

**THIS IS AN OUTLINE OF GRIEVANCES BY RESIDENTS IN THE UPPER CARBON RIVER VALLEY (NW CORNER, MT. RAINIER NAT. PARK). IT SHOWS EXAMPLES OF VIOLATIONS OF THE LAW, WILLFULL ENDANGERMENT, APATHY TOWARD RESIDENTS, AND GENERAL LACK OF COMMON SENSE, FROM TIMBER COMPANIES AND PUBLIC AGENCIES. Details available with photos, dates and statements.**

**I. REPEATED CLEAR-CUTTING ON THE STEEP SLOPES ABOVE STATE HIGHWAY 165.**

- A. Plum Creek admitted to causing at least one of the mud slides that just missed our loaded schoolbus and several residents in 1996, but continued cutting right above the highway.
  - 1. Again, in April 1998, they cut 30 acres right above the Historic O'Farrel Bridge.
    - a). This cut is above ½mile of over-hanging cliffs with two year-round drainages.
    - b). This hillside has always been dangerous due to falling rock and debris.
    - c). There were three life-threatening slides within one year after this cut.
- B. Slope cuts will continue endangering residents and tourists for 15-20 more years.
- C. Cuts have caused damage to our roads, waters, and historical sites.
- D. Clear-cuts have threatened houses, property, and water supplies of residents.
- E. Previous slide areas being clear-cut again, not considered in FPA's.

**II. CLUMPED LEAVE TREES ROUTINELY LEFT DIRECTLY ABOVE THE ROADS.**

- A. These newly exposed trees easily blow down onto power and phone lines, and roads.
- B. These trees pose a threat to residents and tourists for 15-20 more years.

**III. OBSTRUCTIONS AND DANGERS ON STATE HIGHWAY 165.**

- A. An entire landing, with log pile, blocked access to this side of the National Park in 4/98.
  - 1. During bridge repairs the 50+ residents were denied local access on Hwy 165.
  - 2. Emergency vehicles could not have gotten to this side of the mountain if needed.
- B. The illegal moving of heavy equipment on the highway, repeatedly.
- C. Speeding and discourteous log and equipment truck drivers.
- D. Lack of safety protocols for some logging activities being done right on the highway.
- E. Pesticide/herbicide/deisel mix over-sprayed onto houses, roadside berries and water.

**IV. LOGGING ROADS ALLOW ACCESS FOR ACTIVITIES WHICH ENDANGER RESIDENTS.**

- A. Our highways and our homes are threatened by dangers from poaching, target-shooting, garbage-dumping, hunting, trapping, squatters, 4-wheelers, and meth labs.
- B. Gated and ungated roads are easily accessed for these activities all around our houses.
- C. Gunshots and other hazards also endanger tourists, and discourage tourism.
- D. Log companies allow hunting and trapping, and use bear-hounds around our houses.
- E. Non-native plants and tree diseases brought in, threaten our own property and trees,

**V. COMPANIES CONTINUALLY FAIL TO WARN RESIDENTS OF DANGEROUS ACTIVITY.**

- A. Spraying of herbicide/deisel-mix announced with one tiny-print sign way off the road.
- B. Power shut-offs, power lines knocked down during logging operations along the roads.
- C. Logging activity right along the roads, which could impede or endanger traffic.

**VI. EXCESSIVE CLEAR-CUTTING IN HEADWATERS EFFECTS FLOODING BELOW.**

- A. Too large of an area is being cut too rapidly in the foothills, causing run-offs.
- B. Flooding in the lower valleys costs millions each year, more flooding each year.

**THIS PAGE OUTLINES THE ENVIRONMENTAL DISREGARD IN THE CARBON VALLEY.**

**VII. DESTRUCTION OF LARGE AREAS OF NATIVE PLANT, WILDLIFE POPULATIONS.**

- A. Huge areas sprayed with herbicide/pesticide/deisel mix, causing loss of food and habitat.
- B. Rapid clear-cutting of large unbuffered areas not allowing populations time to reestablish.
- C. Insufficient or non-existent buffers on the non-fish waters is causing mud slides.
- D. Failure to plan or provide wildlife corridors between high and low lands and waters..
- E. Introduction of, and failure to control, invasive non-native plant species, plant diseases.
- F. Tree farms are not forests. They lack the diversity to support our Carbon Valley species.
- G. Excessive logging has changed our eco-structure: Wind and water patterns are changing.
- H. Clear-cut debris, brushpiles, dried-out underbrush is creating forest fire dangers for us.

**VIII RAPID AND EXCESSIVE BUILDING OF ROADS AND CULVERT SYSTEMS.**

- A. Too many miles of new roads have been put in too fast, compounding runoffs.
- B. Culverts are most often the reason for mud-slides in our area, and can cause 'blow-outs'.
- C. These activities create new run-off channels in our unstable, extremely wet soils.

**IX. LACK OF REQUIRED PROTECTION FOR: WATERSHEDS, UNIQUE ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS, HISTORICAL SITES AND SCENIC BYWAYS.**

- A. Watersheds and headwaters not buffered enough to protect fish and stream integrity.
- B. Failure to acknowledge and protect our rainforest, and allowing it to be clear-cut.
  - 1. Our valley is a temperate, inland rainforest, unique from any other in the world.
- C. Failure to protect integrity of the virgin inland, temperate rainforest of the National Park.
  - 1. Clear-cutting is being allowed right up to the National Park boundary.
  - 2. The Park is recognized as a rainforest, yet right outside the entrance it isn't.
- D. Clear-cuts have been done repeatedly right above the Historic O'Farrel Bridge.
- E. There are two entrances to a National Park, yet aesthetics are not considered in FPA's.

**X. INADEQUATE SCIENTIFIC HYDRO/GEOLOGIC INFORMATION FOR A RAINFOREST**

- A. All recent cuts that have caused dangerous slides were done according to 'code'.
- B. Previous slide areas are not considered or protected on FPA's.
- C. Permits assume that standard buffers are adequate despite the slope grade.
- D. Type 4&5 waters are grossly underestimated on FPA's for flooding, sliding potential.
- E. No considerations on FPA's for the 140-160 inches of rain annually in our rainforest.

**FAILURE TO DO WATERSHED ANALYSIS AND SPECIES SURVEY AS REQUIRED.**

- A. There are 28 species of animals around here that are already on a threatened or protected list, yet clear-cuts go right up to or over known habitats.
- B. The DNR requires watershed analysis, yet our RAINFOREST hasn't been done.
- C. No species survey has been done for our rainforest valley. No one knows what's here.

**XII. TIMBER COMPANIES NOT BEING HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGES AND COSTS.**

- A. Mud-slides in 1996 were an admitted direct result of logging. Taxpayers paid over \$1½ million, timber didn't pay one penny.
- B. Any problems are always blamed on operator error.
  - 1. Over-spraying houses, trees felled on powerlines, D8 cat on the road, gas-well sludge dumped into the creek, logging over borders, hydraulics and oil dumping