



# Oregon Conservation Law Forum

August 19, 2020

Virtual Meeting

## Pre-Registration Link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/august-19th-conservation-law-forum-tickets-112729906184>

**8:45am**      **Welcome and Introductions**

**9:00am**      **Executive Order 20-04 on Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

*Catherine Macdonald (Natural Climate Solutions Director, The Nature Conservancy)*

In March 2020, Governor Brown signed Executive Order 20-04 directing 16 Oregon agencies to take actions to reduce and regulate greenhouse gas emissions. In it, Governor Brown directs the Oregon Global Warming Commission to submit a proposal to her in 2021, regarding adoption of state goals for carbon sequestration and storage on Oregon's natural and working lands. Catherine Macdonald, incoming Chair of the Oregon Global Warming Commission, will provide a brief overview of the Commission, the work the Commission will do to meet this charge and recent research estimating the potential for natural climate solutions in Oregon. She will give an overview of state and federal policies and programs as well as corporate practices that are being taken to increase sequestration on natural and working lands.

**9:45am**      **Land Trust Alliance Carbon Offset Pilot Program**

*Kelly Watkinson (Land Trust Alliance)*

The Land Trust Alliance is developing a suite of new resources for land trusts considering carbon offset projects. These resources include an overview of carbon markets and carbon project information relevant for land trusts, guidance specific to the intersection of carbon projects and conservation easements, and the launch of a carbon offset pilot program. Kelly Watkinson, LTA's Land and Climate Program Manager, will introduce these resources and explore LTA's vision for demonstrating how accredited land trusts with forested fee lands or privately held grasslands can combine their holdings to access voluntary carbon offset markets.

**10:30am**      **Break**

**10:40am**      **Oregon Land Trusts & Natural Climate Solutions**

*Wendy Gerlach (Pacific Forest Trust), Amanda "Marti" Martino (Blue Mountain Land Trust), Steve Cook (Columbia Land Trust)*

In this panel, we'll hear from three Oregon conservation professionals about how their respective organizations are incorporating natural climate solutions and climate planning into their conservation strategies and management plans to protect and enhance climate resilient lands. We'll explore how each organization has developed an approach to protecting resilient lands with the potential to store carbon, how that approach has manifested in targeted acquisition, and investigate the technical legal aspects of carbon-focused conservation easements.

**12:00pm**      **Drafting Conservation Easements for Carbon Offset Projects**

*Robert Mellinger (Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts)*

Robert Mellinger will present his findings from a summer externship with COLT. He will provide examples and ideas for how land trusts can modify their easement templates to include durable language for projects that incorporate carbon offset credits.

**12:30pm**      **Round Robin**

Questions and free-flowing discussion

**1:00pm**      **Adjourn**