



precious little time before ecosystems and the climate are pushed beyond the point of no return that according to a recent United Nations report<sup>9</sup> will impact all citizens on the planet, including the grim prospect of contributing to more global pandemics as wild areas are increasingly developed and more zoonotic diseases released<sup>10</sup>.

We urge that you demonstrate global leadership on the importance of including the nation's remaining carbon dense, natural, and intact areas in a system-wide reserve network that would begin with the Tongass in the NDCs. Doing so, would also demonstrate progress towards the administration's commitment to protect 30 percent of all lands and waters by 2030.

Sincerely (\*affiliations for identification purposes only),

Dominick A. DellaSala, Ph. D  
Chief Scientist, Wild Heritage  
Talent, OR

James R. Strittholt, Ph. D  
President/Ex Director, Conservation Biol. Inst.  
Corvallis, OR

James R. Karr, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Malcolm L. Hunter, Jr. Ph. D  
University of Maine, Orono, ME

Dennis Murphy, Ph. D, Prof.  
Ecology, Evol., Conservation Biology  
University of Nevada, Reno, NV

Richard T. Holmes, Ph. D. Emeritus Prof.  
Dartmouth College  
Hanover, NH

Thomas T. Veblen, Ph. D, Distinguished  
Prof., University of Colorado, Boulder, CO

Barry R. Noon, Emeritus Prof.  
Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO

Kai M.A. Chan, Prof., lead author IPBES  
Connecting Human & Natural Systems  
University of British Columbia, Vancouver

William J. Ripple, Ph. D  
Endowed Chair and Distinguished Prof.  
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

Jason A. Koontz, Ph. D  
Professor of Biology  
Co-Chair Environ. Studies Program  
Augustana College, Rock Island, IL

Reed F. Noss, Ph. D, President  
Florida Institute for Conservation Science  
Melrose, FL

Jon Grinnell, Ph. D  
Francis Morley Chair in Biology  
St. Peter, MN

Brian Linkhart, Ph. D, Professor  
Dept. Organismal Biology & Ecology  
Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO

Timothy A. Pearce, Ph. D  
Curator: Carnegie Museum Natural Hist.  
Pittsburg, PA

William L. Baker, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
Program Ecology, University of Wyoming  
Laramie, WY

Gregory M. Huey, R.E.P

William D. Anderson, Jr., Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.unep.org/resources/making-peace-nature>

<sup>10</sup> <https://newrepublic.com/article/157361/public-health-depends-healthy-planet>

Environ. Project Lead  
U.S. Army Garrison, Kwajalein Atoll

Grice Marine Biology Laboratory  
College of Charleston, SC

Mitchell M. Johns, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
College of Agriculture  
California State University, Chico, CA

John Ratti, Ph. D  
University of Idaho, Moscow, ID

Robert L. Beschta, Ph. D. Emeritus Prof.  
Forest Ecosystems and Society  
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

Bruce G. Baldwin, Ph. D, Professor  
Integrative Biology & Curator Jepson Herb.  
University of California, Berkeley, CA

Don M. Waller, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison, WI

Philip Myers, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

John Robinson, Ph. D  
J.L Tweedy Chair in Conservation  
Wildlife Conservation Society  
Bronx, NY

Garry Rogers, Ph. D, President  
Agua Ria Open Space Alliance, Inc.  
Humboldt, AZ

James Quinn, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
Rutgers University, NJ

John W. Schoen, Ph. D, Wildlife Ecol.  
Anchorage, AK

Michael W. Fox, BVetMed, Ph. D  
Consultant Veterinarian, Minneapolis, MN

Gretchen B. North, Ph. D, Prof. Biol.  
Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA

Bobb Carson, Emeritus Prof.  
Earth & Environmental Sciences  
Lehigh Univ., Bethlehem, PA

Gary D. Grossman, Ph. D  
Fellow Am. Fisheries Soc., Linnean Soc.  
Athens, GA

Terry L. Root, Ph. D  
Senior Fellow Emerita  
Stanford Woods Insti. Environ.  
Stanford University, CA

David Karowe, Ph. D, Prof. Biol. Sci.  
Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

David F. Whitacre, Ph. D, Wildlife  
Treasure Valley Math/Sci Center  
Boise, ID

Stephen T. Tettelbach, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
Long Island University, NY

Jessica Pratt, Ph. D, Assoc. Prof.  
University of California, Irvine

Faisal Moola, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof.  
Dept. Geograp., Environ., Geomatics, Guelph, CAN

Robert Summerfelt, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
Dept. Natural Resource Ecology & Mgmt.  
Iowa State University, Ames

Robert T. Heath, Ph. D, Dir. Emeritus  
Water Resources Research Inst.  
Kent State University, OH

Paula M. Schiffman, Ph. D, Prof. Biol.  
California State University, Northridge

Thomas M. Power, Prof. Emeritus  
Economics Dept. University Montana, Missoula

Carlos Carroll, Ph. D  
Klamath Center for Conserv. Research  
Orleans, CA

Melissa Savage, Ph. D, Emerita Prof.  
University of California, Los Angeles

Peter B. Moyle, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
University of California, Davis

Wayne D. Spencer, Ph. D, Chief Scientist  
Conservation Biology Institute, Corvallis, OR

Robert M. Pyle, Ph. D  
Xerces Society, Gray's River, WA

March Lapin, Ph. D, Associate Prof. & Ecologist  
Middlebury College, VT

Robert Huber, Ph. D, Biol. Sci.  
Bowling Green State University, OH

Craig W. Benkman, Ph. D, Prof. Zoology & Phys.  
University of Wyoming, Laramie

Roger A Powell, Ph. D  
Dept. Applied Ecology  
North Carolina State Univ. Ely, MN

Richard Bradley, Ph. D, Assoc. Prof. Emeritus  
Evolution, Ecology, & Organismal Biology  
The Ohio State University, Columbus

Gary K. Meffe, Ph. D, Conserv. Biol.  
University of Florida, Gainesville

John Harte, Ph. D, Ecosystem Sciences  
University of California, Berkeley, CA

Scott Hoffman Black, M.S  
Executive Director, Xerces Society  
Portland, OR

Amy Moas, Ph. D  
Senior Climate Campaigner, Greenpeace  
Washington, D.C

Philip D. Cantino, Ph. D  
Dept. of Environ. & Plant Biol.  
Ohio University, Athens

Karen Holl, Ph. D, Prof. Enviro. Studies  
University of California, Santa Cruz

Thomas L. Fleischner, Ph. D  
Executive Director, Natural History Inst.  
Prescott, Arizona

Erik Asphaug, Ph. D  
University of Arizona, Tempe

M. Henry H. Stevens, Ph. D, Assoc. Prof.  
Director Ecology, Evol., and Environ. Biol.  
Miami University, OH

Hartwell Welsh, Ph. D, Wildlife Ecologist  
Arcata, CA

F. Stuart Chapin, III Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
Institute of Arctic Biology, Univ. Fairbanks  
Fairbanks, AK

Edward Huang, Ph. D, Principal  
California Institute of Environ. Design  
Arcadia, CA

Darlene Chirman, MS Ecology  
University of California, Davis, CA

Jay H. Jones, Ph. D, Prof. Biology & Biochem.  
University of La Verne, La Verne, CA

W Scott Armbuster, Ph. D  
University of Alaska, Fairbanks  
University of Portsmouth, UK

Monica Bond, Ph. D, Principal Scientist  
Wild Nature Institute, Concord, NH

Michael S. Swift, Ph. D, Emeritus  
Assistant Prof. Biology  
St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN

John M. Marzluff, Ph. D, Prof.  
Wildlife Science  
University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Jim Boone, Ph. D Ecology  
Desert Wildlife Consultants, LLC  
Las Vegas, NV

Pepper W. Trail, Ph. D  
Rogue Valley Audubon Society  
Ashland, OR

Bitty Roy, Ph. D, Emerita Prof.  
University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

Roger Sabbadini, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
Biology, San Diego State Univ., CA

Curtis Bradley, M.S., Senior Sci.  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Tucson, AZ

Chad Hanson, Ph. D, Ecologist  
John Muir Project, Big Bear City, CA

Ken Carloni, Ph. D, Forest Ecologist  
President, Umpqua Watersheds, Inc.  
Roseburg, OR

Franz Baumann, Ph. D  
Visiting Research Professor  
New York University, NY

Mary Edwards, Ph. D, Professor  
Geography & Environmental Sciences  
University of Southampton, UK

Janet Marsden, Ph. D  
Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

Rob Mrowka, MS, Retired Biologist  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Franklinville, NY

Russ K. Monson, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
Dept. Ecology & Evolutionary Biology  
University of Arizona, Tempe

Fred M. Rhoades, Ph. D, Biology  
Western Washington University  
Bellingham, WA

Dan Gavin, Ph. D, Professor  
Dept. Geography, University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR

Shaye Wolf, Ph. D, Climate Sci. Dir.  
Center for Biological Diversity, Oakland, CA

Rich Nawa, MA, Staff Ecologist  
Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center, Ashland, OR

Cindy Haws, M.S., President  
Umpqua Natural Leadership Sci. Hub  
Myrtle Creek, OR

John Bailey, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
Colorado State University, Belgrade, MT

Maya Khosla, M.S., Wildlife Biologist  
Rohnert Park, CA

Evan Frost, M.S., Conservation Biologist  
Wildwood Consulting LLC  
Ashland, OR

David Johns, JD, Ph. D  
Hatfield School of Government  
Portland State University, Portland, OR

Paul Schaeffer, Assoc. Prof. Biology  
Miami University, Oxford, OH

Roger Rosentreter, Ph. D, Botanist  
Boise State University  
Boise, ID

Theodora Tsongas, Ph. D  
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Portland, OR

James Catlin, Ph. D Emeritus  
Wild Utah Project, Salt Lake City, UT

Catherine Thomasson, MD  
Physicians for Social Responsibility, Portland, OR

Timothy Ingalsbee, Ph. D, Ex. Dir.  
Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics,  
Ecology (FUSEE), Eugene, OR

David J. Cowen, Distinguished Emeritus Prof.  
Assoc. Member National Academy of Sciences  
Columbia, SC

Ceal Smith, M.S, Res. Policy Analyst  
Alaska Institute for Climate and Energy  
Homer, AK

Zach Brown, Ph. D, Tides Institute  
Gustavus, AK

Michael Goodchild, Ph. D, Emeritus Prof.  
University California, Santa Barbara, CA

Winston P. Smith Ph. D. Principal Res. Sci.  
Retired: Inst. of Arctic Biol., Univ. Fairbanks, AK

Frank Lance Craighead, Ph. D  
Ex. Director, Craighead Institute  
Bozeman, MT

John Talberth, Ph. D, Pres. & Senior Economist  
Center for Sustainable Economy  
West Linn, OR

Judith Well, Ph. D, Ecologist  
Rutgers University, NJ

John R. Cannon, Ph. D  
Conservation Biologist, Front Royal, VA

Travis D. Marsico, Ph. D, Prof.  
Curator, Arkansas State Univ. Herbarium  
Arkansas State University, AR

Jon Evans, Ph. D, Prof. Biology  
The University of the South  
Sewanee, TN

Ken Driese, Ph. D, Program Director  
University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY