

**From:** Mary Rose Kaczorowski <mrkaczorowski@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:32 PM  
**To:** CALFIRE Forest Climate Advisory Team  
**Subject:** Submission Public Comments: Forest Carbon Plan -

Submission Public Comments: California Forest Carbon Plan -

All ecological systems on the planet are critical for maintaining life on our planet. Climate change will require fast adaptation by ecosystems and the species that they harbor. We have all witnessed the squandering of our ecological resources without a precautionary view for the future.

Our forests have been a profit machine for years. Trees may be a renewable resource, however tree plantations have not renewed forest ecosystems that are efficient in storing carbon.

With the continued industrial logging of our California Forests under current practices-- this plan is only a dream of a roadmap.

In regards to this Forest Carbon Plan quoting the role of Forestry in California's Cap and Trade Program: September 28th, 2009 Governor's Climate and Forest Task Force (GCF) Meeting

[http://www.gcftaskforce.org/documents/California\\_ARB\\_Presentation.pdf](http://www.gcftaskforce.org/documents/California_ARB_Presentation.pdf)

The Forest Carbon Plan must consider establishing new accounting methods (inventory) to include the preservation of natural forest habitat and not foster a race to more plantation type of forest agriculture.

To effectively deal with climate change, this plan must encourage a return to mixed age forest stands with a substantial population of mature trees. Habitat for wildlife must be treated as part of the forest ecosystems and not just an accounting of industrial plots.

The plan must ensure that current timber harvesting and thinning do not turn forests into a carbon source. The years of clearcutting and variable retention timber practices have been detrimental to our forest ecosystem's health. We need to go back to 80 and 100 years rotations with plans to reintegrate mixed stands and mixed aged forests.

We can increase carbon sequestration now by working with some experts. They're called trees, and they have almost 350 million years' experience in sequestering carbon. Forests act as carbon sinks – as they remove carbon from the 1 atmosphere they store it as biomass. It appears that increasing natural forest ecosystems may be an efficient low-tech way to slow down or reverse the accumulation of CO2 in the earth's atmosphere. Source: New York State, Department of environmental Conservation, Trees: The Carbon Storage Experts, Retrieved from <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/47481.html> (2/26/2017)

Preserving forests in California is essential to sequestering carbon. More specifically, saving our redwood forests is crucial to mitigating climate change and keeping ecosystems intact for the endangered species that they harbor. In the fight against climate change, our California state tree is the star player. Per the San Jose Mercury News article, Are California redwood trees the answer to global warming, the article noted that "Scientists have long known that redwood trees, because they can live more than 1,000 years and grow to immense heights, are able to capture significant amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere." A study conducted by researchers from UC Berkeley and Save the Redwoods League noted that, "redwoods are best at storing carbon, as they live longer than most other trees. Their wood is virtually fireproof. They can survive winds that break their tops off. And roughly two-thirds of all the carbon is stored in their heartwood, which lasts hundreds of years even after the trees die, and doesn't quickly rot away like wood from tropical areas and other forests."

Mary Rose Kaczorowski  
PO Box 1684 Ft.Bragg ,CA 95437  
Member, Sierra Club  
Chair, California Chapter, Common Ground USA