

Dear Supervisors,

I've reviewed the Draft Resolution regarding the disposition and future policies regarding activities in Jackson State Demonstration Forest (JSDF), and find it compelling. Certainly adequate for a much needed rethink of the California Department of Forestry's (CDF) priorities, policies and procedures regarding its treatment of this vital resource.

Carbon sequestration is now an articulated policy objective of the State of California. Accordingly, policies regarding timber harvesting in JSDF must be re-imagined. Immediately. Now. Without equivocation.

As we all taught back in high school, trees breathe in CO₂ -- Carbon Dioxide -- and exhale Oxygen. Simple.

Now that political society is beginning to more widely acknowledge the effects of climate change, so must our policies recalibrate. This is all the more important for our trees and forests, as they are powerful scrubbers of CO₂ from the atmosphere. Cutting them down -- killing them -- can no longer be justified because timber harvests fund CDF. This state has an enormous budget surplus, and so can easily reallocate monies to fund the Department. We need more trees, not fewer.

I strongly support passage of the Resolution.

Sincerely,

Lee Edmundson, Mendocino