



Coast Range Association in the News

OPINION

Coronavirus pandemic has shown us the climate crisis is fixable, affordable | Opinion

Chuck Willer, Guest Opinion Published 5:14 p.m. PT May 8, 2020 | Updated 7:55 a.m. PT May 13, 2020

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 109

Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 7, 2019



"The coronavirus pandemic has laid bare a key feature of our economic system – markets and politics-as-usual fail to provide for people and the planet. We learned a similar 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 demand justice in response to climate change and insist on sufficient federal funding."

Chuck had an opinion piece [published in the Statesman Journal on May 8th](#). Chuck outlines the connections between the coronavirus pandemic response and the needed climate crisis response. He highlights the need to mobilize resources financed through a national Green New Deal to enact a just transition to near zero greenhouse gas emissions. This needs to happen as fast as possible. Anything else will not be enough to stop the biggest crisis we have ever faced, climate change. Please spread the word and join this work.



Recurring donations support CRA's work

A monthly \$5, \$10, or \$20 recurring donation keeps CRA at the frontlines demanding that Oregon's forests store carbon and not fatten corporate pocketbooks. Your support allows us to advocate for systemic change to solve the climate crisis with a focus on rural communities.

[DONATE](#)

Green New Deal Team

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

Review: Read and report on policy documents.

Network: Are you connected to a group that wants to join in this work?

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

[JOIN THE GREEN NEW DEAL TEAM](#)

Update on BLM Resource Management Plan Lawsuit

After 20 years and three presidential administrations, CRA and our partners' legal efforts to hold BLM accountable for their inadequate 2016 Resource Management Plans have come to an end.

On May 6, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit heard the plaintiff's (Pacific Rivers, et al) appeal of the district court's summary judgment in favor of federal agencies in the plaintiffs' challenge to the BLM's decision to amend 1995 Resource Management Plans for six BLM districts in Oregon forests. Just a few short weeks later the Court released their

decision to deny the appeal.

[Watch the May 6 hearing recorded in a Zoom type call.](#)



With the legal challenge to these plans now over, we are pivoting to focus on individual projects to ensure stream and old growth protections. CRA is dedicated to protecting old growth and late successional-reserves in the Coast Range.

This work is not without its challenges. With troubling changes at BLM Headquarters, the dedication of forest defenders is as important as ever. The current BLM Acting Director, William Perry Pendley, would sell all of our BLM managed forests to the highest bidder if given the chance. Learn more in this recent [Guardian article](#).

Background on the BLM Western Oregon Plans Revision process:

The BLM is the largest landowner in the Oregon Coast Range. The agency has major forest holdings in Tillamook, Benton, Lane, Douglas and Coos Counties. Important portions of large coastal watersheds are owned by the BLM. In total, the BLM owns 2.5 million acres of Western Oregon forest. Starting in 2002, the BLM began a new set of forest plans for their forests in Western Oregon. The goal of the planning process was to update the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP).

These plans came close to the NWFP model except for the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS). Two key problems exist. The BLM set aside mandatory ACS Standards and replaced them with discretionary Guidelines. Secondly, although extensive consultation occurred between the protective agencies (National Marine Fisheries Service and US Fish & Wildlife Service); the consultation's Biological Opinion failed to explain how the Best Available Science warranted changing Standards in the plan to weaker Guidelines.

[Link to CRA's BLM forest planning page.](#)

Coast Range Association Launches Coast Range Radio Podcast

Subscribe and spread the word!

Coast Range Radio, CRA's regional forests

and climate interview show, was launched last fall with support from [KEPW 97.3 FM PeaceWorks Community Radio](#).

The monthly show has had a great response and is now available on all major podcast platforms ([Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [Stitcher](#), and [Spotify](#)). Please subscribe to hear from our amazing guests and share the show with your networks!

On Coast Range Radio we hold conversations with forest advocates, scientists, political economists, farmers, lawyers, climate organizers and many others to share tools and inspiration as we work to make a better world possible.

Coast Range Radio is now recording from our home studios during the coronavirus pandemic. We continue to record these important conversations so folks stay informed and inspired.

Coast Range Radio is on [KEPW 97.3 FM](#) in Eugene every Saturday at 2:30pm, [KMUZ 100.7 and 88.5 FM](#) in Salem on occasional Mondays at 12pm, and soon to be on [KYAQ 91.7 FM](#) in Lincoln County and [KXCR 90.7 FM](#) in Florence.

Know of a local station we should be on? Send us a note at andrew@coastrangeradio.org.



[Listen Now](#)

Office of the Governor
State of Oregon



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-04

DIRECTING STATE AGENCIES TO TAKE ACTIONS TO REDUCE AND REGULATE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

WHEREAS, climate change and ocean acidification caused by greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are having significant detrimental effects on public health and on Oregon's economic vitality, natural resources, and environment; and

WHEREAS, climate change has a disproportionate effect on the physical, mental, financial, and cultural wellbeing of impacted communities, such as Native American tribes, communities of color, rural communities, coastal communities, lower-income households, and other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes, who typically have fewer resources for adapting to climate change and are therefore the most vulnerable to displacement, adverse health effects, job loss, property damage, and other effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, climate change is contributing to an increase in the frequency and severity of wildfires in Oregon, endangering public health and safety and damaging rural economies; and

WHEREAS, the world's leading climate scientists, including those in the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, predict that these serious impacts of climate change will worsen if prompt action is not taken to curb emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has identified limiting global warming to 2 degrees Celsius or less as necessary to avoid potentially catastrophic climate change impacts, and remaining below this threshold requires accelerated reductions in GHG emissions to levels at least 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS, Oregon, as a member of the U.S. Climate Alliance, has committed to implementing policies to advance the emissions reduction goals of the international Paris Agreement; and

WHEREAS, GHG emissions present a significant threat to Oregon's public health, economy, safety, and environment; and

Update on Gov. Brown's Climate Change Executive Order and Action Plan

CRA is closely watching the Governor's Executive Order on Climate Change. The Order directs state agencies to take action to reduce and regulate greenhouse gas emissions.

Each state agency was required to complete a report on proposed actions by May 15. We are reviewing those reports and are deeply concerned that the actions are not adequately quantifiable, using the best available climate science, and urgent enough to meet Oregon's meager goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 45 percent below 1990 emission levels by 2035; and at least 80 percent below 1990 emission levels by 2050.

[Read the Executive Order](#)

Many in the climate science field urge that we have less than 10 years to make a just transition to prevent the worst cascading outcomes of the climate crisis.

We are also following the discussion, science, and agency action on natural carbon solutions and emissions from Oregon's forested landscapes and outdated forest practices. CRA is watching ODF and the Global Warming Commission to advocate that their plans ensure the most robust response to the climate crisis as possible. They must also address historic inequities and misinformation about the timber industry's contribution to climate change and the climate change free pass they enjoy from the State and promote through their propaganda.

CRA is engaged with our partners and continue to support their efforts. This month we joined several sign-on letters regarding climate smart forest practices and stream protections.



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.

Signup

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