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<https://www.vox.com/platform/amp/down-to-earth/2021/10/29/22752019/build-back-better-bill-climate-forest-fires-wildlife>

Biden's \$27 billion bet on forests

The president's Build Back Better proposal could be a game changer for US forests.

By Benji Jones, October 29, 2021 2:30 pm

As the White House **revealed** Thursday, President Joe Biden has stripped a lot from his **Build Back Better framework** to placate moderate Democrats. Free community college is out, as is Medicare coverage of dental and vision services, among several other priorities.

But there is one surprising area that's so far survived the congressional gauntlet as part of a big **climate spending** proposal: forest management and conservation. The bill — which Democrats are trying to pass with a simple Senate majority using the reconciliation process — allocates roughly \$27 billion for spending related to federal, state, and tribal forests.

While that's just a sliver of the roughly \$1.75 trillion spending package, it's an enormous and historic number, said Collin O'Mara, CEO of the National Wildlife Federation. "It's the most significant investment ever in our national forests," O'Mara told Vox. "It's an astonishingly big deal."

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