

Acceptance Speech: Outside-the-Box Award
CA State Senator Fran Pavley

Presented By: The Pacific Forest Trust, Forest Fete
San Francisco, CA
September 9, 2009

Good evening and thank you.

I am Fran Pavley.

I am honored to be receiving the Outside-the-Box Award from the Pacific Forest Trust this year.

I wish I could be there with you at the Presidio to receive this award, but the California State Senate is in session.

It is an honor to receive this award for my legislative work promoting the protection of our climate and the natural landscapes we depend on to stabilize it.

As we work on very difficult climate change issues, I very much support policies that will retain our forestlands and prevent their conversion to other uses. I appreciate the Pacific Forest Trust's leadership on this issue, as well as your guidance on Senate Bill 144; legislation I am working on to ensure that climate benefits of forests are fully mitigated when woodlands are cleared or converted to other uses. The California department of forestry and fire protection estimates that for the period from 1984 to 1994 approximately 108,000 acres of timberland were converted to non-forest uses. This loss of

more than 168 square miles of timberland represents a huge release of carbon as well as a significant loss of future sequestration capacity.

Here in California we are fortunate to be at the forefront of innovative outside-the-box efforts to protect our atmosphere. Here are just three examples. First, in 2006 we passed the nation's first comprehensive climate law, the Global Warming Solutions Act, known as AB 32. Second, earlier this year the Obama administration decided the United States' U.S. Environmental Protection Agency should adopt our state's CAR emission standards, established by legislation I authored. Third, California has set another fine example for our national lawmakers with the groundbreaking inclusion of the forest sector in our implementation plan for AB 32.

I'm looking forward to working with Pacific Forest Trust and our other allies in the future, to ensure our forestlands continue to serve as a global warming solution.

Thank you so much for this recognition and for your valuable support of our nation's forests and the many public benefits they provide.

I trust the Pacific Forest Trust to keep pursuing this very important work of conserving and stewarding our nation's forestlands.

Good night.