



**EFM**

INVESTMENTS & ADVISORY

We believe that turning the tide on climate change is of the most urgent challenges facing humanity today. Transitioning to a clean energy economy is essential, but reducing fossil fuel emissions is not enough. We also must rapidly--and massively--draw down greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and advance climate-smart land use practices that will store carbon in our natural infrastructure assets – our forests, soil, grasslands, coastal wetlands and green buildings.

Our region offers some of the best solutions to meet this challenge: Currently, Oregon’s forests alone store 3 billion tons of carbon, which is equivalent to nearly 10 billion tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. Managing our forests well to increase the carbon they can store, alongside producing timber, is not only climate-smart, but can also sustain quality rural jobs and ensure the many benefits we count on our forests provide—clean air, clean and reliable drinking water, habitat for wildlife, recreation opportunities, and a strong and diverse local forest products industry.

EFM is a Portland based forestland investment and management company that has succeeded in attracting over \$100 million to the region from private investors who believe that forests are the key to unlocking a climate solution that is win-win for rural communities, job creation, and the environment. We have acquired over 77,000 acres of forestland in Oregon, Washington and California. We fear that Oregon will be left behind unless we too push forward ambitious carbon pricing legislation that incentivizes investments in climate-smart forestry.

Our farms, ranches, coastal wetlands, and green buildings offer significant opportunities for investment in climate-smart solutions to benefit our communities and economies. Smart regulatory measures and incentives are an essential foundation to ensure that these kinds of regenerative land practices make as much financial sense as they do common sense.

While the Paris agreement has stalled at the federal level, cities, states, and regions have to carry the ball and push harder now--and here on the West Coast, we have the political leadership to join together and make a real difference with smart regulation and incentives for investment in frontline communities--both rural and urban. Passing legislation is of course only the first step-- engaging diverse stakeholders and citizens in effective and appropriate implementation will be critical.

The Oregon legislature has a huge opportunity--a responsibility in fact--to push forward the Clean Energy Jobs bill this week. It is time to put a price on carbon and shift Oregon towards a climate-smart economy.

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