



# THE PACIFIC FOREST TRUST

*Working Forests Work Wonders For Us All.*

## **Media Tip Sheet**

**June 23, 2008**

### **Forests and Climate Change Expert Available to Comment on California's AB-32 Draft Scoping Plan for Reducing CO2 Emissions**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA — **Laurie Wayburn**, president and co-founder of the Pacific Forest Trust (PFT), will be available to comment on California's draft plan for reducing its greenhouse gas emissions according to the terms of Assembly Bill 32, the state's landmark climate legislation. The **draft scoping plan for AB-32** is scheduled for release by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) on **Thursday, June 26**. Wayburn will attend CARB's June 26 meeting, where the draft scoping plan will be released; she will be available to comment for advance stories about the plan and can offer reaction after its release.

"Forests must be an essential component of any comprehensive plan to meet California's ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goals under AB-32," Wayburn says. "Forests can help, when they are managed to sequester more carbon dioxide and provide new, sustainable, low-carbon energy sources. Or they can actually hinder efforts to mitigate climate change if action isn't taken to address forestland conversion and loss of carbon stocks. The scoping plan will give us a chance to see how CARB will integrate the forest sector into an overarching plan to heal our climate."

Wayburn and PFT have been leading advocates for advancing the role of forests in California's developing climate change policy. In October 2007, CARB identified forest climate projects as an early action measure to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in California. Since then, Wayburn and PFT have been actively engaged in CARB discussions about the forest sector's role in the draft scoping plan.

PFT was asked by the state to lead a group of stakeholders – including scientists, foresters, climate experts and others – in the development of the Forest Protocols, a set of rigorous accounting standards CARB has adopted to measure and verify emissions reductions from forest projects. The Protocols guide the management of PFT's *Van Eck Forest Project*, the first CO2 emissions reduction project to be registered with the California Climate Action Registry.

**Laurie Wayburn** has 25 years of experience in the conservation and sustainability fields, with specialized expertise on forests and climate. Recently invited to brief former Vice President Al Gore and a U.S. Senate subcommittee about this topic, Wayburn is a frequent media commentator and participant in state- and national-level policy discussions about the conservation and management of private, working forests for their many public benefits, including climate change mitigation. She can describe the ways in which the forest sector may be integrated into a comprehensive climate strategy, as well as methods for determining the credibility of forest-based emissions reductions. Wayburn is the co-author of "America's Private Forests: Status and Stewardship" and "Forest Carbon in the United States: Opportunities and Options for Private Lands."

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