

We need to work harder than ever to ensure that this moment of intense change across the US and Oregon results in a better world for people. We must seize this opportunity to shine a light on the inner workings of the economic system and bring about a much needed **just transition**. As stated in a recent article by James K. Galbraith about responding to the Coronavirus: "*Through it all, the people must be reassured. Those at home must be cared for. And those who remain healthy must be given useful work. Solidarity, organization, determination: These are the words for us now.*"



## What the Coronavirus response reveals about solving the climate crisis: A message from Chuck Willer

We hope you and your loved ones are staying healthy and following best practices for protecting yourself and others during the COVID-19 pandemic. For our part, the Coast Range Association has cancelled all in-person events and we are working from home.

In a few short weeks, the Coronavirus crisis has revealed the generally unseen inner workings of our political economy – namely the monetary system. As I write this message, Congress is approving a **two trillion-dollar economic relief package**. For perspective, the amount is equal to \$6,250 for every person in the US.

The looming larger crisis, global warming, requires emergency level spending like the coronavirus stimulus package. What is stopping transformational spending to address climate change? It's not the federal government's ability to finance the transformation. That is clear from the coronavirus stimulus package. Instead, powerful fossil fuel interests own members of Congress and block funding.

The fact is – the coronavirus pandemic has laid bare that our current economic system does not provide for the people or the planet. We have learned this same lesson in Oregon regarding the timber industry's influence over Salem. Whether it's the economy, the global climate or Oregon's Wall Street dominated forest lands – we must speak out for the common good. The current

unjust economic system impacts everyone and every business sector. In response, the Coast Range Association is actively working to promote systemic change by educating people about a national Green New Deal (GND).

Over the past six months, I have spoken in a number of communities about the climate crisis and the response required by the US government – the GND. My latest talks addressed the funding needed to implement the GND. Most audience members were astounded when the numbers were explained. In fact, whether the issue is universal health care coverage, a guaranteed job or the Green New Deal – the US society can easily afford the programs required.

The GND will provide tools for people and communities to respond to today's multiple crises, including a pandemic like COVID-19. Tools like strong unions, guaranteed health care, and living wages will make our communities more resilient. Democratizing key infrastructure systems to be more socially responsive will ensure resources are available locally as new challenges occur. We must enact a GND now to ensure we have the resources to address the climate crisis, wealth inequality, and future health crises like COVID-19.

We cannot allow the current pandemic to turn into another power grab by powerful elites. As Naomi Klein states in a recent article on [Coronavirus Capitalism - and How to Beat It](#), *"During moments of cataclysmic change, the previously unthinkable suddenly becomes reality. In recent decades, that change has mainly been for the worst — but this has not always been the case. And it need not continue to be in the future."*

As a global community, we must quickly identify what truly has value: our communities, healthy food and clean water, affordable, quality health care, our basic infrastructure, secure and well-paying jobs, and safe, energy efficient homes and neighborhoods. Forces that currently dominate the centers of power are surely moving to profit off the global coronavirus crisis. We must do all we can to overcome those who block the required just public response to the crisis.

The Coast Range Association works primarily at the community scale. We stand solidly in support of Co-Op owned forests, regenerative and small-scale farms, local manufacturers and merchants, and civic organizations working to provide for the welfare of people and ecosystems. We trust that local communities can make just decisions for the sustainable use of natural resources while providing for people. We will continue to focus our work on community level solutions while advocating for a national GND mobilization. A better world is possible.

In solidarity,



Chuck Willer  
Director

## speaking truth to power

We know that many are feeling the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic upheaval. If you are able to contribute to CRA at this time, we ask that you make a donation to our path-breaking work of speaking truth to power as few others are doing in Oregon.

Even a small \$5 or \$10 one-time or recurring donation tells us you support this important work. With your encouragement we can continue to advocate for systemic change to solve the climate crisis while demanding economic renewal for Oregon's rural communities.

You can donate by visiting our [donation page](#) and using our secure donation form. Thank you for supporting the CRA over the years.

[DONATE](#)



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Coast Range Association

## Coast Range Association launches new YouTube channel

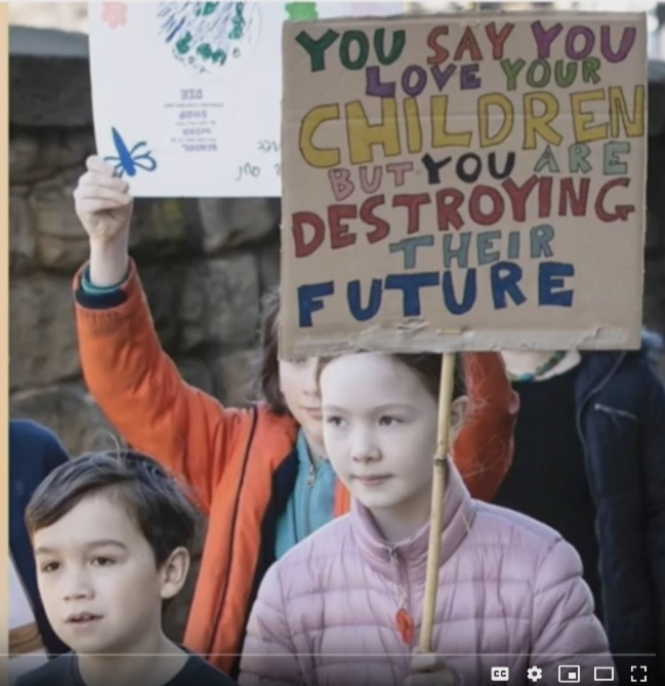
We are excited to launch the new [CRA YouTube Channel](#). During this time of social distancing, CRA has uploaded one of Chuck's presentations titled "[The Oregon Coast in a Time of Climate Crisis](#)". This important presentation outlines CRA's Challenging Wall Street Forestry program and provides detailed information on what a Green New Deal transition will mean for Oregon's coast in the era of Climate Change.

Head to our YouTube Channel, subscribe, and view our first video. We will keep you updated as we release more videos in the coming months.

[Watch Video](#)



# Climate Crisis



## OSU study: Timber harvests lead to lower summer streamflows

"CORVALLIS, Ore. ([KTVZ](#)) – Summer streamflow in industrial tree plantations harvested on 40- to 50-year rotations was 50% lower than in century-old forests, data from the long-term Alsea Watershed Study in the Oregon Coast Range showed. The research, led by Oregon State University's [Catalina Segura](#), is an important step toward understanding how intensively managed plantations might influence water supplies originating in forests and downstream aquatic ecosystems, especially as the planet becomes warmer and drier. Industrial plantation forestry is expanding around the globe, and that's raising concerns about the long-term effects the plantations might be having on water, especially in dry years," Segura said"

"Findings were published in the Journal of Hydrology."

Read the full article [here](#).





# Oregon Coast

# OCEAN NEWS

## Oregon Coast Ocean News

CRA's Ocean News shares stories on changing ocean conditions and impacts to Oregon's coastal communities due to Climate Change.

In a tight, summary fashion – Ocean News delivers information you won't want to miss. Ocean News is sent to a separate email list monthly. Visit our [website](#) to signup for this important newsletter.

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Team

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## Six Ways to Join CRA's Digital Green New Deal Team

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

**Learn:** Do you want to learn more? Visit our [GND](#) page or our [Bibliography](#).

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

