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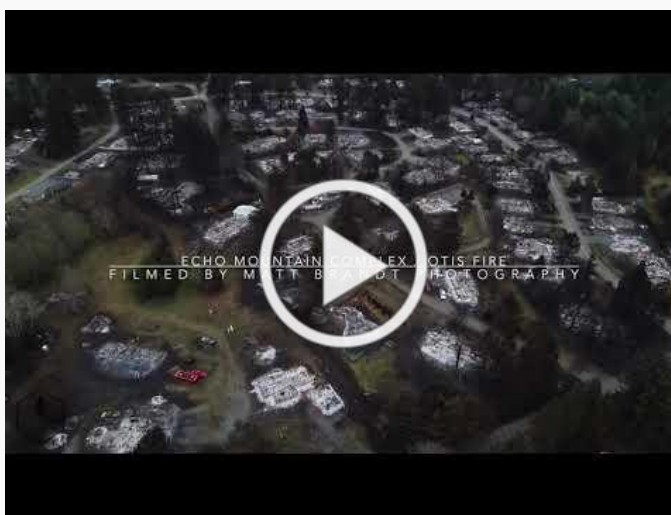


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Our hearts go out to the thousands of Oregonians tragically impacted by the Labor Day east wind fires. With over one million acres burned, hundreds of structures destroyed, ten people dead and tens of thousands of people evacuated, the fire impact to Western Oregon is unprecedented.

The Echo Mountain fire, north of Lincoln City, was relatively small at about 2,500 acres, but approximately 1,200 structures and 300 homes were burned.



Link to Youtube video footage of the aftermath of the Echo Mountain Fire by [Matt Brandt Photography](#).

The cities of Phoenix and Talent in Southern Oregon were substantially destroyed by the Almeda Drive Fire with nearly 3,000 structures burned.

Because of the severe fire impacts we are focusing this newsletter on resources for how people can help impacted communities. We are also providing materials to help prepare for future fires, and to discuss the nuances of wildfire and climate change in Oregon. There are many resources and opportunities for our communities to come together. Yes, it is necessary to become more resilient to wildfire in a warming world *while we transition to a fossil fuel free world.*

In the media and in conversations about the fires it is argued that one million forest acres have been *destroyed*. The fact is, native forests are not destroyed

by wildfire. Instead, a mosaic of burn intensity is left after a fire that promotes forest diversity. Our native forests have co-evolved with fire and fire plays an important role in the ecological function of native forests throughout Oregon.

On the other hand, timber plantations are easily reduced to moonscapes by fire, as is shown in the images from the Holiday Farm Fire in Lane County. With small diameter tightly packed trees, tree farms burn hot and fast.

The timber industry is already pushing to profit off the fires through salvage logging in federal forests. Such logging will not reduce future wildfire severity in the wet forests of Western Oregon's Coast and Cascade lands. Forest scientists and activists are pointing to the science that shows that logging actually increases wildfire severity by opening up and drying out the wet forest landscape. Salvage logging puts communities at greater future risk.

Demands for more thinning and prescribed fires on public lands are insufficient to protect our communities because it is industrial, short rotation plantation forestry that surrounds most of our cities and towns. Instead of wasting public money on logging deep in public lands, we must invest in the protection of homes and communities by retrofitting buildings to be more fire resistant and create defensible space around our rural communities.

The elephant in the room in regards to wildfire is a warming planet due to the use of fossil fuels. As the planet warms, the Pacific Northwest can expect more unusual weather patterns similar to the rare wind event that fueled the recent fires.

The Coast Range Association continues work on the connection between forests and climate change. To meet the scale of the climate crisis, dramatic changes are required on industrial forest landscapes. It is precisely those landscapes that are the most productive forestlands, capable of storing huge amounts of atmospheric carbon now warming the planet. To help lower atmospheric carbon, our current work will offer concrete proposals to transition industrial lands **while providing for people and communities**.

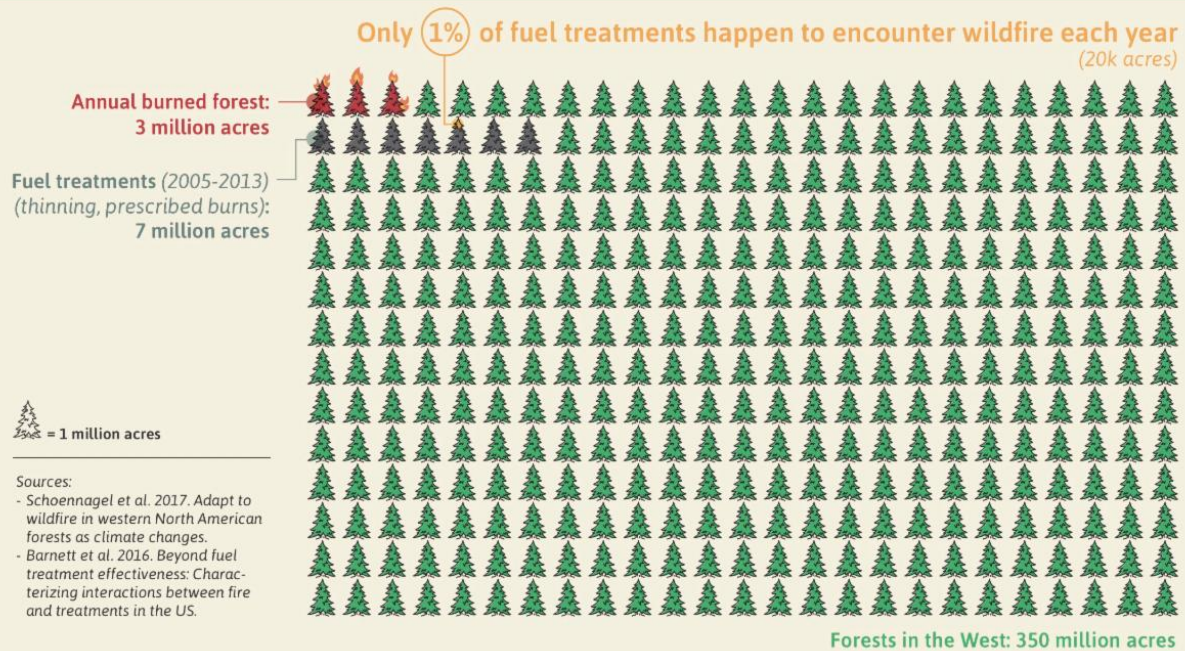
We know we are running out of time to address the climate crisis. The IPCC carbon pathways to a net zero carbon future identify two points of attack. One is the all familiar reduction in the use of fossil fuels. But the second solution is the drawdown of atmospheric carbon to achieve net zero carbon pollution by 2050.

That is why we have embraced work related to the Green New Deal. We understand the severity of the climate crisis and we understand the national response required to meet the climate emergency. Twenty five years of past Coast Range Association work is being brought to bear on a forestry proposal that is path breaking.

In October, the Coast Range Association will release a proposal that provides specific concrete solution for a Green New Deal transition on Oregon's industrial forests. Our proposal will be people centered and provide for economic renewal across Western Oregon's forested landscapes. Stay alert for the release of the CRA's proposal and continue to learn about wildfire. Together we can solve the climate crisis and provide for a better world.

And thank you for supporting our path breaking work.

THINNING THE FOREST TO INFLUENCE FIRE BEHAVIOR IS A SHOT IN THE DARK



Wildfire Resources

Lincoln County and Echo Mountain Fire Resources:

[Echo Mountain Fire Relief](#) - Link to relief fund set up with First Interstate Bank.

[Yachats Community News Coverage of Echo Mountain Fire](#) As Otis residents return to begin recovery from fire's carnage "Everything looks so normal ... and then you turn the corner"

[Lincoln City Fire Resources](#)



Statewide Wildfire Resources and Relief Support:

[Unete, Immigrant Fire Relief Fund](#) - The fund will distribute money directly to families for basic needs like food, gas and other essentials in response to the complications surrounding the recent fires in Jackson County. They are also assisting families with navigating community resources. Many immigrant families have been displaced and their homes have been completely destroyed.

[MRG Foundation, Rogue Valley Relief Fund](#) - The Rogue Valley Relief Fund will go directly to help people most impacted by these fires in the Rogue Valley. This fund will be used to directly meet the needs of those who have been displaced by fires—it will buy tents, meals, gas, and other supplies folks need immediately.

[Rural Organizing Project, Rural Mutual Aid and Wildfire Response](#)- Links to statewide resources for fire and evacuee relief.

[Support for Small Farms affected by Oregon Wildfires](#)- Many of Oregon's small farms are facing devastating losses due to wildfire and windstorms. Rapid evacuations have forced farmers to leave livestock behind. Crops and infrastructure have been decimated, and power outages and roadblocks have prevented crop delivery. The Portland Area CSA Coalition and Friends of Family Farmers (FoFF) started this fund to help small farms.

Wildfire Messaging



Coast Range Radio hosts an interview with Timothy Ingalsbee, Ph.D. Tim is a leading expert in wildfire ecology and provides many insights to the large fires impacting Oregon and the West in 2020. Our conversation reveals several inconvenient truths about fire in Oregon. Tim tells a tale of two fires and offers many solutions to protect our homes and communities while storing large amounts of carbon in our forests, an imperative for our warming planet.

[Listen to Coast Range Radio](#)

Messaging Guide: Wildfire in the Age of Climate Change

A messaging guide created with input from many expert organizations and scientists that speaks to the many complex issues surrounding wildfire, climate change and the protection of our communities.

[Wildfire Messaging Guide](#)

THE CARBON DEBT CREATED BY INDUSTRIAL FORESTRY



NATIVE OLD-GROWTH FOREST

Average carbon stored in old-growth forests of western Oregon

INDUSTRIAL TIMBERLAND

Average carbon stored in timber plantations and clearcuts in Oregon Coast Range

Sources: - Seidl et al. 2012. Multi-scale Drivers of Spatial Variation in Old-Growth Forest Carbon Density Disentangled with Lidar and an Individual-Based Landscape Model
- Keith et al. 2009. Re-evaluation of forest biomass carbon stocks and lessons from the world's most carbon-dense forests
- U.S. Forest Service, Bansal et al. 2017. Oregon's forest resources, 2001–2010: ten-year Forest Inventory and Analysis report
- Photos by Francis Eatherington and Charles Reneau (courtesy of Oregon Wild)

Video: Protect Homes from Wildfire

Experts tell us how we can invest in protecting homes from fire - harden homes, create defensible place and treat fire prone timber plantations. Logging native forests in the backcountry far away from homes and communities is a waste of money and does not work.



Coast Range Association | www.coastrange.org
PO Box 2250 Corvallis, OR 97339

