Appearances Are An Illusion… Pristine Landscape or Toxic Wasteland?

We, our children, all animal life and all plant life – Live in it, Play in it, Breathe it and Drink it.
But what lurks just beneath the surface is the…

Bureau of Land Managements Chemical Treatment of Our Public Lands.

1 The hijacking of this country's greatest resource continues by this administration as it pushes forward in the onslaught of chemical exposure to our most treasured public lands. This would have to be one of the most irresponsible actions taken and to use fear as the basis of it is even more of a disgrace – "to combat the spread of noxious and invasive plants and reduce the amount of highly flammable forest and rangeland fuels" (BLM news release). It ceases to amaze me how the American public can continue to stick its head in the sand and ignore what is happening around them even though it is one of their loved ones that are plagued with some incurable disease with its origins unknown!! Give me a break, we all know the origin and yet here we go again under the disguise of the BLM doing its part in chemically poisoning every plant, bird and animal species in our communities. Let me remind you – WE ALL LIVE DOWNSTREAM! What happens first to the wilderness will hit us flat in the face unless we stop this irresponsible action being pushed upon us.

2 What my biggest question is – is who is to gain? It certainly is not our lands, they have evolved perfectly on their own accord and have their own built in abilities to deal with invasive plants (introduced by man and domesticated animals I might add); it certainly is not the people who use the lands after all who would choose willfully and consciously to walk through a cocktail of poisons, carcinogens, mutagens and hormone disrupting chemicals. It certainly would not be the wildlife that would have something to gain after all do they have bank accounts to roll that huge sum of dollars into as the taxpayers pay for this both on a national and local level. I for one am abhorred that the money I work honestly and hard for would be used to exterminate so many species on our planet.

3 I am also disgusted that the BLM whose responsibility is as stated in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 directs the BLM to manage public lands "in a manner that will protect the quality of scientific, scenic, historic, ecological, environmental, air and atmospheric, water resources and archeological values" there are many mandates and laws that the BLM must comply to both on a state and local level but that does not make them right. After all the majority of these people involved in making these laws have something to gain at the expense of our environment and our health.

4 What I also question is where does the research on these chemicals come from? – how long were the studies done and on what subjects, and for what results were they looking for. I would hope that the vast majority of the population understands is that it is the chemical companies themselves that provide the information on these chemicals and it is their studies that are used – not biased at all is it!

5 I also wonder how the BLM intends to monitor such a program and what they have in mind when it eradicates vast populations that nature placed in these areas to live in harmony and balance. Is the BLM responsible for providing emergency healthcare to the wildlife populations it intends to exterminate with this senseless act? The BLM as stated "monitoring ensures that vegetation management is an adaptive process that continually build upon past successes and learns from past mistakes" my question here is how can the BLM evaluate such successes and mistakes when it recognizes "that many sites treated in the past lack monitoring data. In many cases, project monitoring was not done, was done sporadically without consistent documentation, or was done but the records were lost or destroyed".

6 A major concern to me resulting from the lack of administrative documents is one that few would think of, but due to the categorical and systematic rape of our lands resources by this administration I cannot help but wonder about the possibility of deliberate over-contamination of chemicals in certain areas so as to close them to public use and the public eye – thus allowing for the unseen logging, mining and continued rape of the land to occur.

7 How can this department stand in full integrity and state to the public that what they want to do is in the interest of the public lands of this country. They are bold faced liars a true reflection of the administration of this country. Bottom line it will be a huge cue for the chemical companies and the pharmaceutical companies when they treat the toxic poisoning with more chemicals – these are the biggest lobbyist with the most to give and gain from the politicians of this country.

8 All you need do is look at the effects as stated on the BLM website www.blm.gov to understand that they are standing behind a façade of deep deceit hidden from the eye of the general public who unless go searching for it will certainly not find it on the front page of the local newspaper.

9 The problems that are faced on our public lands have been caused by the misuse and abuse of them – humans are not the only species on this planet and although we think we are the more highly evolved of all species the truer reflection is that we are far more dangerous to ourselves and other species and act more as a parasite destroying what keeps us alive the difference being is we have free will to change our environment for the better not for the worst.

10 My hope is that every American will become more engaged in what is happening around them not for just themselves but for the safety and health of all living creatures – after we are not the only species on this planet we share it with many others – it is time to stop taking and actually give something back and then maybe we might just regain our health and joy of living at the same time.

This is my parting gift to you.

11 **"At no other time in the Earth's history has it been more apparent that the overall decline in the health of mankind, is directly reflective of the overall deterioration in the health of the planet. Clinical studies on human adipose tissue have now proven that chemical compounds ubiquitous in our food, air, and water are now present in every person. The bioaccumulation of these toxic compounds can lead to a variety of metabolic, systemic and neurological dysfunctions, and in some cases outright disease".**

12 **"The human body contains a cocktail of poisons, carcinogens, mutagens and hormone-disrupting chemicals. There isn't a single person, animal, or plant that has escaped this toxic assault".**

13 **This letter is written by an avid hiker, backpacker and nature photographer of our public lands and one who does not want to show this stunning wilderness and its wildlife through photographs while having to explain to our generations to come the stupidity of their predecessors – the ones who claim to take care and guardianship of the land and its living.**

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14 Hello Brian
I recognize that BLM for the most part does a wonderful job caring for our lands on the ground level, but I also recognize the politics that are involved in irresponsible acts. In my work I counsel people who are continually exposed to chemicals in everyday life - people who have lost their health and are entrapped in the medical system. It would be irresponsible to expose the earth & its inhabitants to more chemicals. I travel to these areas to get away from chemical exposure and cannot bear the thought that I could no longer use them.