

Here in southwest Oregon we have been marinating in the smoke for the past two summers. We are experiencing hotter, drier fire seasons throughout the west. Since record keeping began in 1895, maximum temperatures at Medford have increased 2 degrees. For forests 2 degrees has a powerful drying effect, setting the stage for larger, more intense wildfires.

The economic costs of large, high severity fires have been enormous.

We know who is to blame. But we cannot send the bill to BP, Exxxon Mobil and Koch Industries.

But this Bill is a start. By pricing carbon pollution, we can begin to repair the damage and begin to get some economic justice.

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