

## Concerns about Norriston Clear Cut

My name is Roger Neugebauer. My wife and I are permanent residents of Clatsop County living at 80424 Highway 101 in Arch Cape – directly across 101 from the ODF approved Norriston Clear Cut. We have three concerns about this plan – Lack of transparency, impact on water, and impact on the environment.

First Lack of Transparency. I assume that each of you live in a home that you are very happy to return to at the end of each day. Imagine how you would feel if one morning you woke up to discover that the government had approved and was about to implement a plan to bulldoze down 77 acres across the street from your home. Wouldn't you be concerned that this would have a big impact on your life. Wouldn't you have wanted the government to hear your opinion about this plan before it was approved?

ODF tells us that it was too complicated to communicate with the 20 or so families living across from the clear cut. If I were an ODF official I would have spent 30 minutes composing a letter to residents about the plan and then paid a teenager in Cannon Beach \$100 to deliver one copy of this letter to the front door of every impacted house. Mission accomplished.

The fact that ODF made absolutely no common sense effort to notify us gives the impression they were trying to sneak this plan through before we noticed.

Second impact on water. After I heard about this plan, I started reading about the unintended consequences of other Oregon clear cuts. I read about how sources of water have been redirected, destroyed and polluted. The other day I learned how the spraying of poisons on the clear cut behind Wheeler contaminated the town's water supply.

Every time I drive highway 26 to Portland I see people lining up to fill huge jugs of water from the faucets along the road. Clearly clean water in Western Oregon is a precious and scarce commodity. We don't want our own government contributing to this scarcity.

Third impact on the environment. I recently read an article in the Oregonian about a study that concluded that Global warming could be halted by the planting of trees. Old growth forests store up huge amounts of carbon. I am executive director of a foundation whose goal is to improve the life chances of all young children around the world. We are considering working with our representatives in over 100 countries to engage children in planting trees to insure they have a promising future. What a shame that my own state government is destroying old growth forests at the point they are so desperately needed.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.