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Today on Climate Beat . . .

. . . we went up in smoke, reporting that House energy panel Chairman Greg Walden (R-OR) is reiterating calls to improve federal land management policy to allow logging and clearance of combustible material from federal lands, saying it would help to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases that spike during wildfires.

In court, the Department of Justice (DOJ) is renewing its call for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit to halt a landmark climate change lawsuit slated to proceed at a lower court by arguing in a final reply brief that youth plaintiffs lack standing, a shift in argument from its initial appeal that focused on burdensome discovery requests.

We also highlighted some quotable material from EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, who shows in a recent interview that is not shy about taking on his critics, starting with former President Barack Obama and his administration and followed closely by one of his Republican predecessors -- former EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman.

And our daily news roundup looked at a planned breakfast between a White House economic adviser and top climate change diplomats, despite the administration's high-profile rejection of the Paris Agreement.

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