

Forest Service gets green light to illegally clearcut

author: Barker 26.Sep.2006

A federal judge refuses to delay the logging of critical wildlife habitat along the Eight Mile trail in Mt. Hood's eastern pine forest, despite pending legal challenges.



In response to this week's controversial decision to log Eight Mile Meadow, possibly as early as next week, Bark will be leading an emergency hike to the area. If we are unsuccessful in halting plans to log Eight Mile Meadow, hike attendees may be the last visitors to this sensitive region before logging begins. We remain hopeful that this forest can be spared from the continually destructive logging on Mt. Hood. The hike will include a strategy discussion on what options are left to protect Eight Mile Meadow. By witnessing a standing forest, you can become its most effective advocate.

This sale is extremely controversial and has had a history fraught with cutting the public out of the process. We will cover the recent events around Eight Mile Meadow, Bark's legal battle, and strategize how public pressure can still be used to STOP LOGGING in Eight Mile Meadow. Please join us at 8:45am in the Daily Grind parking lot, rain or shine, to carpool out to the area.

Further Information:

According to the Forest Service, as early as next week chainsaws will rip through a popular recreational area on the Mt. Hood National Forest and clearcut 222 acres. The Forest Service sold the Eight Mile Meadow Timber Sale to the highest bidder in August, sealing this forest's fate. The plans call for logging over 90% of the trees, however it is not being called a clearcut. Instead the logging is a "salvage" operation because it is logging an area that has experienced high mortality due to bark beetles. But the wildlife that depends on this unique and recovering ecosystem are not the only forest users who are threatened by the proposed logging: the Eight Mile and Fifteen Mile trails will be sandwiched by the proposed clearcuts.

Many of the trees at Eight Mile have been killed by bark beetles. A clearcut would destroy this ecosystem's recovery, at a vulnerable step in the process. Just as forests need fire, they also need native diseases and insects. These natural disturbances play an integral role in future forest health. Beetles are isolated to certain trees, making way for less prevalent species to thrive, ultimately recovering diversity and wildlife habitat from years of mismanagement.

Bark, the watchdogs for Mt. Hood National Forest, filed suit in federal court on August 14 to protect wildlife, hikers and bikers from the Forest Service's proposal. However, the court set no date for actually hearing the case and due to a little-known loophole in the system, if logging in Eight Mile Meadow occurs BEFORE the case is heard, the decision becomes moot as the trees would no longer be standing. In this case, Bark asked the Forest Service and the timber company who has bought the sale, South Side Enterprises out of Washington state, to delay logging until the courts deemed the timber sale legal. The Forest Service and timber company refused, and Bark was forced to file for a temporary restraining order from the court. Alex P. Brown, Bark's Executive Director, was

Eight Mile Meadow *Continued on Other side*

James Chasse: Beaten and Murdered by Police

author: Columbiana 22.Sep.2006

James Chasse was murdered by the Portland police. He was tazed, kicked in the head, beaten, jumped on, and hog tied. And then he "mysteriously" died in police custody. I saw a picture of him on the "beat goes on" thread on this site. It made me want to know more about him.

When the police kill someone in this city, too often they are allowed to define who that person was. Through the police officers' apologist mouthpieces in the corporate media, all we ever learn is a few extraneous facts, usually not even accurate. Whether the person ever did drugs or not, we are fed snippets to make us believe they were a drug addict. If they were ever in trouble with the law, we are told that. If they were poor or homeless or somehow different than the Brady Bunch family, we are told those details. But never anything more. We

are never given a real picture of the real human being whose living and breathing flesh was so terribly assaulted by the police state that



they have been added to the long list of people who gave their lives to the Force. The brute force of power crazed thugs in uniform.

I want to know more than that. I look at the photograph of this man who is no longer alive in the world with us, and I want to know who he really was. What stories did he have to tell? What roads did he travel down? What kind of life was taken from him by the police?

Is there anyone who can speak up for him? The man in the photograph has eyes that seem like they were full of stories. The kind of stories you would never get from the shallow, superficial corporate media. The kind of stories he can no longer tell us. He was a brother to us, and we must listen to the silence for a whisper, rather than sketching in his life from the hard lines and coarse details spooned out by the corporate press. Somehow, it seems so much more unjust for them to take his story away along with his life. Please, if you knew him, give him back his stories. Share them with us.

The explosion to come

author: lonevet 09/30/06

Can you feel it yet? There is rumbling underground and soon there will be an explosion that will end life, as we know it--here in the good old US of A.

There are few things that I am certain of, but this one truth should be self-evident, "When the government shuts down all avenues of addressing problems; revolution is the end result."

Look back to history and you will find that the catalyst for revolution has always been a minor event, someone is shot and WW1 was the result--broken promises and the Vietnam War murdered millions. How many Americans even know why we went to war in Vietnam? When did it start, what was our reason for going to war, sacrificing 58,000 young and noble citizens? The number of Vietnamese killed was somewhere between two and three million--no one knows for sure. What did we win? What was the real cost? Did you know that in WW2 Ho Chi Minh was our ally fighting the Japanese and was promised that at the end of the war his country would be independent of France We lied and the war started when the French tried to return to Indo-China. Sound familiar? I don't want to fight the Vietnam War again, but it is important because we are doing the same thing again in Iraq.

Someone once told me, and it is not a rare statement, that "Insanity is repeating the same thing and expecting a different result." We are repeating what we tried in Vietnam and expecting the people of the Middle East to love us for it; that is why our leaders are insane.

Well, back to the rumbling. We have just lost our ability to be vocal critics against our government, this has been coming for some time, but on September 29, 2006, it was complete. We are now a nation who exports S and M (torture.) We have said to the world, our President will interpret the Geneva Convention any way he sees fit. We have said that anyone whom the President decides is an enemy of the state can and will be arrested. We have said to the world that our press from time to time aid and help the terrorists and will be jailed. Our Attorney General has told the judiciary not to interfere with a President during war or they too will pay a penalty. Can you feel the rumbling yet? I think of the riots in our cities during the sixties and seventies.

The beatings, hangings, and arrests in the south did not happen because one person refused to move to the back of a bus, it happened because people had enough of generations of repression and indignities. Segregation was just the ignition, the powder was shutting off any avenue of address--no place to seek justice--violence is sure to come. There will be violence, I may not live to see it, but it will come. This country is headed towards a reckoning and it will be very bad! Our Constitution is now just a piece of hemp, worthless.

The Bill of Rights, (First ten amendments to the Constitution) has been so damaged that it should now be called The Bill of Agonies. We have lost our ability to speak freely to our politicians. Go to Sen. Smith's office and try to present a grievance and you will be first told you cannot enter and then arrested if you try. The journalists have long gone or are so few that their voices are drowned out by the stooges of the state. CNN, MSNBC, ABC, NBC, CBS and the Fox network are all bought and paid for by the corporations. The avenue of investigating journalism is all but gone, freedom of the press, gone.

When you go to work or school tomorrow, before you get to your destination, you will be on camera at least 30-50 times, big brother and his sister are watching everything you do and say. Your phones can be tapped at any time, your e-mails are subject to searches without warrants, buy a book or check one out and our government will be able to see what you are reading and sending. Our government now uses our money to put ads on the TV to encourage one neighbor to inform on another, they call it helping in the fight against terrorism.

We are building a great wall of the Americas, to keep out starving people, but that's OK, they are not citizens. The wall will be a moneymaker for friends of friends in Washington,

it will stop nothing.

Bush loves to say, "We have not been attacked since I invaded Iraq." Our ports are wide open, we have millions of people who are in this country with no identification, our nuclear plants are vulnerable, trains and buses are all easy targets. You should know that it was 9 years between the first attack on the towers and the final one on 9/11. Stand by--we will be hit again and Bush is doing nothing to stop it.

My great hope was the democrats would take back the House of Representatives after the November election. In the last week or so that hope has been smashed. There are only a few democrats who I trust; my fear is that they will be silenced by the corporate leaders in the Democratic Party. Hillary is not a democrat, Biden is the worst kind of opportunist, and Emmanuel is making deals with the lobbyists before the election even happens. We will have a greater fight if the democrats win in November, our heartbreak will be severe if they do nothing to stop this madness. I will continue to fight for the America I served in the Navy. There is one light at the end of the tunnel--we, as a people, love democracy. It has been part of our history for so long maybe, just maybe, we will have the guts to fight for it every day from now on and learn that we can never relax our vigilance.

The Rumbling has started again.

Eight Mile Meadow Continued from Other side

unapologetic in pursuing the court order, "How is the public supposed to keep the Forest Service accountable if they can avoid going to court by simply logging our forests faster?"

Bark claims that the Forest Service is breaking its own rules. According to the Forest Service's Mt. Hood Management Plan, they are required to protect the visual quality of hiking trails with a 660-foot buffer. In the case of the Eight Mile Meadow Timber Sale, the Forest Service will leave less than 75 feet between the clearcuts and the trails. Despite these clearly illegal plans and a pending court case, the judge announced this week that he will not issue a restraining order. Paula Hood, single mother and long-time lover of Mt. Hood was one of the concerned citizens who noticed the plans to cut next to the trail, "I remember thinking, how can the Forest Service clearcut so close to a hiking trail."

The Forest Service claims that because many of the trees have been killed by bark beetles that the forest is useless and logging is necessary to protect it from insects. While this statement is gaining popularity with the Bush administration and their timber industry allies, this is contrary to a wealth of science on the subject. According to a 2005 study released by the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, "There is no evidence that logging can control bark beetles or forest defoliators once an outbreak has started." The study concludes that logging has even exacerbated Fire suppression and logging have led to simplified forests that may increase the risk of insect outbreaks."