

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/6/2021 8:00:00 AM

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Organization:

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Comments: Objection to Land Trade.

The original trade was intended to provide permanent protection for the north side of Mt.Hood and end decades of dispute over Mt. Hood Meadows's attempts to build a massive destination resort above Parkdale. Mt Hood Meadows is not entitled to a windfall deal that will privatize Mt.Hood and cause more damage to the ecosystem.

Instead of trading all their 764 acre holding near Cooper Spur, their deal with USFS allows them to keep 160 acres for future development at Cooper Spur as well as obtain 67 acres of highly valuable land at Government Camp. To enable this sweetheart deal, USFS relied on deeply flawed appraisals that grossly underestimate the value of the public's land at Government Camp. Their Alabama-based appraiser valued lots in the heart of Government Camp at just \$26,000each when lots are currently selling for \$250,000 and up.

We demand that a proper appraisal of the land be performed. Donald Trump and his thieves are no longer in Washington. The wanton destruction in the service of short term gain for the rich must stop NOW.

The USDA has failed in making sure the trade is fair to the public and fulfills its main goal of protecting the wild north side of Mt. Hood's wilderness, watershed, and habitat without leaving the door open for future development or disputes. We strongly object.

The "Clean Sweep" trade serves the public interest far better and should be adopted.

These are the benefits to the public which the Federal Government must provide us, the citizens.

- \* 1,700 acres of new Wilderness in the Tilly Jane-Cloud Cap Historic District

- \* Special protections for 2,000 acres in Crystal Springs Watershed - the drinking water supply for 25% of Hood River homes

- \* A win-win solution that ends a 40-year fight over Mt. Hood Meadows' plans to develop a destination resort at Cooper Spur.