Prof. Aseem Prakash and colleague Nives Dolsak report that climate change is already unfolding and use their city of Seattle, for the past two summers, as an example. “Seattle is supposed to be the emerald city. Always green and sparkling….Seattle's air quality has been worse than in Delhi or Beijing. The summer air quality in the state of Washington is now among the worst in the lower 48 states.”

In order to effectively adapt to change there needs to be cooperation between federal and state entities to manage forests.

On the private side, environmental organizations and timber companies should be willing to explore more aggressive management of forests to clear out fuel for the fires.