

DOCKETED

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Filer:	Liza Lopez
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The First **Proven** Carbon-sequestering Tribal & Rural Region in U.S. by 2030



California Energy Commission and California Public Utilities Commission

Tribal En Banc

3/2/2023

Jana Ganion, Sustainability and Government Affairs Director

jganion@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov

BLUE LAKE RANCHERIA

A Federally Recognized Tribal Government

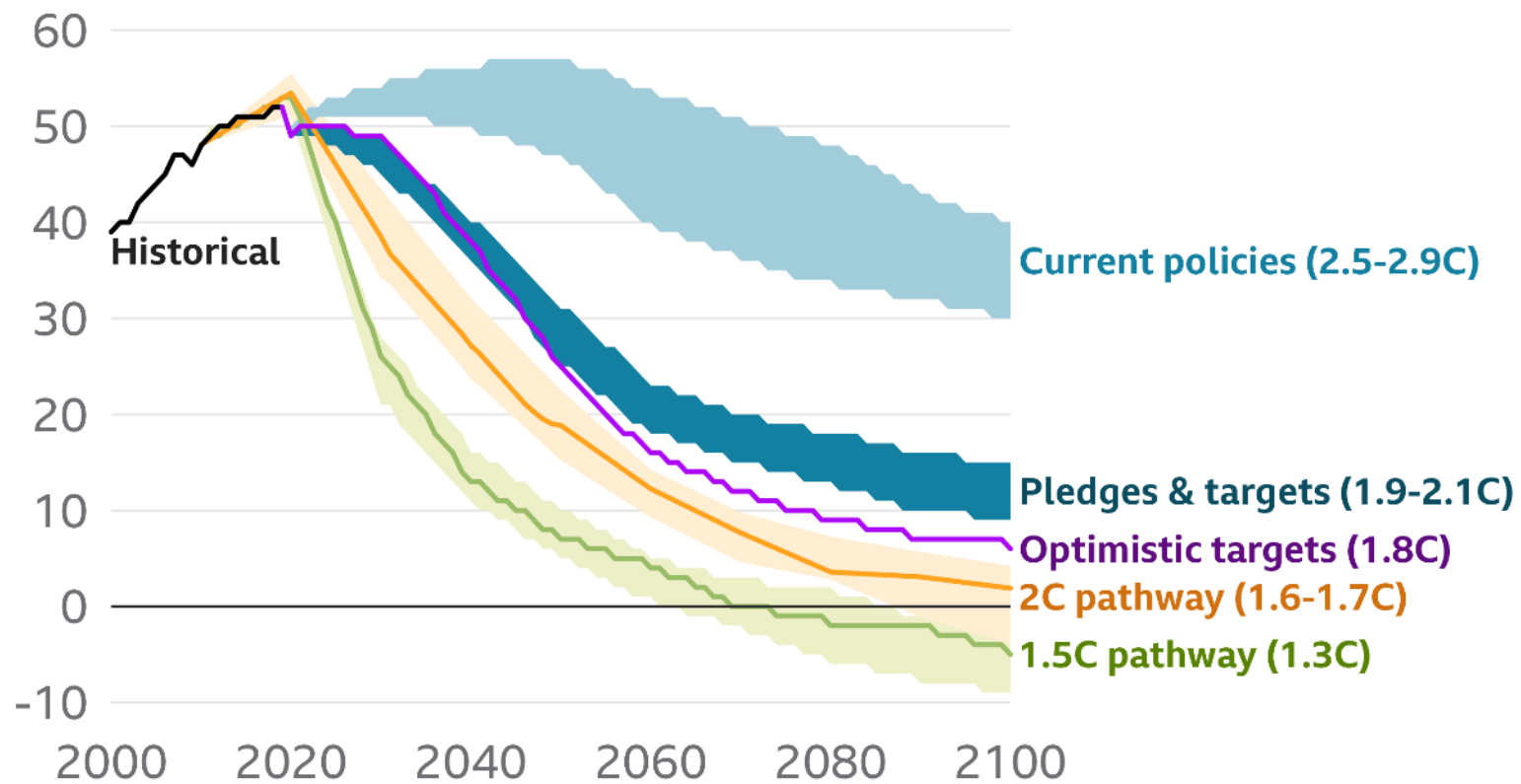
Why? To Accelerate GHG Reductions

- ❁ To limit warming by 1.5C, emissions must fall **by 45% by 2030** (~7 years)
- ❁ ‘...updated Nationally Determined Contributions submitted since [2021] take **less than [1%]** off projected 2030 emissions.’

Source: *United Nations Environment Programme Emissions Gap Report 2022*
<https://www.unep.org/interactive/emissions-gap-report/2022/>

How the world is projected to warm by 2100

Past and projected emissions in gigatonnes of carbon dioxide

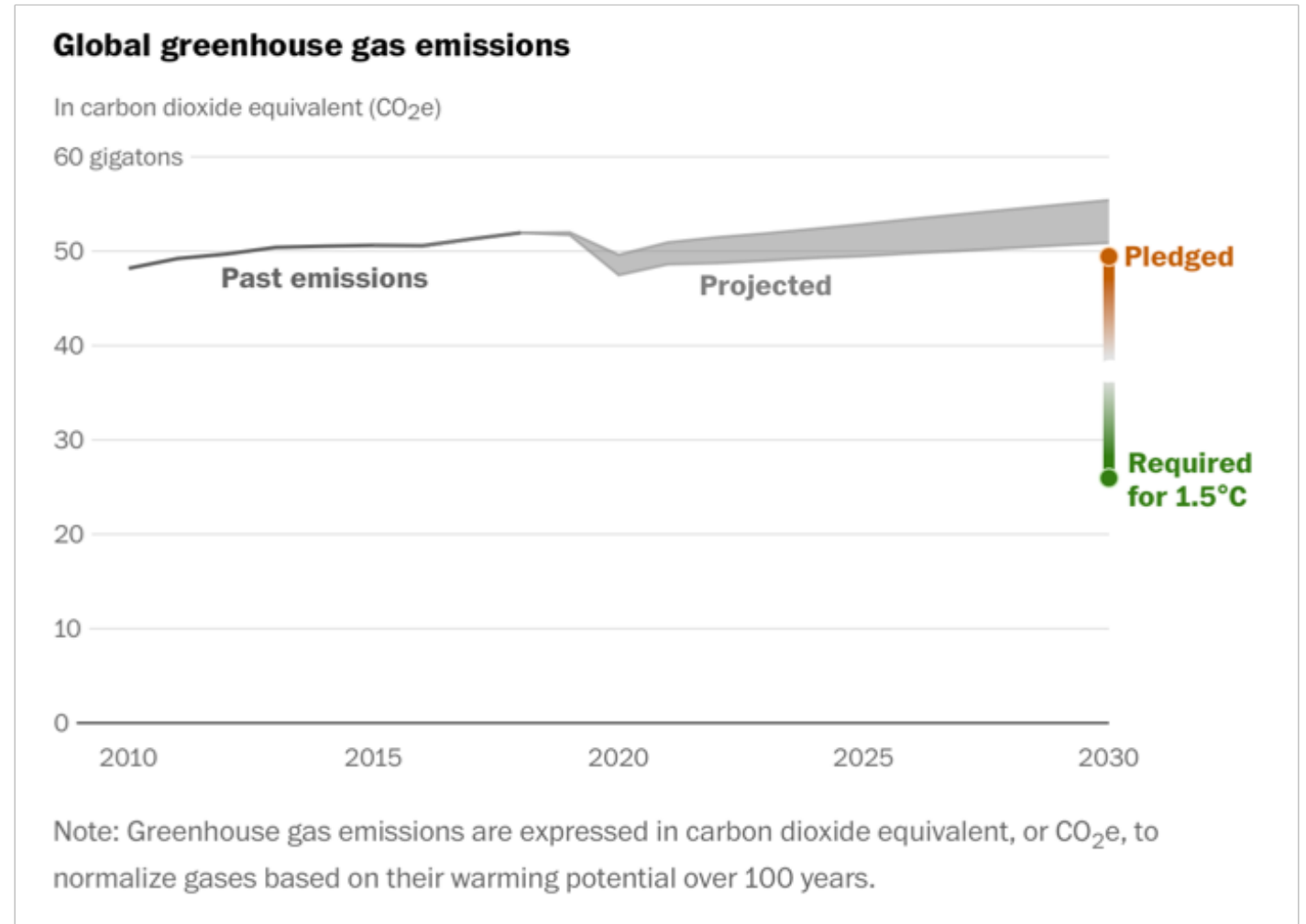


Source: Climate Action Tracker

Emissions Gaps are Severe

- ❁ Current international pledges are ~25 gigatons too high annually
- ❁ Accurate carbon emission accounting is difficult, requires more data and skilled practitioners.
 - ❁ See also:
https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/interactive/2021/greenhouse-gas-emissions-pledges-data/?itid=hp_Climate%20box&itid=inline_manual_45

Image Source: *Washington Post* accessed 2.14.2023



Tribal / rural areas can provide critical climate services ... with appropriate capacity



Photo Credit: Tim and Rose Hanan

- ❖ Tribal / rural areas that **can** sequester carbon must **do** it if we are to reach overall emission reduction goals to prevent even worse disasters.
- ❖ **Equity** is an issue – developing climate assets and services (e.g., carbon sequestration) must have **local benefits** as well as global.

GOAL: Be the First **Proven** Carbon-sequestering Tribal / Rural Region in U.S. by 2030

- ❖ Redwood Region is a leader in climate and community resilience
 - ❖ Localized expertise in low-carbon natural & built environments
- ❖ Forest, coastal, ocean, watershed, food, other carbon-sequestering systems are relatively healthy; may be optimized
 - ❖ Can we infuse value and equity?
- ❖ Once-in-a-generation expansion of built environment is underway (e.g., offshore wind / supply chain, ports, housing, broadband, transmission, Cal Poly Humboldt)
 - ❖ Can we apply zero-emission technologies?
- ❖ Climate planning and resilience work is currently siloed
 - ❖ Can we de-silo?
- ❖ Skillsets and capacity for carbon accounting and carbon-reduction-based decision-making are grossly inadequate
 - ❖ **Can we build a workforce with these skills, and prove we are accurately carbon sequestering across the landscape?**



Photo Credit: Blue Lake Rancheria Food Sovereignty Program

How to #prove it?



Photo Credit: Blue Lake Rancheria Food Sovereignty Program

- 🌐 Survey existing carbon accounting in region
 - 🔴 Regional goals, plans, and research
 - 🔴 Mandatory, voluntary (e.g., geo-locate pro-rata corporate goals, ESG reports)
 - 🔴 Scope 1 and 2 (build on existing work)
- 🌐 Improve regional coordination and peer-to-peer learning
 - 🔴 De-silo communities and decisionmakers
 - 🔴 Include public and private sectors
- 🌐 Build capacity and center Tribal and regional expertise
 - 🔴 Partner with Tribal, state, federal agencies (e.g., CA 5th Climate Assessment)
 - 🔴 *Gather resources to do the work*
 - 🔴 Bring carbon accounting / finance expertise to region if needed
- 🌐 Build regional landscape scale carbon accounting recipe – useful, prevents gaps, leaks, double dips
 - 🔴 Include Scope 3 – complicated
 - 🔴 Improve access to carbon lifecycle accounting and decision-making tools
- 🌐 Support carbon-sequestration strategies (e.g., market structures)
- 🌐 Develop local workforce with carbon accounting skills

🌐 **#Prove It!**

🌐 **2030 Goal Regional Lead:**

- 🌐 **Humboldt Area Foundation / Wild Rivers Community Foundation and the Redwood Region Climate and Community Resilience Hub (“CORE Hub”)**
- 🌐 For more information please visit: <https://redwoodcorehub.org/>

