

The John Muir Project wanted to share some guidance with this list about community coordination to push back against provisions in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Package that would increase subsidies for dirty fuels and logging by many billions of dollars, while also including rollbacks of bedrock environmental laws. These provisions of the Infrastructure bill would make climate change worse, harm biodiversity, increase fire intensity, and exacerbate pollution in lower-income communities and communities of color that are already disproportionately impacted by biomass and wood pellet facilities.

Scientists have been telling us that in order to combat climate change and limit/reverse global temperature rise we must not only dramatically reduce carbon emissions from fossil fuels, but we also must protect our native ecosystems, like forests and wetlands, so that they can help draw CO2 out of our atmosphere. Unfortunately the Senate infrastructure package seems to have missed that memo as they are proposing to invest billions of dollars in fossil fuel infrastructure and logging.

**All interested organizations are encouraged to join in the coordinated efforts to fight back against these concerning provisions of the Infrastructure Package. Here are the communications tools available to the community:**

***Scientist Letter*** Please share the scientist's letter to your networks! <https://johnmuirproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/200TopClimateScientistCongressProtectForestsForClimateChange13May20.pdf>

***Message and social guidance****: We will continue to update message and social guidance materials throughout this campaign. The latest materials are below:*

* *Community toolkit (includes Scientist Letter, Relevant Articles, Social Guidance, etc)*

*Please let us know if you have any questions. Feel free to share this information with your partners and lists.*

**SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT**

Provisions in Senate Infrastructure Would Exacerbate the Climate and Biodiversity Crises by Increasing Subsidies for Fossil Fuels and Destroying, Rather than Investing in, Natural Infrastructure:

* **BASIC INFO**

Synopsis of the Senate Infrastructure bill’s damaging provisions we are focusing on:

· **Section 11318:** Exempts oil and gas pipelines on most federal lands from environmental analysis.

**· Sections 40301-40333** (“Fuels and Technology Infrastructure Investments”): These sections propose nearly $15 billion in taxpayer subsidies for dirty energy, including oil, coal, gas, and woody biomass via investments in largely theoretical and unproven carbon capture and storage technologies, including an additional $3 billion to begin construction of a massive network of new CO2 pipelines (Sec. 41004), while also dishonestly defining “clean hydrogen” to include hydrogen derived from climate-polluting carbon-fuel sources such as biomass and fossil fuels (Sec. 40311). The approach outlined here is riddled with uncertainty and harmful impacts while perpetuating our reliance on fossil fuels, which is why it has been denounced [as a false climate solution by the scientific community](https://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/BECCS-letter-by-scientists-and-economists-1.pdf). An additional $6 billion in subsidies is proposed for nuclear energy ( Sec. 41002).

**· Section 40801:** Authorizes USFS to upgrade and “store” National Forest System roads for future commercial timber production, rather than decommission them.

·  **Section 40803** (“Wildfire Risk Reduction”): Mandates the logging of 10 million acres of federal forestlands over the next 6 years, and an additional 20 million acres of federal forestlands following the initial 10 million acres of logging. The way these provisions are worded could and likely would be interpreted by courts as intending a complete elimination of all federal environmental laws (including NEPA, ESA, NFMA, and others) to facilitate this logging mandate. Section 40803 also dedicates over $1.6 billion in new taxpayer subsidies for logging, including post-fire clearcutting, on federal lands.

· **Section 40804** (“Ecosystem Restoration”) : Authorizes $400 million in subsidies for wood processing facilities, such as sawmills, biomass power plants and wood pellet manufacturing; $400 million for increased logging on public and private forests; $50 million for a program to rent equipment to the timber industry to allow them to log otherwise inaccessible areas, and grants to build sawmill infrastructure and other wood-processing facilities.

·  **Section 40806:** Eliminates environmental analysis under NEPA for an unlimited number of logging projects on federal lands, up to 1,000 feet wide and 3,000 acres in size each, under the guise of “fuelbreaks”.

· **Section 40807:** Weakens current environmental laws to create a broad exemption which eliminates the public’s right to file administrative objections against planned logging projects on federal lands.

·  **Sections 70301-70303:** Promotes post-fire clearcutting and carbon removal, under the scientifically discredited notion that forests do not regenerate after fires, and promotes conversion of native forests to industrial tree plantations.

· **Section 80402:** Proposes a system of sweeping tax credits (financial implications unspecified, but potentially in the billions of dollars) for dirty energy, including coal, oil, gas, garbage incineration, and woody biomass under the false-solution catch-all of carbon capture and storage.

* **KEY LINKS**
  + **Scientist Letter:** [**https://johnmuirproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/200TopClimateScientistCongressProtectForestsForClimateChange13May20.pdf**](https://johnmuirproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/200TopClimateScientistCongressProtectForestsForClimateChange13May20.pdf)
  + **JMP PFPI Statement on Infrastructure**

[**http://johnmuirproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/JMPPFPIStatementOnInfrastructure.pdf**](http://johnmuirproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/JMPPFPIStatementOnInfrastructure.pdf)

* **SAMPLE SOCIAL**

Top U.S. scientists warn Congress: to avoid the worst impacts of the #ClimateCrisis substantial reductions in fossil fuel consumption is not enough, we must also increase forest protections! Yet the #BipartisanInfrastructure deal subsidizes both. #BadInvestment <https://bit.ly/3Chvg58>

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Biden's #InfrastructureBill needs to get bolder for the sake of the planet. Agreeing to roll back environmental laws,while increasing subsidies for fossil fuels and harmful extractive logging is a #DirtyDeal

To #BuildBackBetter, We need to #DoBetter.

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#InfrastructureBill on #Wildfires:

-mandates logging of 30 million acres over 6 yrs that curtails ALL enviro laws

-proposes over $1.6 billion in NEW taxpayer subsidies for logging

-completely ignores the science that shows that logging makes #wildfires & the #climatecrisis WORSE.

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With limited to address the #climatecrisis we should NOT be investing billions in the same logging, drilling and mining activities that got us into this mess in the first place. #InfrastructureBill needs a bit of work. In order to #BuildBackBetter we need the Senate to #DoBetter

* **HASHTAGS** 
  + #InfrastructureBill
  + #Bipartisan
  + #DirtyDeal
  + #BuildBackBetter
  + #DoBetter
  + #StopTheChop
  + #Stand4Forests
  + #ClimateDefense
  + #ForestDefenseIsClimateDefense
  + #KeepCarbonInTheForest
* **TARGETED SM HANDLES**

| **Senator** | **Twitter** | **Facebook** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| President Joe Biden | @JoeBiden  @POTUS | @joebiden  @POTUS |
| Sen. Chuck Schumer | @SenSchumer | @senschumer |
| Sen. Joe Manchin | @sen\_joemanchin | @JoeManchinIII |
| Se. Bernie Sanders | @SenSanders | @senatorsanders |
| Sen. Susan Collins | @senatorcollins | @susancollins |
| Sen. Rob Portman | @senrobportman | @senrobportman |
| Sen. Krysten Sinema | @SenatorSinema | @SenatorSinema |
| Sen. Lisa Murkowski | @lisamurkowski | @SenLisaMurkowski |
| Senate Natural Resources Committee | @NRDems | @NRDems |
| Senate Democrats | @SenateDems | @USSenateDemocrats |