

Southern Oregon Climate Action Now

**SOCAN**

Confronting Climate Change

<https://socan.eco>

Gary Clarida  
6582 Pleasant Creek Road,  
Rogue River  
OR 97537  
[frygulch@budget.net](mailto:frygulch@budget.net)  
541-227-4335  
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Reference SB530

Senator Golden and members of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery:

I write as Leader of the Southern Oregon Climate Action Now (SOCAN - [socan.eco](https://socan.eco)) Forest and Fire Project Team to present the SOCAN position on SB530, the Natural Climate Solutions Bill. Southern Oregon Climate Action Now is an organization of over 2,000 Southern Oregonians and friends who are concerned about the climate crisis and seek individual and collective (statewide) action to address it. To this end, SOCAN supports the efforts of state agencies following the Governor's Executive Order 20-04 to develop programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We also recognize that these efforts suffer a loophole in their omission of programs that promote the capture and storage (sequestration) of carbon dioxide in our natural and working lands. We applaud the Oregon Global Warming Commission in its proposal that the state undertake efforts to achieve such sequestration, and thus support the effort to embody these proposals in SB530.

For both personal and professional reasons I am very familiar with the issues related to living in rural Oregon. I own 30 acres in rural Jackson County and I worked for over 30 years doing ecologically based forest restoration in Southern Oregon. This experience leads me to be a strong supporter of the efforts of the OGWC resulting in this bill. In addition, I applied, and was accepted to serve on OGWC Natural and Working Lands Advisory Committee where I am collaborating with a statewide team to promote the OGWC vision for carbon sequestration. SB530 embodies this vision and would launch Oregon on a worthwhile course to achieving the kind of sequestration that we need if Oregon is to play its role in addressing the global climate crisis.

Since the focus of Southern Oregon Climate Action Now is on promoting an understanding of the science behind the climate crisis, and stimulating individual and collective action to address it, we are very familiar with the current science that tells us clearly that in order to address the climate crisis, we must not only mitigate the problem by reducing emissions substantially, but also must extract from the atmosphere a substantial proportion of the long-lived greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide) already there.

It is in recognition of this reality that the OGWC has proposed increasing statewide efforts to sequester (capture and store) carbon dioxide in our natural and working lands. The Advisory Committee on which I serve is dedicated to promoting this effort, as is SB530.

As rural Oregonians, we occupy the front lines in confronting the climate crisis. We are committed both to reducing emissions and promoting carbon sequestration. The beauty of efforts to promote the latter is that they can also serve to provide economic benefits to rural Oregon both in our forestry and agricultural activities. It is worth noting that there exist some \$26 billion in various pots of federal funds that state agencies can access to serve the goals of SB530.

Lastly, I would like to comment that thinking about living with wildfire for most of my adult life has led me to believe that it will require an intensive years-long PR campaign to generate the public will necessary to address the complex issues before us. It is worth noting that there exist some \$26 billion in various pots of federal funds that state agencies can seek to serve the goals of SB530

For these reasons, I write to express both my personal support for SB530, and the support of Southern Oregon Climate Action Now.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Clarida". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Gary Clarida