

Here in the alleged Commonwealth of Massachusetts we have been struggling for decades to end logging on all public lands, both nationally and in the state. We have been constantly reminding everyone who will listen that our trees & forests are on the frontlines of natural carbon capture and must be left alone to do that free work 24/7/365.

Sadly, the so-called National Forest Service, as well as our new state Administration under the leadership of Gov. Maura Healey, are seemingly more interested in business as usual, clearcutting and logging of these critical lands, thus leading to more CO2 emissions and loss of carbon capture. They do this more in the interest of the wood products industry than in the interests of the public. This is why we have created a cross-state alliance, the Trees as a Public Good Network, to amplify the voices of citizens deeply concerned about the Climate Crisis and the health and well-being of trees, forests, and biological diversity.

Recently some solar power promoters have decided it's OK to clearcut forests and install vast tracks of solar panels and highly flammable battery installations . Sadly, many of these proponents seem unaware (or refuse to admit) that destroying acre upon acre of natural carbon capture & storage during a Climate Crisis is self-defeating and regardless of short-lived solar power's low carbon footprint serves only as a step backwards in addressing climate chaos. The solar industry appears to be putting profits before progress. As noted elsewhere "The restrictions on solar development on forested land are insufficient, particularly when it comes to critical natural landscape areas identified in [the] BioMap3. These areas should be protected and exempt from solar projects"

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