

**FW: Briefing: Forest Fires and COVID-19 - A Deadly Combination**

Rose Garr &lt;rose@waxmanstrategies.com&gt;

Tue 7/21/2020 4:09 PM

To: Rose Garr &lt;rose@waxmanstrategies.com&gt;

Hi everyone,

Just flagging this briefing on U.S. links to international deforestation. It's gearing up to be a big year for fire and deforestation in the tropics, and when all that haze comes in addition to the Covid pandemic, it adds up to a pretty serious public health-climate problem. We'll be talking about US imports, biofuels and other domestic connections to these problems abroad.

We'd welcome your participation and feel free to pass this invite along.

Best, Rose

---

**From:** Henry Waxman <Henry\_Waxman@waxmanstrategies.com>

**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 12:21 PM

**Subject:** Briefing: Forest Fires and COVID-19 - A Deadly Combination


**You are invited to attend:**

## [When Air Isn't Safe: Tropical Forest Fires, Deadly Haze, and Human Rights During a Pandemic](#)

[Thursday, July 23, 2020 from 10:00-11:30 AM ET, Zoom Webinar](#)

Congressional members and staff are invited to an exclusive briefing on U.S. policy and its connections to the origins of zoonotic outbreaks, land-grabs targeting Indigenous people, and deforestation in the Amazon, Indonesia, and beyond.

**Forest fire season is here**, and the conflagrations have already begun in Latin America and Southeast Asia. With COVID-19 cases continuing to rise, the noxious haze that billows out from these fires poses a serious threat to people battling the respiratory disease.

At the same time, the ongoing destruction of forests – sometimes under cover of COVID-19 induced shelter-in-place orders – is accelerating climate change, endangering Indigenous communities, and risking the creation of the next pandemic.

This briefing is your chance to **hear from people who have witnessed these impacts first-hand**, learn what role U.S. policymakers, companies, and citizens play in this pernicious knot of issues, and gain detailed perspective of what can be done to address it.

### **Opening Remarks**

- Congresswoman Deb Haaland (NM-1st District)

**Featured Speakers\***

- Dr. Monica Nirmala, ASRI (Indonesian health and conservation NGO)
- Tasso Azevedo, MapBiomias (Brazil based network tracking landcover & use changes)
- Bustar Maitar, EcoNusa (Indonesian sustainable natural resource management nonprofit)

\*Additional panelists may be added

**Moderated By**

- Rose Garr, Waxman Strategies

Any questions? Email [mhansbrough@waxmanstrategies.com](mailto:mhansbrough@waxmanstrategies.com)

**Click to Attend**

**Waxman**

Waxman Strategies' work on forest conservation is funded in part by the European Federation for Transport and Environment, the Center for International Policy, and the National Wildlife Federation. Waxman is required under 22 U.S.C. § 614 to disclose that this material is distributed on behalf of the aforementioned organizations, working under grant from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation. Additional information is on file with the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.