



Nancy Yturriaga – Adams, Clay Artist

Date: 1711

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Page 2 of 2

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BLM Western Oregon Plan Revisions Office
Portland, Or. 97208

To Whom it may Concern:

I am writing regarding the WOPR Plan recently proposed for the Applegate Valley. In 2001, I bought the Sweetwater Ranch, 160 acres in the Applegate. When we originally got the ranch, we spent all our time just cleaning up after the former owners, cleaning out old junk, mending fences, restoring our access bridge and road and ultimately starting our organic farm and the Sweetwater Cottage Retreat. We did not have a lot of money and we spent all that we had, working hard to start our business and to restore this beautiful ranch as a sustainable farm and retreat. Now, as our fledgling business is starting to pay us back we find ourselves threatened by our own government.

Our ranch is surrounded by BLM----so we are very vulnerable to the shocking revised plans proposed by the BLM and the government, which it represents. How short-sighted---how lacking in vision is your WOPR Plan! You certainly must realize that the Applegate Valley is in transition---fast becoming a destination for recreation, wineries, organic farms and gardens---but what do you propose? Off road vehicles! There's no provision for policing these intruders---and when a BLM representative was questioned about this he assured me that they had "a real hot-dogger" who could give chase to those who went in undesignated areas! Great---now we have a bunch of crazies jamming around on public land---motorcycle chases off road---thanks a lot for nothing. My guests will not patronize our business if this continues---. Is the BLM willing to compensate me for loss of income? You take everything from our community and give nothing back.

Then when I questioned your representative on global warming-----well, it was just embarrassing to hear him be so ignorant and proud of it. We each must take responsibility for the climatic changes that are very likely to continue if efforts to conserve are not implemented. Clear cutting will take down our cleansing tress---they are there to clean our air of emissions----and to provide us with needed lumber. We can still farm our forests, but leave us our wildlife corridors and old growth areas. Now is the time to be finalizing these plans, not throwing them out for short-term gain.

There are organizations that are willing to work with you to improve your vision. The Applegate Partnership was very active in the fuel reduction programs and with setting up thoughtful guidelines for management. We urge you to work with the community---not against us. The excuse of "just doing your job" doesn't work for you or for us here---you really need to do your job---and that is rethink your entire plan and interface in a more equitable way with our community.

Nancy Y Adams, Sweetwater Cottage Retreat
Sweetwater Ranch, Applegate, Oregon

nancy y adams

let common sense prevail!



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Page 2 of 2

CC: Senator Ron Wyden, Senator Gordon Smith, Rep. Peter DeFazio, Rep. Greg Walden, Rep. Earl Blumenhauer, Rep. Darlene Hooley, Rep. David Wu