

1-17-2016

North Coast Regional Water Board: WDR Comments

My name is Nancy Sievert. I live on Elk River Court, on the main stem of Elk River. I have lived here for 30 years and the changes I have seen to Elk River are breaking my heart, destroying the river and my property. Right now I sit here in my home listening to the river running right under where I am sitting in my computer room. Can you even imagine the fear I feel right now? Fear for my life and of the damage happening under my home and to my property. We Elk River residents have been trying for over 17 years to get you to effectively address the issues causing the growing danger to our lives, homes, property and the river itself.

I wonder if anyone is listening to our plea for real meaningful, timely help or are they falling on deaf ears...again!!

I have lost 50+ feet of my property to the river due to over logging causing sediment deposition on the banks which then fall into the river along with the trees. Elk River flood water is all around my home and on the road to it right now as I write this. I can neither get in or out of my home. Even if I could walk on water to my truck I couldn't drive it out of here. I am trapped. I am 75 years old. What would happen if I were to have a fall or some other life threatening situation? Emergency vehicles can't even get to me. Due to over-logging and damage to the river we are now like prisoners in our own homes and it seems that we have more to come unless you people take a strong and effective stand to help us now. I do not think this WDR does that. Think if it were you and your family; what would you want done? You must understand all the consequences of the logging but you fail to adequately address them to protect our lives and property.

There used to be otters and their pups, all kind of ducks and fish. Do you think that fish can handle all the muddy sediment filled waters. I don't know what more I can say to get you to act to protect us. Do I have to cut my throat and bleed in front of you to get your attention??? Think like a real person who cares to follow the laws to protect residents first; not the big companies that offer monies to have all of you turn you heads as if we do not exist. We pay taxes just like all of you but your homes are not in harms way. You get to go home knowing that you and your family and home are safe.

Please tell me how you will effectively address these problems. I realize we are all up against huge politically powerful companies but there has to be some kind of bold effective measures taken to stop this continued logging caused harm or they will continue to hurt people, homes, families, the environment, animals and fish. That is your job, your only job...protect us now.

Sincerely,

Nancy Sievert



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