



Cooper Spur Wild and Free Coalition

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Meadows' Environmental Record Speaks for Itself

Working to preserve and protect the biological integrity and historic nature of the northeast side of Mt. Hood

Mt. Hood Meadows Environmental Report Card Grade = D

Graded by the Ski Area Citizens Coalition (www.skiareacitizens.com) on November 25, 2002. The SACC works to ensure that ski area management decisions, either by the Forest Service, the ski companies, or local governments, are responsive to the needs of real environmental protection, local communities, and the skiing public.

Poor Environmental Management Practices by Mt. Hood Meadows

- ✓ 8 acres of alpine meadows impacted due to new parking.
- ✓ 8.5 acres of alpine meadows and wetlands impacted due to lodge expansion projects.
- ✓ Proposed expansion plans would result in severely impacting a pair of Northern spotted owls and would likely affect steelhead trout.
- ✓ Opposed the Clinton administration's roadless area protection initiative.
- ✓ The US Army Corps of Engineers documents numerous violations of the Clean Water Act resulting from unpermitted fills of sensitive alpine wetlands.
- ✓ New Lift 21 project references a 9.5-acre limit of wetlands impacts allowed in the master development plan.
- ✓ Proposed expansion plans would impact between 60-70 acres of old-growth forest.
- ✓ On September 12, 1996 a Notice of Noncompliance was issued to Mount Hood Meadows for failure to report and remediate spills of petroleum products. Oregon DEQ ordered Meadows to excavate 1200 tons of contaminated soil.

Over the last 30 years...

- ✓ 22 acres of meadows, wetlands, and rare high alpine forests have been paved over for parking lots.
- ✓ 3,000 ft. of mountain streams have been diverted through culverts.
- ✓ Snow contaminated with sand, gravel, litter, and motor oil have been plowed into Stringer Meadows and the headwaters of the East Fork of the Hood River.
- ✓ The overflow parking lot was built illegally with fill on a wetland with no analysis, disclosure, or public process as was required. This lot was also built too close to Mitchell Creek. Siltation and pollution to the creek as a result of the parking lot being built too close resulted in a citation for violations of the Clean Water Act.
- ✓ Cited by the DEQ for having a solid waste dump without a permit.
- ✓ Protection of Umbrella Falls, promised to be a major focus, has not been honored.
- ✓ Caught by the Forest Service pumping raw sewage into the East Fork of Hood River. Meadows also operated its sewage plant out of compliance with its DEQ permit. Meadows received a notice of non-compliance from DEQ with intent to assess civil penalties.