



FOREST-CLIMATE WORKING GROUP

September 30, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol H-232
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol H-204
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

The undersigned members of the Forest-Climate Working Group are writing to urge the House to pass the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* in a bipartisan manner when it comes up for a vote.

The [Forest-Climate Working Group](#) has worked together since 2007 to identify how public policy can help advance needed actions in America's forests for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Our informed and balanced perspective comes from diverse member organizations who, together, represent every aspect of the forest sector, including private landowners, forest products manufacturers, government agencies, conservation non-profits, academics and carbon markets.

While forests and forest products alone cannot solve climate change, they can play a very important role. America's forests and forest products already sequester nearly 15 percent of U.S. carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels each year, according to the U.S. EPA Greenhouse Gas Inventory. And we can do more with the right actions and investments.

We commend the bipartisan support in the Senate-passed version of the bill for leveraging U.S. forests and forest products to contribute to natural climate solutions. The language reflects a shared, bipartisan goal to make natural climate solutions an even more robust part of America's action on climate change.

In particular, we commend the inclusion of the REPLANT Act in the final package, which will help the U.S. Forest Service regenerate more than 1.2 billion trees and create 49,000 jobs each decade. We also welcome the inclusion of over \$3 billion for wildfire resilience and over \$2 billion for ecosystem restoration, as well as \$400 million for wood products utilization and innovation that facilitates needed forest restoration and management. These stand among other provisions in the bill aligned with our priorities.

Thank you for your consideration of our perspective. We look forward to working with you so we can realize the full climate action potential of forests and forest products through federal policies and investment.

Sincerely,

American Forest Foundation

American Forests

BlueSource

Composite Panel Association

Drax Group PLC

L&C Carbon

Molpus Woodlands Group

National Association of State Foresters

National Association of University Forest Resources Programs

National Woodland Owners Association

New England Forestry Foundation

NCX

Rayonier Inc.

Society of American Foresters

Sustainable Forestry and African American Land Retention Network (SFLR Network)

Sustainable Forestry Initiative

The Forest Stewards Guild

The Lyme Timber Company

Vermont Woodlands Association

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy