



For Immediate Release:
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News Release

**Pacific Forest Trust President Laurie Wayburn
Honored with Irvine Foundation Leadership Award**

SAN FRANCISCO — Laurie Wayburn, President and Co-Founder of the Pacific Forest Trust (PFT), has been named as one of six recipients of the 2008 James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award, one of California's most prestigious honors.

The Irvine Foundation honored Wayburn for her successful efforts with PFT to pioneer a new economic model for forest management, one that utilizes market forces to reward forest landowners for protecting, restoring and stewarding forests. Read the Irvine Foundation's award profile of Wayburn here:

<http://www.irvine.org/leadershipAwards/recipients/laurieWayburn.shtml>.

"I am gratified the Irvine Foundation has taken this opportunity to acknowledge the work PFT has been doing to advance the understanding of the climate benefits of forests in California and beyond, as well as our coalition-building among historically divided stakeholders," says Wayburn. "This award reflects the growing awareness that working forests are helping to combat global warming while sustaining so many other public benefits including rural economies, critical watersheds, wildlife habitat, wood products and recreational opportunities."

The Pacific Forest Trust will receive \$125,000 to support its work helping the state and others integrate forests into the plans to implement Assembly Bill 32, California's landmark climate legislation.

"The Irvine Foundation Leadership Award will provide invaluable support for our efforts to ensure that the conservation and stewardship of forests figure prominently in any comprehensive plan to address the extraordinary challenge of climate change," continues Wayburn.

"This year's award recipients are delivering cutting edge, practical solutions for some of the most intractable problems facing Californians today," says Jim Canales, President and CEO of The James Irvine Foundation. "We believe Laurie Wayburn's innovative, cooperative approach to conservation and climate change action will make a real difference in Californians' lives, while setting an example for other leaders and organizations to follow."

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Read the Irvine Foundation Leadership Awards press release:

<http://www.irvine.org/leadershipAwards/media/pressRelease.shtml>

Visit the Irvine Foundation Leadership Awards home page:

<http://www.irvine.org/leadershipAwards>

Read Wayburn's Leadership Award profile:

<http://www.irvine.org/leadershipAwards/recipients/laurieWayburn.shtml>

Laurie Wayburn, President and Co-Founder of the Pacific Forest Trust, has more than 25 years of experience in the conservation and sustainability fields. A frequent speaker on the climate benefits of forests, she is a leader of regional, state and national efforts to enact climate change policies that unite conservation and management with market-based incentives to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Considered a preeminent authority on U.S. forests and their climate benefits, Ms. Wayburn is a frequent commentator for print, broadcast and online media and was recently invited to brief former Vice President Al Gore and a U.S. Senate subcommittee about this topic.

About The Pacific Forest Trust

The Pacific Forest Trust (PFT) is the nation's leading non-profit organization dedicated to protecting America's private working forests for their many public benefits including climate stabilization. In California, PFT has been instrumental in advancing the role of forests in the state's climate change programs including the development of the Forest Protocols. Nationally, PFT has published two landmark reports: "America's Private Forests: Status and Stewardship" (Island Press 2001) and "Forest Carbon in the United States." Through its Working Forests, Winning Climate initiative, PFT is advising state governments and federal leaders about the inclusion of forest conservation and sustainable management in climate policies, markets and best-practices. To learn more about the Pacific Forest Trust, please visit:

<http://www.PacificForest.org>.

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