

**From:** Janice Cecil <jancecil8@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:08 PM  
**To:** CALFIRE Forest Climate Advisory Team  
**Subject:** Response to FCAT report

I am appalled and disappointed in the FCAT proposed plan. In the face of world-wide climate urgency and the state-wide drought/beetles decimation of our forests, I expected better than the logging industry's "Business as Usual" logging proposal. Our California forests are many million times more valuable than logging industry profits. In addition to the immediate and critical need for carbon sequestration, our forests protect our landscapes, state economy, tourism industry, water supply, property values, life satisfaction, and wildlife.

The plan should include a ban on harvesting old growth and mature trees, and their immediately surrounding forests. New research is showing the importance of undersoil organisms, and the fact that old growth trees greatly benefit entire forests, including younger trees.

The plan should eliminate the practice of clearcutting altogether. It would also ban the use of herbicides and pesticides, because of the dangers to wildlife, humans, and the water supply..

The plan should include a ban on planting monoculture tree plantations, even in areas already clearcut but not yet planted. The plan should include methods to support biodiversity; biodiversity makes forests much less susceptible to beetles and drought in the future..

The plan should leave already dead trees in place. They are not a fire hazard, they provide nutrients/habitat to soil, plants, and wildlife. They continue to sequester carbon. Only trees next to a structure or road could be removed.

Some small amount of thinning of young trees when needed for forest health can be allowed but only under regulation, justification, supervision, and enforcement..

It seems to me that the **Two Overriding Goals** of our state/country at this time are:

1. Immediate **sequestration of carbon** (the next 5 years is critical).
2. Create the best **conditions for our devastated forests to restore themselves** properly for the future. So that California will have real forests in our children's future.

The FCAT proposed logging plan will satisfy neither of these goals. If continued, our current logging practices will be the ruin of our forests for many years into the century.

Janice Cecil