

11/14/2021

Wages Creek, California

Dear Mendocino County Board of Supervisors,

Regarding Jackson State Forest. I urge you to reject any moratorium and tell concerned citizens to work within the State framework regarding Forest Policy. Forestry is a complex topic and I want you to resist the loudest most strident voices in the room and vote for calm deliberative decision making.

The County's own Foremost Forestry Experts, Conservationist and Forester Roger Sternberg (RPF of Record on the County Owned NTMP) and Dr. Mike Jones of the UC Extension have written in support of continuing management of the State Forest.

I want Government Policy to be rationally thought out in consideration of experts in the topic and I also believe Public Comment is important. Kowtowing to the loudest voices in the room on vaccination and educational content are current examples of ignorance which is becoming public policy.

The Board of Supervisors should concentrate on these persistent problems which are squarely Mendocino County topics;

Cannabis Policy, Local Economy, Mental Health/Homeless/Substance Abuse, County Roads and Law Enforcement, Housing, Income Inequity.

It is also very important for you to consider that most of the men who work in Jackson State Forest projects are Spanish men who live primarily in Fort Bragg but these products are processed again primarily by working class men who live in Ukiah and Willits. Voting for a Moratorium has an element of sacrificing the interests of working men for wealthier people.

Mendocino County Forest Policy could readily be improved but no management or production is elitist and ignorant. We also need housing and work this is an element we need to continue as a productive asset.

I have a Client in Elk who also lives in Nepal. She told me she was proud to be an American when she saw long lines in Nepal to receive American Aid of the Covid Vaccine. I personally honor the Republicans who recently voted for the Infrastructure Package and put what is right for the Country over political patronage.

Please vote in line with your own experts and concentrate BOS efforts on County Issues. Tell your constituents who want to change forestry practices to do so within the system that is in place.

Thank You,

Tom Kisliuk

Landowner Wages Creek, Mendocino County