	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	412
	<i>Pinus yunnanensis</i>	4560	<i>Pinus tabulaeformis</i>	2928
<i>Tsuga</i>	122	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	69	
			<i>Pinus taiwanensis</i>	37
			<i>Pinus thunbergii</i>	366
			<i>Pinus yunnanensis</i>	388
			<i>Taxodium ascendens</i>	26
Broadleaf forest	<i>Betula</i>	4149	<i>Acacia</i>	221
	<i>Betula costata</i>	224	<i>Betula</i>	64
	<i>Betula platyphylla</i>	5053	<i>Camphora officinarum</i>	358
	<i>Camphora officinarum</i>	61	<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	137
	F.J.P *	180	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	2972
<i>Fraxinus mandshurica</i>	64	<i>Liquidamber</i>	68	

	<i>Juglans mandshurica</i>	332	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	27
	<i>Liquidamber</i>	202	Other hardwood broadleaf species	2111
	Other hardwood broadleaf species	7151	Other softwood broadleaf species	1296
	Other softwood broadleaf species	4537	<i>Paulownia fortunei</i>	335
	<i>Paulownia fortunei</i>	24	<i>Populus</i>	13023
	<i>Phoebe</i>	86	<i>Quercus</i>	771
	<i>Populus</i>	2157	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	1453
	<i>Quercus</i>	19315	<i>Salix</i>	453
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	33	<i>Sassafras</i>	23
	<i>Salix</i>	160	<i>Schima superba</i>	94
	<i>Schima superba</i>	287	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	345
	<i>Tilia</i>	669		
	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	605		
	Mixed broadleaf forest (MBF)	41675	Mixed broadleaf forest (MBF)	1978
Mixed forest	Mixed needle-leaf and broadleaf forest (MNBF)	8229	Mixed needle-leaf and broadleaf forest (MNBF)	6777
	Mixed needle-leaf forest (MNF)	3198	Mixed needle-leaf forest (MNF)	1889

*F.J.P denotes the abbreviation of *Fraxinus mandshurica*, *Juglans mandshurica* and *Phellodendrom amurense*. These three tree species were reported together.

Table S5. Experiments designed for model simulations

Group	Abbreviation	Drivers/settings				
		Tree survival in new PF	Wood harvest	Rotation age*	Tree replacement	Climate and CO ₂
1	S1	47%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP126
	S2	47%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP245
	S3	47%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP370
	S4	47%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP585
	S5	85%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP126
	S6	85%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP245
	S7	85%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP370
	S8	85%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP585
2	S9	47%	Yes	Regular+5N	No	SSP126
	S10	47%	Yes	Regular+5N	No	SSP245
	S11	47%	Yes	Regular+5N	No	SSP370
	S12	47%	Yes	Regular+5N	No	SSP585
	S13	47%	Yes	Regular	Yes	SSP126
	S14	47%	Yes	Regular	Yes	SSP245
	S15	47%	Yes	Regular	Yes	SSP370
	S16	47%	Yes	Regular	Yes	SSP585
	S17	47%	Yes	Regular+5N	Yes	SSP126
	S18	47%	Yes	Regular+5N	Yes	SSP245
	S19	47%	Yes	Regular+5N	Yes	SSP370
	S20	47%	Yes	Regular+5N	Yes	SSP585
	S21	85%	Yes	Regular+5N	No	SSP126
	S22	85%	Yes	Regular+5N	No	SSP245
	S23	85%	Yes	Regular+5N	No	SSP370
	S24	85%	Yes	Regular+5N	No	SSP585

	S25	85%	Yes	Regular	Yes	SSP126
	S26	85%	Yes	Regular	Yes	SSP245
	S27	85%	Yes	Regular	Yes	SSP370
	S28	85%	Yes	Regular	Yes	SSP585
	S29	85%	Yes	Regular+5N	Yes	SSP126
	S30	85%	Yes	Regular+5N	Yes	SSP245
	S31	85%	Yes	Regular+5N	Yes	SSP370
	S32	85%	Yes	Regular+5N	Yes	SSP585
3	S33	47%	No	-	No	Fixed at 2020
	S34	85%	No	-	No	Fixed at 2020
4**	S35	47%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP126
	S36	47%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP245
	S37	47%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP370
	S38	47%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP585
	S39	85%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP126
	S40	85%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP245
	S41	85%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP370
	S42	85%	Yes	Regular	No	SSP585

*'Regular' in rotation age indicate the wood harvest rotation age is species-based obtained from the State Forestry Administration of China (i.e., Regulations for age-class and age-group division of main tree-species), while 'Regular+5N' indicate the harvest age is postponed by 5*N years after key year (i.e. year that timber forest shows the largest carbon source), and N is 1, 2, or 3; in total of 56 experiments (i.e. 7 management scenarios × 2 tree survival rate scenarios × 4 SSPs) were conducted in group 2; nitrogen deposition was fixed since 2015, because a former study revealed that overall nitrogen deposition has been stabilized due to improved agricultural and environmental policies (22). ** Group 4 was designed similar as group 1 but the land use and cover change was fixed at 2020.

Table S6. Harvest age of different tree species/species groups

Tree species/species group	Natural forest		Planted forest	
	Age1*	Age2**	Age1	Age2
<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	37	51	26	36
<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i>	19	26	19	26
<i>Eucalyptus</i>	12	16	12	16
<i>Populus</i>	30	41	14	18.5
<i>Larix</i>	67	91	30	41
<i>Pinus tabulaeformis</i>	37	51	26	36
<i>Cupressus</i>	74	101	45	61
<i>Pinus elliotii</i>	19	26	19	26
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	6	18.5	6	18.5
Other <i>Pinus</i>	37	51	26	36
Mixed broadleaf forest	36	48.5	36	48.5
Other softwood broadleaf species	34	46	20	27.25
Other hardwood broadleaf species	37	51	26	36
Mixed needle-leaf and broadleaf forest	45	61	25	34.75
Mixed needle-leaf forest	29	38.5	23	31
<i>Quercus</i>	44	60	36	50
<i>Abies, Picea</i>	59	81	37	51
<i>Pinus armandii, Pinus yunnanensis</i>	67	91	30	41
Economic forests	26	36	26	36
Bamboo	7	10	7	10
<i>Betula</i>	20	55	40	36
Other temperate deciduous forest species	30	41	30	41
Other fir species	59	80	59	80

*Age1: the age at the peak of the instantaneous growth rate; **Age2: the harvest age, which is also the peak of the accumulated growth rate (i.e. the average of instantaneous growth rate).

Table S7. Parameter a of different tree species/species groups in the logistic equation of age factor

Tree species/species group	Natural forest	Planted forest
<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	0.15	0.05
<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i>	0.05	0.25
<i>Eucalyptus</i>	0.05	0.05
<i>Populus</i>	0.05	0.05
<i>Larix</i>	0.05	0.20
<i>Pinus tabulaeformis</i>	0.05	0.05
<i>Cupressus</i>	0.05	0.25
<i>Pinus elliotii</i>	0.05	0.05
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	0.05	0.05
Other <i>Pinus</i>	0.05	0.05
Mixed broadleaf forest	0.35	0.35
Other softwood broadleaf species	0.35	0.35
Other hardwood broadleaf species	0.05	0.05
Mixed needle-leaf and broadleaf forest	0.05	0.25
Mixed needle-leaf forest	0.25	0.15
<i>Quercus</i>	0.05	0.05
<i>Abies, Picea</i>	0.20	0.05
<i>Pinus armandii, Pinus yunnanensis</i>	0.05	0.15
Economic forests	0.05	0.05
Bamboo	0.05	0.05
<i>Betula</i>	0.05	0.05
Other temperate deciduous forest species	0.05	0.05
Other fir species	0.05	0.05

Table S8 Forest age increment in non-timber forests with mixed tree species

Tree species/species group*	Harvest age			
	Natural forest		Planted forest	
	Age accrual per year	Std	Age accrual per year	Std
Mixed broadleaf forest	0.848	0.358	0.788	0.284
Other softwood broadleaf species	0.924	0.154	0.872	0.230
Other hardwood broadleaf species	0.828	0.292	0.890	0.488
Mixed needle-leaf and broadleaf forest	0.790	0.302	0.794	0.250
Mixed needle-leaf forest	0.832	0.210	0.820	0.258

Table S9. Tree species replacement plan

Management zone	Inappropriate species	Area (km ²)	Replacement species
Needleleaf forests of cold temperate zone	<i>Pinus tabulae</i>	947.2	<i>Larix</i>
	<i>Cupressus funebris</i> Endl	52.5	
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	49.2	
Needleleaf&broadleaf mixed forests of mid-temperate zone	<i>Pinus tabulae</i>	3039.3	<i>Larix</i>
	<i>Cupressus funebris</i> Endl	94.1	
	<i>Pinus elliottii</i>	15.9	<i>Pinus koraiensis</i>
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	751.4	<i>Larix</i>
Deciduous broadleaf forests of warm-temperate zone	<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	372.7	<i>Pinus koraiensis</i>
	<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i> Hook	104.4	
	<i>Pinus elliottii</i>	35.8	<i>Larix</i>
Broadleaf evergreen and needleleaf-broadleaf mixed forests of subtropical zone	<i>Larix</i>	1479.8	BMF species*
	<i>Pinus tabulae</i>	4089.9	
	<i>Betula</i>	4206.1	
	Other firs	4474.0	
Tropical and seasonal tropical zone	<i>Populus</i>	24.4	BMF species
	<i>Larix</i>	5.5	
	<i>Cupressus funebris</i> Endl	63.7	
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	0.2	
	<i>Quercus</i>	6102.5	
	<i>Picea</i>	258.1	
	<i>Pinus armandii</i> Franch	2795.2	
	<i>Betula</i>	91.2	
	Other firs	214.6	
Needleleaf forest of subtropical zone	<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	1338.9	<i>Pinus armandii</i> Franch
	<i>Pinus tabulae</i>	189.2	
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	94.7	BMF species
	<i>Betula</i>	1633.4	
Needleleaf and deciduous broadleaf forest of temperate zone	<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	30.8	<i>Larix</i>
	<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i> Hook	7.4	<i>Picea</i>
	<i>Cupressus funebris</i> Endl	1387.5	<i>Larix</i>
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	24.6	BMF species
	<i>Betula</i>	5.1	
Needleleaf forest of Tibetan Plateau	<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	1454.5	<i>Picea</i>
	<i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i> Hook	590.8	<i>Picea</i>
	<i>Pinus tabulae</i>	1415.2	<i>Pinus armandii</i> Franch
	<i>Pinus elliottii</i>	29.5	<i>Pinus densata</i>
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	3902.0	BMF species

*BMF species indicates Broadleaf mixed forest species, which are indigenous species of southern China, these species were grouped into one type in model simulations.

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