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# CLIMATE & OREGON'S INDUSTRIAL FORESTS

**WEBINAR ON THURSDAY, MARCH 11  
5:30-7:00 PM**

To build support for a Green New Deal & forests proposal that scales to the climate crisis, challenges Wall Street forestry and provides for frontline communities.

Visit [bit.ly/gnd4forests](https://bit.ly/gnd4forests) to register & learn more

## Momentum Building for the Climate & Oregon's Industrial Forests Green New Deal Proposal

On January 15, we released our [Climate and Oregon's Industrial Forests: A Green New Deal Proposal](#). Over the last month we have spoken with many enthusiastic Green New Deal (GND) supporters across Oregon. We are now in the process of sending the document to key regional and national climate leaders, including members of Congress. Not long after releasing the GND & industrial forests plan, the beginnings of an emergent grassroots support network appeared.

Today, we are building on that grassroots momentum by hosting follow up webinars, doing new work based on positive feedback and adding new staff capacity to support the grassroots momentum. Please welcome Lacy Todd as the Coast Range Association's first *Director of Climate and Forests*. Lacy's primary job will be to support the emerging grassroots support network for the GND & Industrial Forests proposal.

The urgency of the climate crisis requires vastly increasing stored forest carbon on corporate-owned industrial forests in Western Oregon while providing social benefits to forest workers and rural communities.

If you wish to become involved in building community support for transforming Oregon's Wall Street controlled forests into climate and people friendly forests contact [lacy@coastrange.org](mailto:lacy@coastrange.org).

### GND Proposal Webinar

Join us and [Sunrise Movement PDX](#) on Thursday March 11th from 5:30-7:00PM for a webinar that will provide an overview of the proposal and insight from climate activists and forestry practitioners who are excited

### How you can Help

- Join the [webinar](#)
- [Donate or become a recurring donor](#) to support distribution and advocacy
- Join our [GND volunteer team](#) to help with distribution, local outreach

about the opportunities this proposal outlines.

This webinar will fill up so [register](#) early!

We hope you can read the proposal in advance and bring your great questions to the conversation!

and further research

[Read the Proposal](#)

[Donate](#)

## WEBINAR DETAILS

**Who:** Chuck Willer of the Coast Range Association, Sunrise Movement PDX & forestry workers.

**What:** Webinar presenting a Green New Deal Proposal for Oregon's Industrial Forests. The proposal calls for land reform and transfer to social benefit enterprise for Oregon's 4.4 million acres of corporate industrial forests.

**When:** Thursday, March 11 at 5:30-7:00PM

**Where:** Register online at [bit.ly/gnd4forests](https://bit.ly/gnd4forests).

**Why:** We are in a climate emergency and PNW forests are outstanding storehouses of carbon.



CHUCK WILLER

## THE PROBLEM: FINANCIALLY DRIVEN INDUSTRIAL FORESTRY

Understanding intensive, financially efficient forestry reveals the need for land reform. Corporate timber firms export value from rural communities and maximize financial return to investors by:

- Lowering regulatory and taxation costs through political power and influence
- Adopting exploitive labor practices that harm workers and communities
- Using short-term financial cut cycles that reduces timber production and creates low carbon-storing plantations
- Buying out small landowners which depopulates rural landscapes and harms local economies

## THE SOLUTION: LAND REFORM & SOCIAL BENEFIT ENTERPRISE

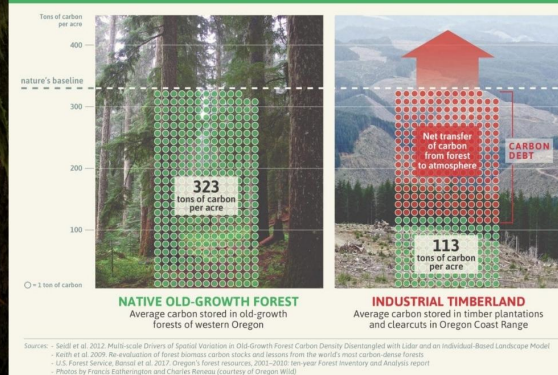
These solutions are modeled on New Deal era rural electric and telephone co-ops. GND policies would finance land reform through federal **carbon sequestration grants** guaranteed by **working forest conservation easements**.

Worker owned democratically governed co-ops would be eligible for grants. Local governments and Tribes would qualify to purchase watersheds and forests. **Co-ops** and **people's utility districts** are familiar business models in rural communities.

**Land reform** and **social benefit enterprise** redirects profits from investors to rural communities while increasing carbon storage. This proposal focuses on Oregon's industrial forests, but a similar proposal could be made for rural communities across the country.

## FOREST CARBON ON OREGON'S INDUSTRIAL FORESTS

### THE CARBON DEBT CREATED BY INDUSTRIAL FORESTRY



The mismanagement of forests over the past century has transferred large amounts of forest-carbon to the atmosphere. This creates a "carbon debt" that can only be repayed through growing older and larger trees.

## Timber Tax Severance & Eliminating OFRI this Legislative Session

Oregon's long 2021 legislative session is one for the history books. With exciting movement on reinstating a timber severance tax and eliminating the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) there is a lot of buzz in Salem (or should we say on Zoom and Microsoft Teams). These are some great opportunities to challenge Wall Street forestry in Oregon while benefiting Oregon's rural communities. Below are some brief updates.



## Tax Severance

On February 23rd, the CRA's Chuck Willer provided testimony at a timber severance tax information hearing before the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources. Chuck submitted several informational memos and a poster characterizing the timber industry.

There are several bills being considered for a new timber severance tax, so at this time we don't have a specific bill to support.

However to learn more about this important issue, OPB and The Oregonian released a [new article](#) on March 2nd that provides some excellent background. It challenges the industry's claim that it is hurting due to the pandemic and the 2020 wildfires. In fact the high demand for lumber and the accompanying high prices have helped to boost stock prices and profits for some of Oregon's largest timber companies. Much of the information in the OPB-Oregonian article was mirrored in Chuck's testimony to the Ag and Natural Resources Committee on February 23rd.

Once again it comes down to choosing two of three paths: We can invest in vibrant rural communities, have large carbon dense and ecologically rich forests, or let timber profits be exported to Wall Street investors. We know which two we are fighting for.



Tony Schick @tonyvschick · 8m

Lobbyists told lawmakers now is the worst time for new timber taxes because the industry is "against the ropes." But thanks to record lumber prices, some of its biggest companies are seeing huge earnings. w/ @robwdavis



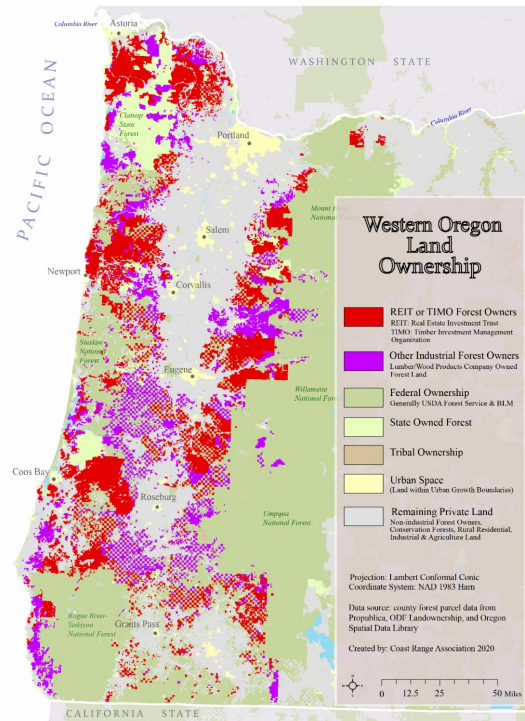
Oregon's timber industry says it can't afford new taxes, despite reco... Lobbyists claim the timber industry is "up against the ropes." Here's what they're not saying: Lumber prices are at record highs and profi... opb.org



## Eliminating OFRI

We are asking everyone to support and testify for [HB 2357](#). The bill would eliminate the Oregon Forest Resources Institute and establish a Sound Forestry Practices account under the State Forestry Department.

The bill requires that revenue from the levy of a new privilege tax under forest products harvest tax be deposited in a ***Sound Forestry Practices*** account. The bill directs the Oregon Department of Forestry to use the Sound Forestry Practices account to develop forestry practices in collaboration with other state agencies.



To learn about the bill and testify click the link above. To learn more see the resources below.

### Resources on HB 2357

- [Landing page for OFRI impacts](#)
- [How to testify document](#)
- [Interview on Timber propaganda in Oregon's schools](#)
- [OPB and Oregonian reporting](#)

**COAST RANGE RADIO**  
**PRESENTS**  
**Sam Krop**  
Sam discusses her work to resist post-fire logging in Oregon. We also introduce Sam as a new regular contributor for Coast Range Radio!  
Listen at [www.coastrange.org](http://www.coastrange.org)

The graphic features a photograph of Sam Krop, a woman with long brown hair, wearing a dark puffer jacket, olive green pants, and a maroon beanie. She is standing on a rocky, uneven terrain, possibly a cliff edge, with her right hand raised in a gesture. The background is a blurred natural setting.

## Coast Rand Radio Updates

[Coast Range Radio](#) has some exciting updates from this last month. First, we have two great new interviews with inspiring activists fighting to stop the



expansion of fracked gas infrastructure in Oregon. Future episodes will feature Rocky Habitats protection on the Oregon Coast and work to protect large trees in Eastern Oregon.

Most importantly however, Coast Range Radio has a **new cohost**! We have brought on Sam Krop of past Cascadia Wildlands fame who is a dedicated forest defender to help expand the voices and connections being made through the program. We have already expanded the reach of the show with Sam's help and we look forward to the many great conversations to come with many individuals working to make a better world possible!

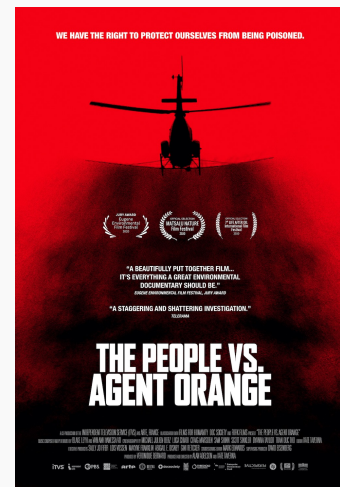
Listen to Coast Range Radio



## The People VS. Agent Orange

If you have yet to see this powerful and moving film now is your chance! The film is premiering across the country on March 5.

Visit the [The People Vs. Agent Orange](http://www.thepopularvsagentorange.com) website to learn more about the film and find an online screening through your local theater. The film is showing online through theaters in Portland, Florence, Ashland and other cities across Oregon and the US.



Coast Range Association | [www.coastrange.org](http://www.coastrange.org)  
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