



Thank you for your support in 2019

2019 was a landmark year for the Coast Range Association, and our success is directly because of our amazing supporters, volunteers, and members. Without you, none of the path-breaking work of the Coast Range Association is possible. Thank you.

With your help in 2019 we:

- Held presentations across Oregon on Wall Street owned forests, the land-sea connection, and the role Oregon's rural landscapes must play in solving the Climate Crisis.
- Launched our new CRA website which highlights our work on the [Oregon Green New Deal](#).
- Hired new communications staff and expanded capacity.
- Launched [Coast Range Radio](#) to amplify the voice of forest and climate activists.
- Continued to pursue the Aquatics Lawsuit against the BLM's forest plan.
- And most importantly we realigned our forests and ocean work in light of the Climate Crisis, the biggest threat to Oregon's communities, forests, and ocean.

The CRA has worked since 1991 to elevate the public's awareness of forest and aquatic systems while advocating for strong conservation policies at the state and federal level. Our work has always been multi-dimensional by connecting ecology to economics, conservation to human communities, and ecological destruction to exploitation and injustice.



Oregon Coast Ocean News

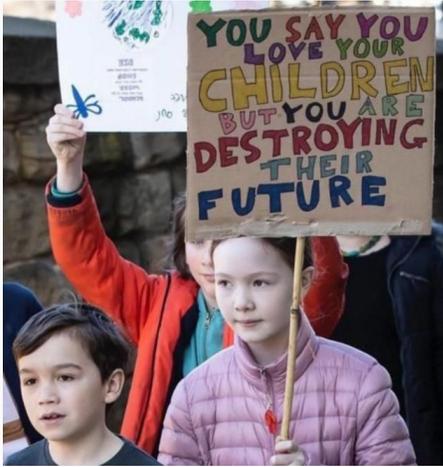
CRA's Ocean News shares stories on changing ocean conditions due to Climate Change, and highlights how a changing ocean will impact Oregon's coastal communities. Ocean News also shares updates and research occurring within Oregon's nearshore marine program.

In a tight, summary fashion – Ocean News will deliver news you won't want to miss.

Ocean News is sent to a separate email list, and if you have not visited our [website](#) to signup you will not receive this important newsletter.

Today, everything has changed; the planet is in a climate emergency.

[Signup](#)



Given the threat posed by the Climate Crisis and a narrowing window of eight years to avoid a likely catastrophic tipping point; we re-aligned our forests and oceans programs with the best climate science on behalf of our communities and future generations. We continue discussing the Climate Crisis with the very good news about a just transition to a carbon neutral future – the Green New Deal.

Abundance and economic renewal is our message, not fear and desperation.

Our 2020 work will expand our effort to map the Green New Deal's stated goals into a visually understandable view of a carbon neutral Oregon. This work will be communicated across Oregon through our expanded network of video, audio, and print channels. Throughout 2020 we will describe how a dramatic transformation of Oregon's built and natural landscapes will provide an enjoyable, safe, and bountiful life for all people.

What could be more important than this work?

We ask that you join in this work and help spread the word through your local network and community. We are dedicated to growing the rural climate movement and can provide guidance on how you may contribute. There is a role for everyone. Visit our [website](#) to learn more.

"What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

- Jane Goodall -



[Join the CRA GND Team](#)

Six Ways to Become Involved

Research: Are you a person who likes to find things out?

Review: Are you a person who has a good sense of the affairs of business or governance?

Provide expert advice: Do you have expertise in an industry or field of work?

Host a local GND meeting: Are you interested in talking to your networks about the GND?

Learn: Do you want to learn more?

Court Recognizes Climate Crisis and Government's Role in Causing Climate Harms but Refutes Court's Responsibility to Address Harms

On January 17, 2020, the Ninth Circuit delivered its ruling in *Juliana v United States*. This landmark climate case was brought by 21 youth plaintiffs against the US government some five years ago. The plaintiffs assert that federal government has long promoted fossil fuel use despite knowing that it can cause catastrophic climate change, thus violating their constitutional rights to a livable climate. Legal services for the case were provided in part by [Our Children's Trust](#) which is a non-profit public interest law firm located in Eugene, OR. They provide strategic, campaign-based legal services to youth from diverse backgrounds to secure their legal rights to a safe climate. You can read their press release on the recent ruling [here](#).

In the Courts opinion, Judge Andrew D. Hurwitz writing for the majority, noted: "The plaintiffs have made a compelling case that action is needed; it will be increasingly difficult in light of that record for the political branches to deny that climate change is occurring, that the government has had a role in causing it, and that our elected officials have a moral responsibility to seek solutions. We do not dispute that the broad judicial relief the plaintiffs seek could well goad the political branches into action."

He continues, "We reluctantly conclude, however, that the plaintiffs' case must be made to the political branches or to the electorate at large, the latter of which can change the composition of the political branches through the ballot box. That the other branches may have abdicated their responsibility to remediate the problem does not confer on Article III courts, no matter how well-intentioned, the ability to step into their shoes."

The full opinion and dissent can be downloaded and read [here](#).

Of specific interest is the dissenting opinion written by Josephine L. Staton, District Judge. "In these proceedings, the government accepts as fact that the United States has reached a tipping point crying out for a concerted response—yet presses ahead toward calamity. It is as if an asteroid were barreling toward Earth and the government decided to shut down our only defenses."

She continues, "My colleagues throw up their hands, concluding that this case presents nothing fit for the Judiciary. On a fundamental point, we agree: No case can singlehandedly prevent the catastrophic effects of climate change predicted by the government and scientists. But a federal court need not manage all of the delicate foreign relations and regulatory minutiae implicated by climate change to offer real relief, and the mere fact that this suit cannot alone halt climate change does not mean that it presents no claim suitable for judicial resolution."

The fight for the courts to hold the US government accountable for its role in the

climate crisis is not over. Counsel for the youth plaintiffs state that they will ask the full Ninth Circuit Court to review this determination that federal courts can do nothing to address an admitted constitutional violation.



Below is an update from our friends at the Oregon Forest Waters coalition. To sign up to get the newsletters and learn about and support these ballot measures, visit their [website](#).

Update from the Oregon Forest Waters coalition:

"We are making excellent progress in our campaign to protect forest waters in Oregon through ballot measures. Our forest water measures will update forest management practices, improve habitat for fish and wildlife, and increase the resilience of our forests in the face of climate change.

The three measures—Initiative Petitions 45, 46, and 47—were filed in October by concerned Oregonians to put the vote on the ballot for this year's election. The aim is to increase protections for water in Oregon's forests up to the level of Washington State.

We're hearing support from people around the state, and our polling is strong. Plus, we've been getting a lot of coverage in the media.

Another sign that we're off to a good start: Logging interests have responded with ballot measures of their own. And, no surprise, they're already resorting to extremist rhetoric despite the fact that our proposals largely follow the standards of neighboring states. Our proposals are reasonable, feasible, and long overdue.



Questionnaire Looks for Stories that Reveal how Logging and Timber Practices Impact Oregon

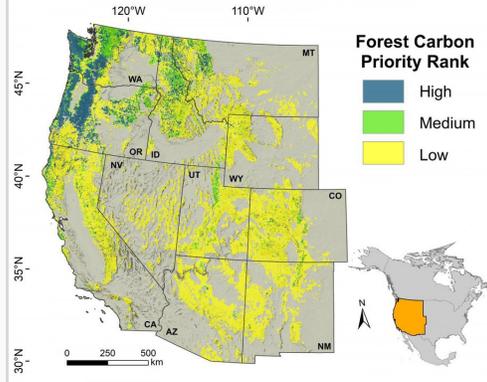
ProPublica, Oregon Public Broadcasting and The Oregonian are teaming up to report on how logging shapes Oregon's economy and environment. They are looking for stories from people impacted by timber practices in Oregon. Read the article and share your story [here](#).

"OPB, The Oregonian and ProPublica are teaming up to better understand the forces that are shaping the modern timber industry and the effects of those changes on the state, communities and timber workers.

Hearing your experiences can help us focus our stories with your communities in mind and hold the relevant institutions accountable."

This will be a challenge, as is always the case when taking on the logging industry in Oregon, but one that is shaping up to break the stranglehold that the logging industry has exercised on environmental policy in Oregon for too long."

Learn more and support the ballot measures [here](#).



The above map comes from a new study: *Carbon sequestration and biodiversity co-benefits of preserving forests in the western USA*. The study states, "Forest carbon sequestration via forest preservation can be a viable climate change mitigation strategy." The study finds in part that Northwest forests have great potential to capture carbon if they're preserved and not logged.

To read the full study visit [here](#), and to read an OBP article on the study visit [here](#).

