

We are asking Weyerhaeuser to withdraw this property from the open market, and join with us in a committed attempt to bring this sensitively situated property into public ownership. The quickest and simplest way to accomplish this would be for Weyerhaeuser to gift the land to a public agency like the Forest Service or one of the wildlife agencies. Perhaps you even have a public benefit program in place for saving smaller parcels of land that are sensitively located, that could be used to keep this property from being converted to residential development. If so, this property certainly qualifies.

Another, more complicated and lengthy process, is to sell this land to a public agency. It would take commitment and determination to accomplish this goal, but we have reason to believe that a billion dollar company like Weyerhaeuser can get things like this done if you sincerely want to. We will do what we can to help.

We realize that - as a timber company - your focus is on timber production and your fiduciary responsibilities to your investors. We are appealing to another responsibility - your civic responsibility - a responsibility that is all too often disregarded by corporations too focused on the bottom line. Thought of in another way, assuring that this property along the White Salmon Wild and Scenic River goes into public ownership would be quite a public relations coup for Weyerhaeuser with substantial financial benefit for your corporation.

While you consider this, we will be busy doing what we can to lay the groundwork for the transfer of this property into public ownership. The White Salmon Wild and Scenic River is a public asset, and our long standing mission statement is: "The Columbia Gorge Audubon Society seeks to promote and enhance the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of our natural world. Our interests are worldwide, our focus is the scenic beauty and ecological health the Columbia River Gorge and its tributaries." We realize that you will require some time to consider this letter, but while you are thinking it over, we would appreciate your calling Copper West (541-386-2330) and Jim Bunker (your Senior Land Asset Manager), and informing them that you would like to put this sale on hold. We would not like to see this property sold to a developer while you are thinking things over.

Most Sincerely,

Dave Thies, President (cell: 509-637-3386)  
Columbia Gorge Audubon Society

COPIES TO: The Seattle Times, The Oregonian, The Columbian, The Hood River News, The Dalles Chronicle, The Enterprise, US Senators Cantwell and Murray, Representative Herrera Butler, and Jim Bunker (your Senior Land Asset Manager).