

Resolution #7
Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs

ENCOURAGE MORE AGGRESSIVE CO2 EMISSIONS REDUCTION

Submitted by: The Mazamas

Background: In 2007, the Nobel Prize-winning U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) predicted serious risks and damages to livelihoods, human infrastructure, societies, species, and ecosystems unless future warming is reduced. So far this decade, emissions, warming, and impacts, such as ice melt and sea level rise, have all been at the upper end of IPCC projections.

To avoid the worst effects of global warming, there is broad scientific agreement that we must limit additional warming to no more than 2 degrees Celsius over pre-industrial levels. According to the IPCC, we have a reasonable chance of meeting this objective if developed countries as a whole cut their emissions by 25-40 percent below 1990 levels by 2020 and by 80-95 percent below 1990 levels by 2050; within this time frame, major developing countries also must act.

These goals, while admirable in themselves, encourage no short term immediate actions. Since the first benchmark is 11 years away, it could encourage “business as usual” short term. We need to act sooner than 2020.

Resolution: The FWOC urges member organizations to apply pressure to their Congressional delegations to push harder on Global Warming initiatives than the present UN goals of 25% of 1990 levels by 2020 and 80% of 1990 levels by 2050.

Contact: Joan Zuber, zuberj@juno.com