

that back up LCV's point. All favor mandatory programs to cut carbon dioxide emissions, and all favor reversing Bush administration relaxations of a key Clean Air Act program that requires coal-fired power plants to install pollution controls when they make upgrades.

Howard Dean backs pending legislation to ensure Clean Water Act jurisdiction over millions of acres of wetlands and many other streams. His energy platform, like Kerry's, would mandate generating 20 percent of the nation's electricity from renewable sources by 2020, a goal Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.), whose LCV score trails only Kerry's, also shares.

Kerry is also stressing the environment as he seeks traction in make-or-break New



**Ancient forest clearcut next to Lake Menalosse Ancient Forest Reserve, Mt. Hood National Forest, Oregon.**  
Photo by Steve Holmer, courtesy of [www.americanlands.org](http://www.americanlands.org)

Hampshire, for instance unveiling plans to create a new bipartisan commission to enforce environmental statutes in cases where EPA and the Justice Department are failing to.

It would be hard to blame Kerry for being annoyed that many environmentalists compliment his record while their organizations won't get behind his candidacy. But it will also be hard to blame environmentalists if they pass completely on the primaries. They need their strength for the main event. **EW**

*Ben Geman is an associate editor with Inside EPA, an environmental policy newsletter based in Arlington, Va. This story originally appeared on TomPaine.com.*

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