TOP STORIES

The war on women in the U.S.

By Virginia Chamlee | 07.18.11 | The Florida Independent

Ed. note: This piece was written and published in coordination with Ms. Magazine. #

In recent months we've become well aware of how U.S. House Republicans are trying to decimate services of vital importance to women. Don't take your eyes off your local statehouse, though More…

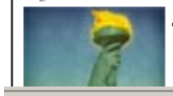
'Ex-gay' conference will be held in St. Paul, Minn. in 2012

By Andy Birkey | 07.15.11 | The Minnesota Independent

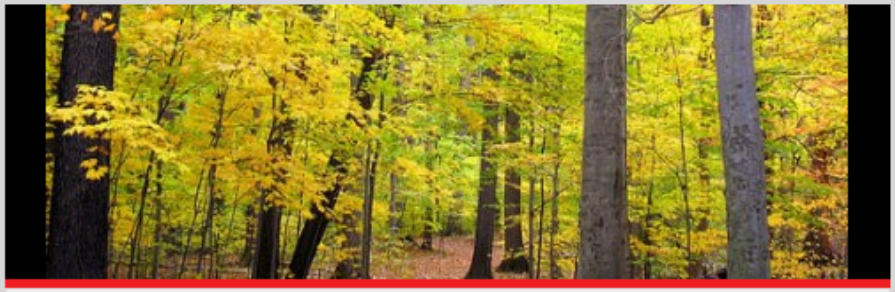
Amid news that Rep. Michele Bachmann's Christian counseling clinic performs therapy aimed at "curing" gays and lesbians of homosexuality, the nation's largest "ex-gay" organization, Exodus International, announced it will hold its annual conference, "Exodus Freedom," in St. Paul next year. The last time an Exodus conference came to Minnesota, Bachmann gave it a glowing endorsement. More…

Alabama business opposed immigration law, but some say not loudly enough

By Nicolas Mendoza | 07.15.11



Alabama's new immigration law has been called the most far-reaching of the state-level efforts at cracking down on



(Photo: Flickr Creative Commons/Dextera Photography)

Researchers discover trees soak up more CO2 than originally thought

By Eartha Jane Melzer | 07.15.11 | 12:53 pm | More from The Michigan Messenger

In a study that could cause the U.S. to rethink its designation of biomass as green energy, Australian scientists have found that living forests soak up far more carbon dioxide than previously thought.

Researchers at the Global Carbon Project based at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in Australia detailed the volume of CO2 absorbed by the world's forests and found that they soak up 10 percent of the emissions caused by human activities.

Reuters reports:

> The researchers found that in total, established forests and young regrowth forests in the tropics soaked up nearly 15 billion tonnes of CO2, or roughly half the emissions from industry, transport and other sources.
>
> But the scientists calculated that deforestation emissions totaled 10.7 billion tonnes, underscoring that the more forests are preserved the more they can slow the pace of climate change.
>
> A major surprise was the finding that young regrowth forests in the tropics were far better at soaking up carbon than thought, absorbing nearly 6 billion tonnes of CO2 — about the annual greenhouse gas emissions of the United States

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Forests absorb a third of emissions

Marlowe Hood | 15th July 2011

Tags carbon emissions, forests

FORESTS play a larger role in the Earth's climate system than previously suspected for both the risks from deforestation and the potential gains from regrowth, a benchmark study has shown.

The study, published in Science on Thursday, provides the most accurate measure so far of the amount of greenhouse gases absorbed from the atmosphere by tropical, temperate and boreal forests, researchers said.

"This is the first complete and global evidence of the overwhelming role of forests in removing anthropogenic carbon dioxide," said co-author Josep Canadell, a scientist at CSIRO, Australia's national climate research centre in Canberra.

"If you were to stop deforestation tomorrow, the world's established and regrowing forests would remove half of fossil fuel emissions," he told AFP, describing the findings as both "incredible" and "unexpected".

Wooded areas across the planet soak up fully a third of the fossil fuels released into the atmosphere each year, some 2.4 billion tonnes of carbon, the study found.

Forests play a larger role in Earth's climate system than previously suspected, a new study shows.

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Milne talks of critical decade

BRIAN WARD | July 19, 2011 12.01am

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THE University of Tasmania last night hosted the first of two lectures about the future of climate change and carbon pricing in Tasmania.

More than 200 people attended the lecture by Greens senator Christine Milne at the Stanley Burbury Theatre.

Senator Milne spoke about the impact of carbon pricing and climate change on Tasmania.

During her lecture, entitled "A Carbon Price: What it means for you", Senator Milne said the next 10 years would be the most critical period in the world's history for action on climate change.

"This decade, between 2010 and 2020, is the critical decade for the planet," she said.

"Every one of us living now is in a position to do something, and we will be the group of people who will determine what life is like for everyone who comes after us."

The lecture will be followed up by another tonight entitled "Forests and Carbon", which will feature talks from experts on carbon emissions and storage.

Natural Resource Planning director Alistair Graham will discuss the implications of Bill Kelty's forestry report, while Dr Jen Schweitzer, of the UTAS School of Plant Science, will explore ways to maximise soil carbon storage.

The lecture will also delve into a recent study by CSIRO's Dr Pep Canadell, which estimated that the world's

Greens Senator Christine Milne addresses the crowd last night.

Also in Tasmania

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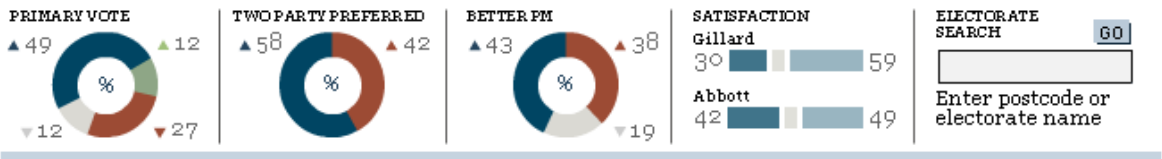

Forests 'the key to reducing carbon emissions'

Graham Lloyd, Environment Editor | The Australian | July 15, 2011 12:00AM

LONG understood to be the lungs of the earth, the world's great forests are much more important in the carbon cycle than was previously believed, soaking up one-third of all fossil fuel emissions, according to new research.

Standing forests remove 2.4 billion tonnes of carbon a year from the atmosphere, almost five times Australia's total emissions.

On the other side of the carbon ledger, forest logging releases about 10 billion tones of CO2 into the atmosphere each year.

The research, published today in the leading journal, Science, estimates that reducing logging, most notably in Indonesia and Brazil, could yield up to 2.9 billion tonnes of CO2 a year to be traded as carbon permits to offset emissions in developed countries.

The findings underpin global efforts to establish an avoided deforestation scheme, known as Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation, in the developing world.

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They also underpin demands in Australia that some of the $1

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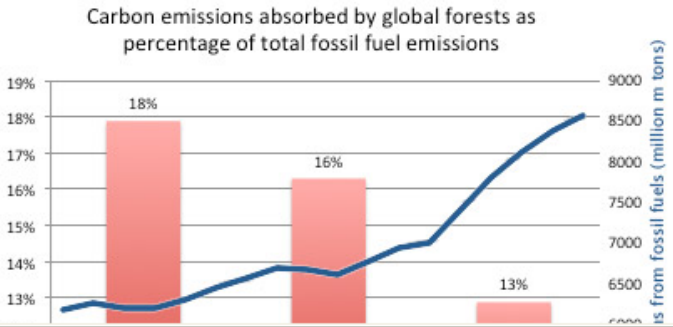
Global forests offset 16% of fossil fuel emissions

Rhett Butler, mongabay.com
July 14, 2011

Between 1990 and 2007 global forests absorbed nearly one-sixth of all carbon released by fossil fuel emissions, reports a new study published in *Science*. The results suggest forests play an even bigger role in fighting climate change than previously believed.

The research, conducted by an international team using field data and statistical models across 95 percent of global forests, estimates that forests absorbed a net of 1.1 billion tons of carbon per year from 1990-2007. Forests' total carbon uptake of 2.4 billion tons per year was offset by deforestation, which released an average of 2.9 billion tons of carbon, but augmented by forest regrowth, which sucked up 1.6 billion tons. Global emissions from fossil fuels averaged 6.9 billion tons per year between 1990-2007, reaching 8.5 billion tons in 2007, according to the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center.

The authors say the findings lend support to the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) program, which aims to create a financial mechanism to compensate developing



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US Forest Service Finds that Forests Play Huge Role in Reducing Carbon and Higher Global Temps

Posted by admin - July 14, 2011 - Food Science Industry News - No Comments

Forests catch CO like a hulk consume into what scientists call a CO sink. This fact is good famous via a systematic community. However, what scientists weren't certain of until now is a volume of CO forests can store.

For years scientists knew a vast volume of CO was somehow being stored though could not brand accurately how this was done. This is since reduction than half of a CO dioxide expelled by hoary fuel use stays in a atmosphere. The remaining CO enters a oceans and other CO sinks including forests.

Although oceans offer as one of a healthy sinks for fullness of poignant amounts of carbon, they did not comment for all a CO fullness that occurs. A new news from a U.S. Forest Service has unclosed a mystery. And a blank CO is station in front of we — that is if you're in a forest.

The study, conducted in partnership with a U.S. Forest Service's Northern Research Station and a group of scientists from around a world, was recently published in *Science Express* and will be published in *Science* repository after this summer.

One of a pivotal commentary in a investigate is that tellurian forests have annually private 2.4 billion tons of CO that absorbs 8.8 billion tons of CO dioxide from a atmosphere, about one-third of hoary fuel emissions annually for a duration of 1990-

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US Forest Service Finds Global Forests Absorb One-Third of Carbon Emissions Annually

16:00 in *News and media* by *grassam*

NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

US Forest Service Finds Global Forests Absorb One-Third of Carbon Emissions Annually

WASHINGTON, July 14, 2011–Forests play a more significant role in removing carbon from the atmosphere than first reported by absorbing one-third of carbon emissions annually, a new U.S. Forest Service study says.

"Forests provide us with abundant clean air," said U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell. "This study shows the important role global forests play in keeping the air clean and it also broadens our understanding of how climate change relates to forest management in today's world."

Forests absorb carbon like a giant sponge into what scientists call a carbon sink. Oceans serve as the only other natural source for absorption of significant amounts of carbon. Until these new findings, many experts said forests played a less important role in removing carbon from the air we breathe. Today's report indicates otherwise.

The study, conducted by the U.S. Forest Service's Northern Research Station and a team of scientists from around the world, was recently published in the journal *Science* online, at the *Science* Express website, an online publication of the nonprofit American Association for the Advancement of Science.

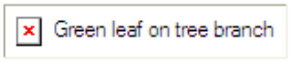
One of the key findings in the study is that global forests have annually removed 2.4 billion tons of carbon and absorbed 8.8 billion tons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, or about one-third of fossil fuel emissions annually from the period of 1990-2007.

"The new information suggests forests alone account for the most significant terrestrial carbon sink

Forests absorb one-third of global fossil fuel emissions

Featured In: Academia News

By University of Leeds Friday, July 15, 2011



The world's established forests remove 8.8bn tonnes of CO2 per year from the atmosphere – equivalent to nearly a third of annual fossil fuel emissions – according to new research published in Science.

In addition, regrowth of trees on previously deforested lands in the tropics mopped up a further 6 billion tonnes of CO2 annually between 1990 and 2007(1). However, deforestation across the tropics released a huge 10.8 billion tonnes of CO2 annually during this period, off-setting much of the uptake of CO2 by the world's forests. For comparison, global fossil fuel emissions average 28 billion tonnes of CO2 annually.

The findings suggest that the world's tropical, temperate and boreal(2) forests play a much larger role in the global cycling of carbon than previously thought, and that protecting them is vital in limiting the severity of future climate change.

Dr Simon Lewis, a tropical ecologist from the University of Leeds and co-author of the study, said: "Humans are altering the world's forests in a number of ways, from their outright destruction to the much more subtle impacts on even the most remote forests caused by global changes to the environment.

"Our research shows these changes are having globally important impacts, which highlights the critical role forests play in the global cycling of carbon and therefore the speed and severity of future

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Best Climate Change Remedy? More Trees, Study Says

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July 15, 2011 4:05 PM EDT

Forget wind power and extra efficient lightbulbs -- trees are an incredibly effective climate change weapon given the amount of greenhouse gases they absorb, according to a new study in the journal Science.

(Photo: REUTERS / Juan Carlos Ulate)
General view of La Selva biological station in Sarapiqui, 80 miles (129 km) north of San Jose, Costa Rica January 11, 2006.

Trees are natural sponges, or "carbon sinks." The study found that they cumulatively absorbed almost a third of annual fossile fuel emissions, or nearly 2.4 billion tons of carbon. And tropical forests that have been allowed to grow back after deforestation are removing an astounding 1.6 billion tons of carbon from the atmosphere, co-author Josep Canadell told Agence-France Presse.

"This is the first complete and global evidence of the overwhelming role of forests in removing anthropogenic carbon dioxide," Canadell said. "If you were to stop deforestation tomorrow, the world's established and regrowing forests would remove half of fossil fuel emissions."

An international team of climate scientists compiled data spanning nearly two decades, from 1990 to 2007, to present the findings. The central implication, given the capacity of forests to act as safeguards against rising CO2 emissions, is that "forests are even more at the forefront as a strategy to protect our climate," Canadell said.

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Forests absorb one third our fossil fuel emissions

Posted on July 15th, 2011

The world's established forests remove 2.4 billion tonnes of carbon per year from the atmosphere - equivalent to one third of current annual fossil fuel emissions - according to new research published today in the journal *Science*. This is the first time volumes of the greenhouse gas absorbed from the atmosphere by tropical, temperate and boreal forests have been so clearly identified.

Using sophisticated monitoring equipment, scientists have constructed a profile of forests as regulators of atmospheric CO2. Image credit - CSIRO

"This is really a timely breakthrough with which we can now clearly demonstrate how forests and changes in landscape such as wildfire or forest regrowth impact the removal or release of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO_2)," says CSIRO co-author of the paper: *A Large and Persistent Carbon Sink in the World's Forests*, Dr Pep Canadell.

"What this research tells us is that forests play a much larger role as carbon sinks as a result of tree growth and forest expansion."

Dr Canadell, who is also the Executive Director of the Global Carbon Project, said the international research team combined data from forest inventories, models and satellites to construct a profile of forests as major

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Study Touts Carbon-Absorbing Power Of Forests

Posted on: Saturday, 16 July 2011, 05:55 CDT

The world's forests absorb one-third of the world's greenhouse gases, and could soak up as much as half of annual global carbon emission if deforestation was halted, according to a new study published Friday in Science, a journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

In the study, co-author Dr. Pep Canadell, a scientist at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) in Australia and the Executive Director of the Global Carbon Project, and colleagues combined information from "forest inventories, models and satellites to construct a profile of forests as major regulators of atmospheric CO2," according to a CSIRO press release.

They discovered that the world's forests currently remove 2.4 billion metric tons of carbon each year from the Earth's atmosphere, which they believe to be equivalent to one-third of the planet's annual fossil fuel emissions. They also discovered that deforestation for development, to generate fuel, or for other reasons emits roughly 2.9 billion metric tons of the greenhouse gas, or "more than a quarter of all emissions stemming from human activity" each year, according to AFP writer Marlowe Hood.

Previously, there was not enough data available to determine deforestation's contribution to carbon emissions, but according to CSIRO, Dr. Canadell and his associates reported that the percentage of those gases released into the atmosphere as a result of logging and related activities was "much larger" than they had previously thought.

They believe that their discoveries suggest that "the potential benefits of avoiding deforestation through the United Nations-backed Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) scheme, are much larger than previously appreciated."

"This is really a timely breakthrough with which we can now clearly demonstrate how forests and changes in landscape such as wildfire or forest regrowth impact the removal or release of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2)... What this research tells us is that forests play a much larger role as carbon sinks as a result of tree growth and forest

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Forests absorb one third our fossil fuel emissions

Author: CSIRO
Published on Jul 15, 2011 - 9:44:09 AM

Using sophisticated monitoring equipment, scientists have constructed a profile of forests as regulators of atmospheric CO2. Image credit â€“ CSIRO

July 15, 2011 - The world's established forests remove 2.4 billion tonnes of carbon per year from the atmosphere â€“ equivalent to one third of current annual fossil fuel emissions â€“ according to new research published today in the journal Science.

This is the first time volumes of the greenhouse gas absorbed from the atmosphere by tropical, temperate and boreal forests have been so clearly identified.

"This is really a timely breakthrough with which we can now clearly demonstrate how forests and changes in landscape such as wildfire or forest regrowth impact the removal or release of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2)," says CSIRO co-author of the paper: A Large and Persistent Carbon Sink in the World's Forests, Dr Pep Canadell.

"What this research tells us is that forests play a much larger role as carbon sinks as a result of tree growth and forest expansion."

Dr Canadell, who is also the Executive Director of the Global Carbon Project, said the international research team combined data from forest inventories, models and satellites to construct a profile of forests as major regulators of atmospheric CO2.

In addition to the large carbon sink, he said scientists now know that deforestation is responsible for emitting 2.9 billion tonnes of carbon per year â€“ an exchange that had not been known in the past because of a lack of data. For comparison, total emissions from fossil fuels are currently above eight billion tonnes of carbon per year.

Dr Canadell said emissions from deforestation are much larger than previously thought, suggesting that the potential benefits of avoiding deforestation through the United Nations-backed Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) scheme, are much larger than previously appreciated.

The REDD scheme aims to formulate a financial value for the carbon stored in forests.

Dr Canadell said a surprising finding was the large capacity of tropical forest re-growth to remove atmospheric CO2. Regrowth takes place following the end of logging and slash-and-burn land clearing projects. and, to a lesser extent, when new forest plantations are planted.

"We estimate that tropical forest regrowth is removing an average of 1.6 billion tonnes of carbon per year. Unfortunately, some countries have not looked on forest regrowth as a component of REDD, and so are missing a very important opportunity to gain even further climate benefits from the conservation of forests.

"Combining the uptake by established and forest re-growth plus emissions from deforestation, the world's forests have a net effect on atmospheric CO2 equivalent to the removal of 1.1 billion tonnes of carbon every year.

"Carbon exchanges from tropical forests have the highest uncertainties in this analysis and this research has required a concerted effort to refine them to our best knowledge," Dr Canadell said.

This work has been undertaken as part of the Australian Climate Change Science Program, funded jointly by the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, the Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO.The paper was co-authored by: Yude Pan, Richard Birdsey, Jingyun Fang, Richard Houghton, Pekka Kauppi, Werner A. Kurz, Oliver L. Phillips, Anatoly Shvidenko, Simon L. Lewis, Josep G. Canadell, Philippe Ciais, Robert B. Jackson, Stephen Pacala, A David McGuire, Shilong Piao, Aapo Rautiainen, Stephen Sitc and Daniel Hayes.

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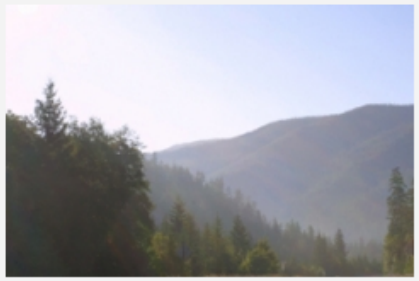
THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE OF FORESTS IN REGULATING GLOBAL CLIMATE

CS by Contributor on 17 Jul 2011

in Issues International

By David A Gabel, ENN



A new study published in the journal, Science, has quantified the forests' role in regulating carbon dioxide (CO_2) levels in the atmosphere.

Because plants absorb CO_2 as part of their metabolism, the greater the forest, the more CO_2 is removed, and the impact of global climate change is decreased.

The study found that the world's established forests remove 8.8 billion tons of CO_2 from the atmosphere per year. This equates to nearly one third of all annual fossil fuel emissions from humans.

Forests are areas with a high density of trees which hold a diverse ecosystem. They cover about 30 per cent of all land area on Earth.

Before the spread of agriculture and human development, they covered up to 50 percent of the land. Much of **the woodland** is found in a tropical band around the equator, and in the northern latitudes.

Because the trees go dormant during winter in the north, their CO_2 consumption lessens, creating a yearly wave-like pattern. The study took this into account when measuring total tons of CO_2 removed.

In the tropics, where plant **life** is most abundant, changes to the forest have a

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Forests absorb a third of world's CO2 emissions

CBC

CBC – Thu, 14 Jul, 2011

The world's forests take up roughly a third of the carbon dioxide emitted from burning fossil fuels each year.

But deforestation in the tropics sends about half that amount — equivalent to a sixth of global fossil fuel emissions — back into the atmosphere, reported a study by an international team of government and university researchers published Wednesday in Science.

Emissions of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere are linked to climate change, including an increase in global temperatures. Through the United Nations Framework Agreement on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, many countries committed to trying to reduce emissions and climate change, and the resultant negative impacts, such as extreme weather and rising sea levels.

Werner Kurz, a scientist with Natural Resources Canada's Canadian Forest Service who co-authored the paper, said the amount of carbon dioxide being absorbed by forests is "good news" and reinforces what scientists had previously estimated — that forests are the biggest carbon sinks among land ecosystems.

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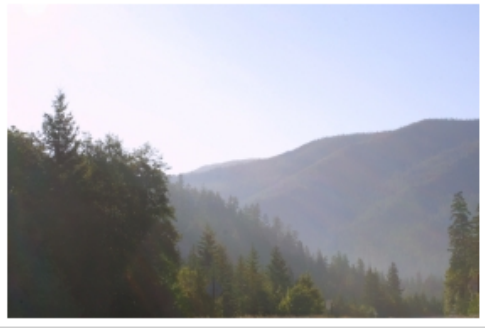
From: David A Gabel, ENN
Published July 15, 2011 08:56 AM

The Significant Role of Forests in Regulating Global Climate

A new study published in the journal, Science, has quantified the forests' role in regulating carbon dioxide (CO_2) levels in the atmosphere. Because plants absorb CO_2 as part of their metabolism, the greater the forest, the more CO_2 is removed, and the impact of global climate change is decreased. The study found that the world's established forests remove 8.8 billion tons of CO_2 from the atmosphere per year. This equates to nearly one third of all annual fossil fuel emissions from humans.



Forests are areas with a high density of trees which hold a diverse ecosystem. They cover about 30 percent of all land area on Earth. Before the spread of agriculture and human

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SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2011

Forests play a major role as carbon sink say scientists

The world's forests remove over one quarter of current annual human carbon emissions from the atmosphere each year, the equivalent of about 2.4 billion tonnes of carbon according to the latest published scientific research. An international team of scientists, including from the US Forests Service and the Australian CSIRO, have quantified the greenhouse gas carbon sink provided by the world's tropical, temperate and boreal forests.

"This is really a timely breakthrough with which we can now clearly demonstrate how forests and changes in landscape such as wildfire or forest regrowth impact the removal or release of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO_2)," says Dr Pep Canadell, CSIRO co-author of the paper: *A Large and Persistent Carbon Sink in the World's Forests*. "What this research tells us is that forests play a much larger role as carbon sinks as a result of tree growth and forest expansion."

"The new information suggests forests alone account for the most significant

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July 17, 2011 - 9:45pm Sam Ross

Print

According to a benchmark study, forests soak about one-third of the carbon dioxide which is put into the atmosphere because of the burning of fossil fuels.

According to an estimate, about 2.4 billion tons of carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere annually. If the deforestation stops then they will sock upto 50 percent of the carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, according to an estimate.

A research forester at the Forest Service and the lead author of the study, Yude Pam said that the tropical forests capture about 1.2 billion tons of carbon dioxide a year which constitutes to about 55 percent of the total CO2 absorbed by the forests annually.

The study also tells how deforestation is releasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere especially in Brazil and Indonesia. The deforestation in these areas is releasing about 3 billion tons of carbon in the atmosphere according to the research.

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TOM NELSON

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2011

More settled science: "forests are a far more significant carbon sink than previously thought"

As Carbon Sinks, Forests Are Even Mightier Than Assumed - NYTimes.com

> According to a study published online on Thursday by the journal Science, the world's forests absorb 2.4 billion tons of carbon dioxide each year, or about one-third of the carbon dioxide released through the burning of fossil fuels.
>
> The lead author, Yude Pam, a research forester at the Forest Service, describes the study as the most comprehensive analysis of the global carbon budget to date. It shows that forests are a far more significant carbon sink than previously thought.

POSTED BY TOM AT 4:36 PM

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Science

The world's forests are pretentious palaces of biodiversity, plentiful with dumb and smashing creatures and plants that seem otherworldly. But they're also something distant some-more paltry nonetheless useful: they're hulk sponges, shower adult immeasurable amounts of carbon dioxide.

Abel MonteagudoA pleasant timberland in Ecuador.

According to a investigate published online on Thursday by a journal Science, a world's forests catch 2.4 billion tons of carbon dioxide any year, or about one-third of a carbon dioxide

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BOOKS IN HEAT

- While Beyond Boundaries (reviewed below) is essentially a brief for the research

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2011

As Forests Go, So Goes the Planet

Where's the future? In the trees.

"Earth's forests, it turns out, play a dominant role in absorbing greenhouse gases *in the atmosphere, acting like a giant sponge and soaking up on average about 8.8 billion tons of carbon dioxide each year, the new study led by the US Forest Service shows – or about one-third of fossil fuel emissions annually during the 1990-2007 study period. In the end, about 2.4 billion tons of solid carbon were locked away in wood fiber each year over that period – a surprise to scientists."*

"The new information suggests forests alone account for the most significant terrestrial carbon sink *and that non-forest lands collectively*

VICKNESWARAR

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2011

forests absorb one third our fossil fuel emissions

The world's established forests remove 2.4 billion tonnes of carbon per year from the atmosphere – equivalent to one third of current annual fossil fuel emissions – according to new research published today in the journal Science.

This is the first time volumes of the greenhouse gas absorbed from the atmosphere by tropical, temperate and boreal forests have been so clearly identified.

"This is really a timely breakthrough with which we can now clearly demonstrate how forests and changes in landscape such as wildfire or forest regrowth impact the removal or release of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO_2)," says CSIRO co-author of the paper: *A Large and Persistent Carbon Sink in the World's Forests*, Dr Pep Canadell.

"What this research tells us is that forests play a much larger role as carbon sinks as a result of tree growth and forest expansion."

Dr Canadell, who is also the Executive Director of the Global Carbon Project, said the international research team combined data from forest inventories, models and satellites to construct a profile of forests as major regulators of atmospheric CO_2.

In addition to the large carbon sink, he said scientists now know that deforestation is responsible for emitting 2.9 billion tonnes of carbon per year – an exchange that had not been known in the past because of a lack

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Forests Absorb a Third of World's CO2 Emissions

Environment (tags: climate-change, climatechange, CO2emissions, conservation, destruction, environment, greenhousegases, forests)

Michael - 11 hours ago - cbc.ca

The world's forests take up roughly a third of the carbon dioxide emitted from burning fossil fuels each year.

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Australia (News4us.com) July 17, 2011

Trees Versus Carbon Pollution Natures Healthy Cleaners

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Study shows forests have bigger role in slowing climate change

14 Jul 2011 17:59 | Source: Reuters // Reuters

Indigenous students of the Indigenous University jump into a river from a tree during a break at Cano Tauca in Venezuela's southern state of Bolivar, on May 11, 2011. REUTERS/Jorge Silva

* Forests still major CO2 "sink" despite massive deforestation-study

* World's forests lock away more than 10 pct of CO2 pollution

* Findings could be boost for REDD forest carbon credit scheme

By David Fogarty, Climate Change Correspondent, Asia

SINGAPORE, July 15 (Reuters) - The world's forests can play an even greater role in fighting climate change than previously thought, scientists say in the most comprehensive study yet on how much carbon dioxide forests absorb from the air

Forests absorb one third our fossil fuel emissions

July 15, 2011

The world's established forests remove 2.4 billion tonnes of carbon per year from the atmosphere – equivalent to one third of current annual fossil fuel emissions – according to new research published in the journal *Science*.

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Dr Canadell, who is also the Executive Director of the Global Carbon Project, said the international research team combined data from forest inventories, models and satellites to construct a profile of forests as major regulators of atmospheric CO2.

In addition to the large carbon sink, he said scientists now know that deforestation is responsible for emitting 2.9 billion tonnes of carbon per year – an exchange that had not been known in the past because of a lack of data. For comparison, total emissions from fossil fuels are currently above eight billion tonnes of carbon per year.

Tags

forest, **atmosphere**, **carbon**, **emissions**

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Forests absorb one third our fossil fuel emissions

Published on Jul 15, 2011 - 9:44:09 AM

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By: CSIRO

Using sophisticated monitoring equipment, scientists have constructed a profile of forests as regulators of atmospheric CO2. Image credit – CSIRO

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Study shows forests have bigger role in slowing climate change

Jul-16-11 2:11am

From: reuters.com

SINGAPORE (Reuters) - The world's forests can play an even greater role in fighting climate change than previously thought, scientists say in the most comprehensive study yet on how much carbon dioxide forests absorb from the air.

The study may also boost a U.N.-backed program that aims to create a global market in carbon credits from projects that protect tropical forests. If these forests are locking away more carbon than thought, such projects could become more valuable.

Trees need large amounts of planet-warming carbon dioxide (CO_2) to grow, locking away the carbon in the trunks and roots.

But scientists have struggled to figure out exactly how much CO_2 forests soak up in different parts of the world and a global total for how much is released when forests are cut down and burned.

The study released on Friday in the latest issue of the U.S. journal Science details for the first time the volumes of CO_2 absorbed from the atmosphere by tropical, temperate and boreal forests. The researchers found that forests soak up more than 10 percent of carbon dioxide from human activities such as burning coal, even after taking into account all of the global emissions from deforestation.

"This analysis puts forests at even a higher level of importance in regulating atmospheric CO_2," said Pep Canadell, one of the authors and head of the Global Carbon Project based at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in Australia

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: Forests absorb one third our fossil fuel emissions

Jul 15, 2011 (M2 PRESSWIRE via COMTEX) -- The world's established forests remove 2.4 billion tonnes of carbon per year from the atmosphere -- equivalent to one third of current annual fossil fuel emissions -- according to new research published today in the journal Science.

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July 15 2011 at 09:39am
By Marlowe Hood

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Forests play a larger role in Earth's climate system than previously suspected.

Paris - Forests play a larger role in Earth's climate system than previously suspected for both the risks from deforestation and the potential gains from regrowth, a benchmark study released on Thursday has shown.

The study, published in Science, provides the most accurate measure so far of the amount of greenhouse gases absorbed from the atmosphere by tropical, temperate and boreal forests, researchers said.

"This is the first complete and global evidence of the overwhelming role of forests in removing anthropogenic carbon dioxide," said co-author Josep Canadell, a scientist at CSIRO, Australia's national climate research centre in Canberra.

"If you were to stop deforestation tomorrow, the world's established and regrowing forests would remove half of fossil fuel emissions," he told AFP, describing the findings as both "incredible" and "unexpected".

Wooded areas across the planet soak up fully a third of the fossil fuels released into the atmosphere each year, some 2.4 billion tons of carbon, the study found.

At the same time, the ongoing and barely constrained destruction of forests - mainly in the tropics - for food, fuel and development was shown to emit 2.9 billion tonnes of carbon annually, more than a quarter of all emissions stemming from human activity.

Up to now, scientists have estimated that deforestation accounted for 12 to 20 percent of total

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Forests soak up third of fossil fuel emissions: study

July 15, 2011, 2:18pm

An Indian couple take an evening walk in the Sanjay Van forest reserve in New Delhi in June 2011. (AFP)

CANBERRA (AFP) — Forests play a larger role in Earth's climate system than previously suspected for both the risks from deforestation and the potential gains from regrowth, a benchmark study released Thursday has shown.

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Up to now, scientists have estimated that deforestation accounted for 12 to 20 percent of total greenhouse gas output.

The big surprise, said Canadell, was the huge capacity of tropical forests that have regenerated after logging or slash-and-burn land clearance to purge

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Forests soak up third of emissions: study

aap

Marlowe Hood, AAP
July 15, 2011, 5:37 pm

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"If you were to stop deforestation tomorrow, the world's

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Forests soak up third of fossil fuel emissions

by Marlowe Hood

Friday, 15 July 2011

Agence France-Presse

PARIS: Forests play a larger role in Earth's climate system than previously suspected for both the risks from deforestation and the potential gains from regrowth, a benchmark study has shown.

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"If you were to stop deforestation tomorrow, the world's established and regrowing forests would remove half of fossil fuel emissions," he said, describing the findings as both "incredible" and "unexpected".

The cost of forest destruction

Wooded areas across the planet soak up fully a third of the fossil fuels released into the atmosphere each year, some 2.4 billion tonnes of carbon, the study found.

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Study Shows Forests Have Bigger Role In Slowing Climate Change

Date: *15-Jul-11*
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Author: David Fogarty

General view of La Selva biological station in Sarapiqui, 80 miles (129 km) north of San Jose, Costa

Forests absorb one third our fossil fuel emissions

BY DAVID TWOMEY · JULY 15, 2011 · NO COMMENTS

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Forests soak up third of emissions

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