Tyson email to Mongabay (Aug 2, 2017)

We don't agree with this group's characterization of our company but share its interest in protecting the environment. That's why we publicly disclose our environmental efforts and recently announced that we're collaborating with the World Resources Institute to develop goals for improving our environmental footprint. We also plan to announce our collaboration with other third-party organizations that will work with us to set additional science-based targets. These efforts are part of our comprehensive, holistic approach to sustainability, that is focused on healthier animals, healthier environment, healthier workforce, healthier communities, and healthier food.

Our environmental commitment also includes an environmental management system at each of our facilities designed to enable more sustainable operations, continued focus on more recycling and long-term participation in EPA's SmartWay energy conservation program.

Tyson Foods owns very few farms and instead depends on thousands of independent farmers to raise our chickens or sell us their cattle or hogs. In fact, the USDA reports that 97% of U.S. farms are owned by families. Most farmers have a formal nutrient management plan for how manure is used as a fertilizer on farmland. We work closely with our partners from farm-to-fork to identify and deploy new technologies designed to better protect the environment, our workforce, and the communities we serve. Additionally, we are exploring new ways to raise chickens in a concept farm that improves animal well-being, water and energy conservation, and food safety.

It's true the livestock and poultry industry is a major buyer of grain for feed, however, the report fails to note that a large percentage of corn raised in the U.S. is used for biofuel and that a significant portion is used for human consumption.

Tyson Foods is focused on continuous improvement. We are constantly looking to improve and lead the industry, so that we can deliver sustainable food to people every day at a scale that matters to the world.