

# COAST RANGE ASSOCIATION

*A Better World is Possible*

Western Oregon in the Era of  
Climate Change:  
The Transformation of Oregon  
Forests & Communities

## Western Oregon in the era of Climate Change

A Discussion with Chuck Willer  
of the  
Coast Range Association

Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>  
Albany Public Library  
2450 14<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Albany  
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Hosted by Rural Oregon Progressives

Oregon's forests and communities have been transformed by finance and big capital to the detriment of people and the natural world. Yet, the climate crisis requires a just transition to a new carbon neutral economy.

### A Green New Deal for Oregon

[www.coastrange.org](https://coastrange.org)



For three years Chuck Willer has been speaking in Oregon communities about rural land ownership, taxation, and forest management. With a deep critique of forestry as practiced by large Wall Street landowners, Chuck outlines the

## Oregon Coast OCEAN NEWS

### 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.

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](https://coastrange.org) to signup you are not getting this important newsletter.

[Signup](#)

political economic realities that impact rural lives and landscapes. Today, a warming climate is now recognized as a crisis requiring immediate action. Only one proposal exists adequate to the climate challenge and that proposal is the Green New Deal. Chuck's talk will describe how the Green New Deal will apply to Western Oregon, highlighting the importance of growing older, carbon dense forests. Chuck will speak to the systems change required to solve the climate crisis and the good news that rural economic renewal and prosperity is the most likely outcome of a Green New Deal.



For 29 years Chuck Willer has been a leading Oregon grassroots environmental leader. As Director of the Coast Range Association, Chuck has led numerous research efforts on coastal forestry, watershed conservation and public lands management. Chuck's policy advocacy spans the 1994 creation of the Northwest Forest Plan, the 1997 Greatest Permanent Value Rule for state forests, protections for endangered salmon, and forest planning for Western Oregon's 2 million acres of federal BLM forests. In 2016, Chuck led an analysis of taxation and ownership for Western Oregon private forests. Based on his forest, economic, and climate research, Chuck has toured a forest and climate presentation in over 27 Oregon communities. As a seasoned public speaker, Chuck has electrified audiences across Oregon with new information and perspective on forest management and the climate.

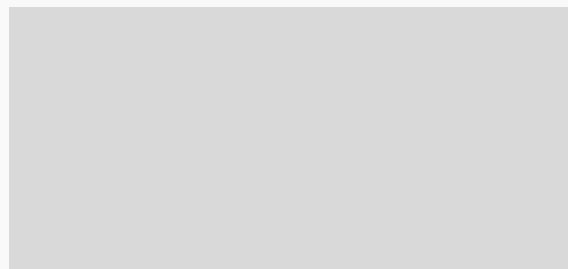
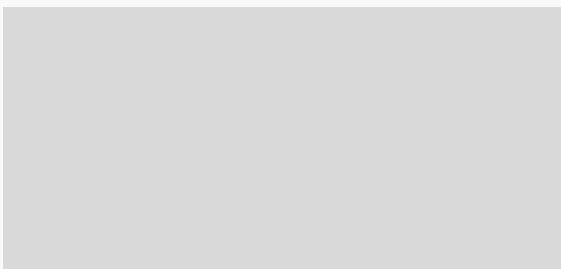
**Chuck is giving two presentations this March.  
Tell your friends and neighbors.  
We hope to see you there!**

**Albany presentation hosted by Rural Oregon Progressives:**

**Friday, March 13**  
Albany Public Library  
2450 14th Ave SE, Albany  
6:30 pm  
[Facebook Event Page](#)

**Gleneden Beach presentation hosted by American Association of University Women:**

**Monday, March 16**  
Driftwood Public Library - Community Room  
801 SW Hwy 101 #201, Lincoln City  
6:30 pm







### Ernie Niemi "Bigger than Expected: Climate-Change Costs & Emission-Reduction Benefits" Interview

[Listen Here](#)

In this interview we are on location with natural resource economist, Ernie Niemi. Ernie is the co-founder and co-director of the [Forest Carbon Coalition](#), and founder of Natural Resource Economics, INC.

This half hour show provides highlights from our over hour long conversation about the important findings and implications for Oregonians from a working paper Ernie released in January 2020 titled "Bigger Than Expected: Climate-Change Costs & Emission-Reduction Benefits".



### Recurring Donations Keep us on the Cutting Edge

The Coast Range Association has a new giving option through our Recurring Donation Program. Pledging a monthly recurring donation of any amount provides the CRA with the financial security knowing that each month we can count on your support. This allows us to continue to advocate for the systems change required to solve the climate crisis while demanding economic renewal for Oregon's rural communities.

You can join us in this work by visiting our [donate](#) page and signing up for a monthly donation from \$5 on up.

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### **Coast Range Association reacts: Timber industry and environmental groups sign Oregon Strategy MOU**

(Corvallis, OR) As reported, several environmental advocacy organizations have signed a MOU with key timberland companies, including Weyerhaeuser and Roseburg Forest Products, setting aside a November ballot measure fight over forest practices on private timberlands in Oregon. The Coast Range Association was not party to the Forest Waters reform ballot measure process. The MOU provides for limited reforms addressing aerial herbicide spraying and sets in motion an eighteen-month process to negotiate meaningful reforms in forest practices as background to a federal Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for salmon recovery, stream protections and water quality.

It is important to make clear, the Coast Range Association supports improvements in environmental protections, and we believe the proposed environmental ballot measures would have advanced regulatory reform and improved on-the-ground practices for the protection of endangered species and water quality. However, a reality check is needed. Times have changed and with those changes new issues define the priorities for forestry in Western Oregon.

We therefore state the following:

1. The science is conclusive that the planet is in a climate crisis, and the situation is an emergency. As such, the Coast Range Association believes Oregon must go far beyond forest practices reform to ensure forests play an important role in the state's climate action agenda. Oregon's timber industry is the largest carbon emitter in the state, and Western Oregon's forests can arguably store more carbon per acre than any forest in the world.
2. New ownership and purpose for private corporate forestlands is required. Society can no longer afford Northwest forests to be used to grow money for investors. Corporate forests must grow for carbon storage, habitat, clean water and timber output.

3. To ensure equity and social justice for rural frontline communities, 100% of the surplus from mixed carbon and timber managed forests must go to local rural communities. There is no surplus under a forestry appropriate to the climate crisis for Wall Street investors.
4. We call for new forms of community based forest ownership.
5. The timber industry's threat to hold Oregon hostage with a land-use-wrecking ballot measure must be condemned. The sought after forestry reforms and HCP should have been implemented twenty-five years ago when salmon populations crashed, and the science was clear about the industry's culpability.
6. Over the past thirty years, the timber industry has engineered the lowering of their tax burden and their tax support for local government. The industry-led change in the tax regime occurred at the very time rural communities were struggling with multiple social crises.

The MOU and negotiating process will have no impact on the Coast Range Association's continued exposure of timber industry callousness to social and environmental issues and the industry's horrendous forest practices. The Coast Range Association will continue to address the fact that we are in a climate crisis and that Oregon's most important contribution to addressing the crisis is to ensure forests store as much carbon as possible while providing for people and communities.

The Coast Range Association is a 501c(3) nonprofit that has been working since 1991 to find just protections for Western Oregon's forests while supporting a vibrant rural economy.

*"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](#)

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## **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? Visit our [GND](#) page.

**Donate:** Your contribution will be multiplied many times through our game changing work.

