



PACIFIC FOREST TRUST



July 8, 2014

Rajinder Sahota, Chief
Climate Change Program Evaluation Branch
Air Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Inclusion of Forest Offset Projects in Alaska

Dear Ms. Sahota,

We understand that the ARB is considering modifying the Forest Offset Protocol to remove the language that currently excludes projects in Alaska. The Pacific Forest Trust and The Nature Conservancy support this modification.

Alaska is blessed with vast areas of untouched forest. Many of these areas are under pressure from commercial timber harvesting, which would result in significant carbon emissions as well as the loss of outstanding forest resources. Making California's carbon offset market available to landowners operating in Alaska would provide an alternative source of income, allowing these forests to continue to provide climate and habitat benefits.

Alaska was initially excluded from the Compliance Offset Protocol because the Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) data was not available to ARB. Given that the data is now available, Alaska should be incorporated into the offset protocol.

Alaska has truly phenomenal forest resources, and inclusion in the ARB Forest Protocol offers an opportunity to shift the economics in a way that can result in very real ecological and climate benefits. We urge you to remove the "Alaska Exclusion" language as part of the upcoming amendments to the Compliance Offset Protocol U.S. Forest Projects.

Yours,

Paul Mason
Pacific Forest Trust

Michelle Passero
The Nature Conservancy

