

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Certified Copy of Portion of Proceedings, Meeting of January 28, 1992

SUBJECT: REQUEST FROM THE ALTA CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE THAT THE BOARD SEND A LETTER OF OPPOSITION TO CONGRESSMAN FRANK RIGGS REGARDING THE DIMINISHED VALUE PLACED ON PUBLIC COMMENTS ON TIMBER SALES PROPOSALS, SPECIFICALLY THE PILOT CREEK TIMBER SALE (SUPERVISOR SPARKS)

ACTION: 1. Directed that the attached letter be sent to Congressman Frank Riggs.

Adopted on motion by Supervisor Sparks, second by Supervisor Neely, and the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Dixon, Pritchard, Neely, and Sparks
 NAYS: Supervisor Fulkerson
 ABSENT: None
 ABSTAIN: None

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
 County of Humboldt)^{ss}

I, J. BRUCE RUPP, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true, and correct copy of the original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California as the same now appears of record in my Office.

pc: CAO
 Board Assistant
 Assessor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors.

J. BRUCE RUPP

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
 of the County of Humboldt, State
 of California

By Lora Frediani
 LORA FREDIANI, Assistant Clerk
 of the Board
 January 31, 1992

(I-1a)

199



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
825 5TH STREET
EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501-1172 PHONE (707) 445-7471

January 29, 1992

The Honorable Frank Riggs
United States Congress
1517 Longworth
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Riggs:

At the Board of Supervisors meeting on January 28, 1992, the status of the Pilot Creek timber sale was discussed. It was noted that you have been contacted by Mark Anderson, Registered Forester for Schmidbauer Lumber Company in Eureka and that you have made inquiries regarding a solution to this problem.

The Board of Supervisors is very interested in the outcome and would appreciate being informed of the progress regarding this matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stan Dixon", is written over a horizontal line.

STAN DIXON, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

FILE

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Certified Copy of Portion of Proceedings, Meeting of January 28, 1992

SUBJECT: REQUEST FROM THE ALTA CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE THAT THE BOARD SEND A LETTER OF OPPOSITION TO CONGRESSMAN FRANK RIGGS REGARDING THE DIMINISHED VALUE PLACED ON PUBLIC COMMENTS ON TIMBER SALES PROPOSALS, SPECIFICALLY THE PILOT CREEK TIMBER SALE (SUPERVISOR SPARKS)

ACTION: Send letter signed by the Chairman to Dr. Ron Stewart, Region 5 Forester for the United States Forest Service, inviting him to come to Humboldt County to meet with the Board of Supervisors and constituents and to possibly take a field trip.

Adopted on motion by Supervisor Sparks, second by Supervisor Fulkerson, and the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Dixon, Pritchard, Fulkerson, Neely, and Sparks
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
County of Humboldt)ss

I, J. BRUCE RUPP, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true, and correct copy of the original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California as the same now appears of record in my Office.

pc: CAO
Board Assistant
Jim Davis, Six Rivers
National Forest

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors.

J. BRUCE RUPP

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt, State of California

By Lora Frediani
LORA FREDIANI, Assistant Clerk of the Board
January 31, 1992

(I-1b)end

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
PUBLIC AGENDA ITEM TRANSM

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
FROM: Supervisor Anna Sparks

CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME: Moselle Ball
ADDRESS:
TELEPHONE: 445-7695

MEETING DATE:

1/28/92

SUBJECT:

Letter of Opposition

TIME REQUIRED:

consent

PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE ISSUE THAT YOU WISH TO PRESENT TO THE BOARD:

The Alta California Alliance has requested that the Board send a letter of opposition to Congressman Frank Riggs regarding the diminished value placed on public comments on timber sales proposals, specifically Pilot Creek timber sale. This sale was endorsed by more than 100 Humboldt County residents in March of 1919 and was unopposed during oral comment, and now has been needlessly delayed for at least a year and cut down in size and scope.

EXPLANATION OF INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE ISSUE WHICH YOU WISH TO PRESENT TO THE BOARD:

ARE YOU REQUESTING THAT THE BOARD TAKE A SPECIFIC ACTION ON THE ISSUE WHICH YOU ARE PRESENTING? YES NO
IF YES, PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR REQUEST.

Send a letter of opposition regarding the treatment of public comment, and letter of support re Pilot Creek timber sale, to Congressman Frank Riggs.


Signature

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor
seconded by Supervisor
and unanimously carried by those members
present, the Board hereby approves the
recommended action contained in this Board
report. Board Order No.: _____
Dated: _____

BRUCE RUPP
Clerk of the Board

by: _____ Deputy

316



December 23, 1991

Supervisor Chair Anna Sparks
Humboldt County Supervisors
825 5th St., Room 111
Eureka, CA 95501

Dear Supervisor Sparks:

Please read the following and then act to require that citizen comment to National Forest timber sales proposals not be diminished in value or otherwise disregarded by U.S. Forest Service management.

The meaning of the Pilot Creek timber sale, to the counties of Humboldt and Trinity, is immense. Without the sale proceeding in a fair and timely manner hundreds and even thousands of jobs and lives are disrupted and torn apart by economic instability. Please demand immediate action to expedite the greatest possible sale!

This is not an isolated incident, but a symptom of a National Forest management malady occurring throughout the nation. For the sake of honest, hardworking Americans, such aloof indifference needs to stop!

John Ponce
Coordinator, Alta California Alliance

RECEIVED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DEC 27 1991
AM 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 PM



December 19, 1991

The Honorable Frank Riggs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Riggs,

We add our alarm to the voices questioning unilateral decisions by the U.S. Forest Service which overrule or ignore legitimate public comment on a proposed timber sale.

We refer to the controversy with the Pilot Timber Sale, a sale endorsed by more than 100 Humboldt County residents last March 21 who trekked through bitter weather to reach a day-long "scoping" session at Mad River Ranger District. They were virtually unopposed during oral comment. They brought with them a belief that the Pilot Creek drainage is one of the most appropriate regions on the National Forest within which to harvest timber that will keep necessary production going, industries and economies vital, and the mandated multiple-use mission of the National Forest intact.

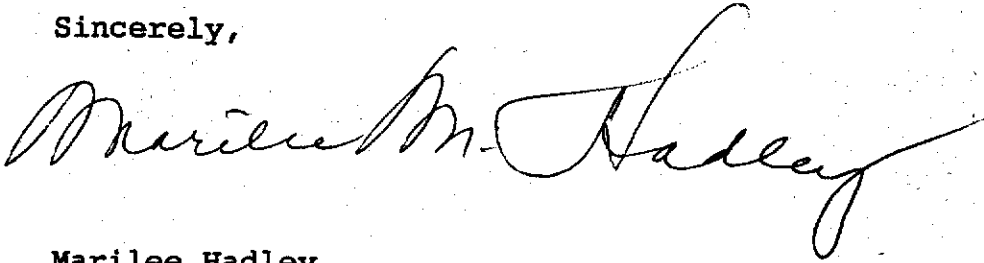
However, in the months subsequent the overwhelmingly agreed-to timber sales process was scrapped, unilaterally by the National Forest Supervisor, on grounds that his wildlife advisers detected "conflict" between the arduous process that had led to the Pilot Creek sale offering, and furbearer management proposed plans inside the Six Rivers National Forest Draft Management Plan. Because of this, the "sale" now runs at least a year late, disintegrates in size and scope, and identifiably contributes to economic depression of National Forest-dependent communities.

Not only is the March 21 comment of the concerned citizens now shown to have been for nothing, the entire process of National Forest timber sale is shown to be a political ploy of the Forest Supervisor as he attempts to second-guess the needs of his Forest constituents.

The timidity of Six Rivers National Forest in taking a firm direction in timber sales signals that the National Forest has abandoned the major tenet of production from its lands -- that may provide hollow justification for dozens of USFS bureaucrat jobs, but it provides no consolation to wage-earners and residents displaced by such waffling attitudes.

Please read the enclosed copy of a letter by forester Mark Anderson, of Schmidba Lumber Company, outlining the chronology of the failure of Pilot Creek Sale to materialize for this beleaguered, suffering community. The barricades to legitimate, productive sales from the National Forest need to be torn down and eliminated. We count upon your help.

Sincerely,



Marilee Hadley
President, Alta California Alliance

cc: Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan
Chief Forester F. Dale Robertson
Regional Forester Ronald Stewart
Forest Supervisor Jim Davis
House Committee on Agriculture
California Congressional Delegation
Humboldt County Supervisors
Trinity County Supervisors
Humboldt County Superintendent of Education
Trinity County Superintendent of Education

ATTN: MOSLLE
DATE 01/24/92

Schmidbauer Lumber Inc.
P.O. Box 152
Eureka, CA 95501

December 17, 1991

The Honorable Frank Riggs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Riggs,

We are writing to request your assistance in dealing with a recent action taken by the USFS regarding a proposed timber sale project known as the Pilot Timber Sale, which is located primarily in Humboldt County.

First a review of the situation is in order. The project began in the early 1980's as three separate timber sales culminating in a signed and approved environmental analysis (EA) in 1984. Subsequently the Forest developed a spotted owl network comprised of several spotted owl management areas (SOMA's). One of these SOMA's covered up the Pilot area, with the approved EA's, and the timber sales were effectively "shelved". In 1990 the Habitat Conservation Areas (HCA's) were implemented, thus replacing the old SOMA network. At this point the approved EA's would again be useful because the Pilot area was not included in an HCA. However the furbearer areas were also incorporated in the old SOMA area, so it was determined that the old EA was no longer useful because it did not address furbearers as well as other "new" issues. This brings us up to Fall 1990 when it was decided not to amend the old EA's, but to start a new planning process using the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) method of analysis. In January of 1991 a timber purchaser meeting was called to review what the EIS would incorporate, and what the timeline (Sept. 1992) for preparation of final signature would be. The emphasis of the meeting was to restart the environmental process and do it "right" this time. This brings us up to the first week of December 1991.

In early December it was decided to scrap the existing project and move the sale planning effort in a different direction. The reason for this is because the furbearer management plan in the proposed Draft Forest Plan did not match the project furbearer management plan. This effectively eliminated all the work that had been done on the project this field season. This work included a public scoping meeting that was held on March 21, 1991 in Mad River. Nearly 100 people from all over Humboldt County made the long journey to Mad River to support a viable timber sale project mainly citing the need for jobs and the related economic benefits a timber sale would generate. Also related was the need to facilitate the project in a timely manner. Ninety-seven percent of the people attending supported these concepts.

Hopefully by now you are starting to get a feel for some of the reasons it has become a practical impossibility for the Six Rivers National Forest to sell timber. Because of conflicting management laws and internal Forest Policies coupled with judicial restraint, there is currently little to no land available for timber production on the Six Rivers National Forest. I am certain this is not the intent of Congress or the American public.

As you may already know, in June 1991 I requested Chuck Metzler's assistance in helping steer the Pilot project through the quagmire of bureaucracy. I am now making a request for your personal assistance. The issues vary, but there are many other timber sale projects in the similar predicament of not being able to move forward. Perhaps some kind of facilitation of this project could help other timber sales to get off the stump. It is my opinion, that in this case, administrative entanglement is the problem. Your assistance would sincerely be appreciated.

Sincerely,
Schmidbauer Lumber Inc.

Mark' Anderson
SLI Forester

FRANK D. RIGGS
1ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

1817 LONGWORTH HOUSE, OFFICE BLDG.
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-9311

DISTRICT OFFICES:
777 SONOMA AVENUE, SUITE 328
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
(707) 876-1466
(800) 834-1383

708 4TH STREET
EUREKA, CA 95501
(707) 445-2055



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

January 8, 1992

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER
RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON BANKING,
FINANCE, AND URBAN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON GENERAL
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
AFFAIRS AND COINAGE

SELECT COMMITTEE ON
CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

CO-CHAIR TASK FORCE ON
FORESTRY AND FISHERIES
CO-CHAIR TASK FORCE ON
EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Mark Anderson
Schmidbauer Power Co.
P.O. Box 152
P.O. Box 249, Weaverville
Eureka, California 95502

Dear Mr. Anderson: *Mark*

Thank you for contacting my office regarding the Pilot Creek timber sale.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding the correspondence that you provided for my office to Regional Forester, Ron Stewart. I have asked that they review the information to see what can be done to remedy the situation. In addition, I have asked that they provide Chuck Metzler of my District Office with an update as soon as one is available.

Mr. Metzler will be in touch with you as soon as we receive a response from the Forest Service.

Enclosed please find a copy of the letter that was sent to Mr. Stewart's office.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Metzler at (707) 445-2055.

Sincerely,

Frank D. Riggs
FRANK RIGGS
Member of Congress

FR:VS

FRANK D. RIGGS
1st DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

1517 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BLDG.
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3311

DISTRICT OFFICES:
777 SONOMA AVENUE, SUITE 329
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
(707) 578-1408
(800) 834-1383

700 4TH STREET
EMERKA, CA 95501
(707) 445-2055



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

January 8, 1992

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION
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COMMITTEE ON BANKING,
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SELECT COMMITTEE ON
CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

100 CHAIR TASK FORCE ON
FORESTRY AND FISHERIES
100 CHAIR TASK FORCE ON
EMPOWERMENT

Mr. Ron Stewart
Regional Forester
U.S. Forest Service
630 Sansome Street
Rm 559
San Francisco, California 94111

Dear Mr. Stewart:

I have been contacted by my constituents, Mark Anderson, and the Humboldt County Farm Bureau, regarding the Pilot Creek Timber Sale.

Enclosed please find the correspondence that these constituents provided for my office.

Might I ask that you look into this matter to see what can be done to remedy the situation? In addition, could you provide Chuck Metzler of my District Office with an update as soon as one is available? If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mr. Metzler as he is most familiar with this case. You can reach Chuck at (707) 445-2055.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Any assistance that you can offer is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

FRANK RIGGS
Member of Congress

FR:pcm

cc: Jim Davis

DRAFT

I-1

January 28, 1992

The Honorable Frank Riggs
United States Congress
1517 Longworth
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Riggs:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, I wish to express concern that unilateral decisions by Six Rivers National Forest management can overrule or ignore legitimate public comment on the Pilot Creek Timber Sale, located primarily in Humboldt County.

This sale was endorsed by more than 100 Humboldt County residents last March 21 during a scoping session at the Mad River Ranger District. These residents were unchallenged during the oral comment period. There was apparent agreement that the Pilot Creek drainage is one of the best areas in the Six Rivers National Forest for harvesting timber. This would keep timber production going, the industry and economy vital, and the mandated multiple-use goal of the National Forest intact.

However, in recent action, this timber sale has been rejected due to what wildlife advisers have called a "conflict" between the process which led to the offering of the timber sale and the proposed furbearer management plans inside the Six Rivers National Forest Draft Management Plan that will not be place until late 1992.

This unnecessary caution by Six River's management is causing financial hardship for those who are counting on these lands to generate their expected revenue and productive jobs. The reversal of this timber sale will contribute to the economic depression in our communities. The failure of Six Rivers to take a firm direction regarding timber sales seems to be a signal the they have abandoned their previous philosophy for the forest land's production.

On behalf of the Board I am urging you to help us resolve this matter. We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

STAN DIXON
Chairman

324

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Certified Copy of Portion of Proceedings, Meeting of January 28, 1992

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ACTION: 1. Directed that the attached letter be sent to Congressman Frank Riggs.

Adopted on motion by Supervisor Sparks, second by Supervisor Neely, and the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Dixon, Pritchard, Neely, and Sparks
 NAYS: Supervisor Fulkerson
 ABSENT: None
 ABSTAIN: None

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
 County of Humboldt)^{ss}

I, J. BRUCE RUPP, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true, and correct copy of the original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California as the same now appears of record in my Office.

pc: CAO
 Board Assistant
 Assessor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors.

J. BRUCE RUPP

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
 of the County of Humboldt, State
 of California

By Lora Frediani
 LORA FREDIANI, Assistant Clerk
 of the Board
 January 31, 1992

(I-1a)

199



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
825 5TH STREET
EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501-1172 PHONE (707) 445-7471

January 29, 1992

The Honorable Frank Riggs
United States Congress
1517 Longworth
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Riggs:

At the Board of Supervisors meeting on January 28, 1992, the status of the Pilot Creek timber sale was discussed. It was noted that you have been contacted by Mark Anderson, Registered Forester for Schmidbauer Lumber Company in Eureka and that you have made inquiries regarding a solution to this problem.

The Board of Supervisors is very interested in the outcome and would appreciate being informed of the progress regarding this matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stan Dixon", is written over a horizontal line.

STAN DIXON, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

FILE

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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ACTION: Send letter signed by the Chairman to Dr. Ron Stewart, Region 5 Forester for the United States Forest Service, inviting him to come to Humboldt County to meet with the Board of Supervisors and constituents and to possibly take a field trip.

Adopted on motion by Supervisor Sparks, second by Supervisor Fulkerson, and the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Dixon, Pritchard, Fulkerson, Neely, and Sparks
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
County of Humboldt)ss

I, J. BRUCE RUPP, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true, and correct copy of the original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California as the same now appears of record in my Office.

pc: CAO
Board Assistant
Jim Davis, Six Rivers
National Forest

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors.

J. BRUCE RUPP

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt, State of California

By Lora Frediani
LORA FREDIANI, Assistant Clerk of the Board
January 31, 1992

(I-1b)end

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
PUBLIC AGENDA ITEM TRANSM

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
FROM: Supervisor Anna Sparks

CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME: Moselle Ball
ADDRESS:
TELEPHONE: 445-7695

MEETING DATE:

1/28/92

SUBJECT:

Letter of Opposition

TIME REQUIRED:

consent

PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE ISSUE THAT YOU WISH TO PRESENT TO THE BOARD:

The Alta California Alliance has requested that the Board send a letter of opposition to Congressman Frank Riggs regarding the diminished value placed on public comments on timber sales proposals, specifically Pilot Creek timber sale. This sale was endorsed by more than 100 Humboldt County residents in March of 1919 and was unopposed during oral comment, and now has been needlessly delayed for at least a year and cut down in size and scope.

EXPLANATION OF INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE ISSUE WHICH YOU WISH TO PRESENT TO THE BOARD:

ARE YOU REQUESTING THAT THE BOARD TAKE A SPECIFIC ACTION ON THE ISSUE WHICH YOU ARE PRESENTING? YES NO
IF YES, PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR REQUEST.

Send a letter of opposition regarding the treatment of public comment, and letter of support re Pilot Creek timber sale, to Congressman Frank Riggs.


Signature

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor
seconded by Supervisor
and unanimously carried by those members
present, the Board hereby approves the
recommended action contained in this Board
report. Board Order No.: _____
Dated: _____

BRUCE RUPP
Clerk of the Board

by: _____ Deputy

316



December 23, 1991

Supervisor Chair Anna Sparks
Humboldt County Supervisors
825 5th St., Room 111
Eureka, CA 95501

Dear Supervisor Sparks:

Please read the following and then act to require that citizen comment to National Forest timber sales proposals not be diminished in value or otherwise disregarded by U.S. Forest Service management.

The meaning of the Pilot Creek timber sale, to the counties of Humboldt and Trinity, is immense. Without the sale proceeding in a fair and timely manner hundreds and even thousands of jobs and lives are disrupted and torn apart by economic instability. Please demand immediate action to expedite the greatest possible sale!

This is not an isolated incident, but a symptom of a National Forest management malady occurring throughout the nation. For the sake of honest, hardworking Americans, such aloof indifference needs to stop!

John Ponce
Coordinator, Alta California Alliance

RECEIVED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DEC 27 1991
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December 19, 1991

The Honorable Frank Riggs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Riggs,

We add our alarm to the voices questioning unilateral decisions by the U.S. Forest Service which overrule or ignore legitimate public comment on a proposed timber sale.

We refer to the controversy with the Pilot Timber Sale, a sale endorsed by more than 100 Humboldt County residents last March 21 who trekked through bitter weather to reach a day-long "scoping" session at Mad River Ranger District. They were virtually unopposed during oral comment. They brought with them a belief that the Pilot Creek drainage is one of the most appropriate regions on the National Forest within which to harvest timber that will keep necessary production going, industries and economies vital, and the mandated multiple-use mission of the National Forest intact.

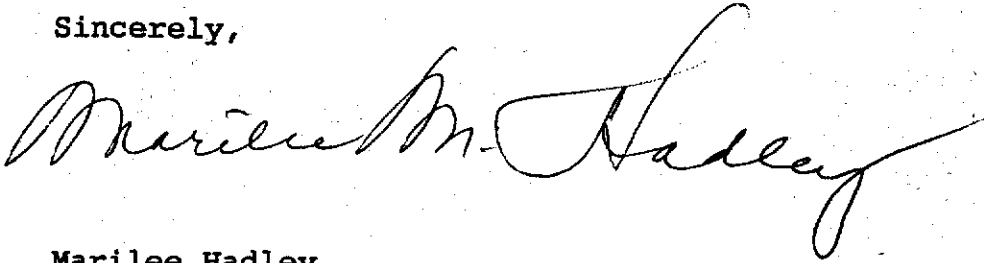
However, in the months subsequent the overwhelmingly agreed-to timber sales process was scrapped, unilaterally by the National Forest Supervisor, on grounds that his wildlife advisers detected "conflict" between the arduous process that had led to the Pilot Creek sale offering, and furbearer management proposed plans inside the Six Rivers National Forest Draft Management Plan. Because of this, the "sale" now runs at least a year late, disintegrates in size and scope, and identifiably contributes to economic depression of National Forest-dependent communities.

Not only is the March 21 comment of the concerned citizens now shown to have been for nothing, the entire process of National Forest timber sale is shown to be a political ploy of the Forest Supervisor as he attempts to second-guess the needs of his Forest constituents.

The timidity of Six Rivers National Forest in taking a firm direction in timber sales signals that the National Forest has abandoned the major tenet of production from its lands -- that may provide hollow justification for dozens of USFS bureaucrat jobs, but it provides no consolation to wage-earners and residents displaced by such waffling attitudes.

Please read the enclosed copy of a letter by forester Mark Anderson, of Schmidba Lumber Company, outlining the chronology of the failure of Pilot Creek Sale to materialize for this beleaguered, suffering community. The barricades to legitimate, productive sales from the National Forest need to be torn down and eliminated. We count upon your help.

Sincerely,



Marilee Hadley
President, Alta California Alliance

cc: Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan
Chief Forester F. Dale Robertson
Regional Forester Ronald Stewart
Forest Supervisor Jim Davis
House Committee on Agriculture
California Congressional Delegation
Humboldt County Supervisors
Trinity County Supervisors
Humboldt County Superintendent of Education
Trinity County Superintendent of Education

ATTN: MOSLLE
DATE 01/24/92

Schmidbauer Lumber Inc.
P.O. Box 152
Eureka, CA 95501

December 17, 1991

The Honorable Frank Riggs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Riggs,

We are writing to request your assistance in dealing with a recent action taken by the USFS regarding a proposed timber sale project known as the Pilot Timber Sale, which is located primarily in Humboldt County.

First a review of the situation is in order. The project began in the early 1980's as three separate timber sales culminating in a signed and approved environmental analysis (EA) in 1984. Subsequently the Forest developed a spotted owl network comprised of several spotted owl management areas (SOMA's). One of these SOMA's covered up the Pilot area, with the approved EA's, and the timber sales were effectively "shelved". In 1990 the Habitat Conservation Areas (HCA's) were implemented, thus replacing the old SOMA network. At this point the approved EA's would again be useful because the Pilot area was not included in an HCA. However the furbearer areas were also incorporated in the old SOMA area, so it was determined that the old EA was no longer useful because it did not address furbearers as well as other "new" issues. This brings us up to Fall 1990 when it was decided not to amend the old EA's, but to start a new planning process using the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) method of analysis. In January of 1991 a timber purchaser meeting was called to review what the EIS would incorporate, and what the timeline (Sept. 1992) for preparation of final signature would be. The emphasis of the meeting was to restart the environmental process and do it "right" this time. This brings us up to the first week of December 1991.

In early December it was decided to scrap the existing project and move the sale planning effort in a different direction. The reason for this is because the furbearer management plan in the proposed Draft Forest Plan did not match the project furbearer management plan. This effectively eliminated all the work that had been done on the project this field season. This work included a public scoping meeting that was held on March 21, 1991 in Mad River. Nearly 100 people from all over Humboldt County made the long journey to Mad River to support a viable timber sale project mainly citing the need for jobs and the related economic benefits a timber sale would generate. Also related was the need to facilitate the project in a timely manner. Ninety-seven percent of the people attending supported these concepts.

Hopefully by now you are starting to get a feel for some of the reasons it has become a practical impossibility for the Six Rivers National Forest to sell timber. Because of conflicting management laws and internal Forest Policies coupled with judicial restraint, there is currently little to no land available for timber production on the Six Rivers National Forest. I am certain this is not the intent of Congress or the American public.

As you may already know, in June 1991 I requested Chuck Metzler's assistance in helping steer the Pilot project through the quagmire of bureaucracy. I am now making a request for your personal assistance. The issues vary, but there are many other timber sale projects in the similar predicament of not being able to move forward. Perhaps some kind of facilitation of this project could help other timber sales to get off the stump. It is my opinion, that in this case, administrative entanglement is the problem. Your assistance would sincerely be appreciated.

Sincerely,
Schmidbauer Lumber Inc.

Mark' Anderson
SLI Forester

FRANK D. RIGGS
1ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

1817 LONGWORTH HOUSE, OFFICE BLDG.
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3311

DISTRICT OFFICES:
777 SONOMA AVENUE, SUITE 328
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
(707) 876-1466
(800) 834-1383

708 4TH STREET
EUREKA, CA 95501
(707) 445-2055



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

January 8, 1992

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER
RESOURCES
COMMITTEE ON BANKING,
FINANCE, AND URBAN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON GENERAL
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
AFFAIRS AND COINAGE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

CO-CHAIR TASK FORCE ON
FORESTRY AND FISHERIES
CO-CHAIR TASK FORCE ON
EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Mark Anderson
Schmidbauer Power Co.
P.O. Box 152
P.O. Box 249, Weaverville
Eureka, California 95502

Dear Mr. Anderson: *Mark*

Thank you for contacting my office regarding the Pilot Creek timber sale.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding the correspondence that you provided for my office to Regional Forester, Ron Stewart. I have asked that they review the information to see what can be done to remedy the situation. In addition, I have asked that they provide Chuck Metzler of my District Office with an update as soon as one is available.

Mr. Metzler will be in touch with you as soon as we receive a response from the Forest Service.

Enclosed please find a copy of the letter that was sent to Mr. Stewart's office.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Metzler at (707) 445-2055.

Sincerely,

Frank D. Riggs
FRANK RIGGS
Member of Congress

FR:VS

FRANK D. RIGGS
1st DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

January 8, 1992

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION
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SELECT COMMITTEE ON
CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

100 CHAIR TASK FORCE ON
FORESTRY AND FISHERIES
100 CHAIR TASK FORCE ON
EMPOWERMENT

Mr. Ron Stewart
Regional Forester
U.S. Forest Service
630 Sansome Street
Rm 559
San Francisco, California 94111

Dear Mr. Stewart:

I have been contacted by my constituents, Mark Anderson, and the Humboldt County Farm Bureau, regarding the Pilot Creek Timber Sale.

Enclosed please find the correspondence that these constituents provided for my office.

Might I ask that you look into this matter to see what can be done to remedy the situation? In addition, could you provide Chuck Metzler of my District Office with an update as soon as one is available? If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mr. Metzler as he is most familiar with this case. You can reach Chuck at (707) 445-2055.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Any assistance that you can offer is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

FRANK RIGGS
Member of Congress

FR:pcm

cc: Jim Davis

DRAFT

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January 28, 1992

The Honorable Frank Riggs
United States Congress
1517 Longworth
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Riggs:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, I wish to express concern that unilateral decisions by Six Rivers National Forest management can overrule or ignore legitimate public comment on the Pilot Creek Timber Sale, located primarily in Humboldt County.

This sale was endorsed by more than 100 Humboldt County residents last March 21 during a scoping session at the Mad River Ranger District. These residents were unchallenged during the oral comment period. There was apparent agreement that the Pilot Creek drainage is one of the best areas in the Six Rivers National Forest for harvesting timber. This would keep timber production going, the industry and economy vital, and the mandated multiple-use goal of the National Forest intact.

However, in recent action, this timber sale has been rejected due to what wildlife advisers have called a "conflict" between the process which led to the offering of the timber sale and the proposed furbearer management plans inside the Six Rivers National Forest Draft Management Plan that will not be place until late 1992.

This unnecessary caution by Six River's management is causing financial hardship for those who are counting on these lands to generate their expected revenue and productive jobs. The reversal of this timber sale will contribute to the economic depression in our communities. The failure of Six Rivers to take a firm direction regarding timber sales seems to be a signal the they have abandoned their previous philosophy for the forest land's production.

On behalf of the Board I am urging you to help us resolve this matter. We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

STAN DIXON
Chairman

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