

Crater Lake National Park
Medford, Oregon 97501

L58

September 27, 1968

BLUE ENVELOPE

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Western Region

From: Superintendent, Crater Lake

Subject: Arcata Redwood Road Construction -
Township 11 North, Range 1 East, Sections 22 and 27

On September 24 I met with Byron Miller, Vice-president, Arcata Redwood Company. We discussed their plans for the logging operation in Skunk Cabbage Creek. The Company has started road construction off of their "B" line. (See attached map). Approximately 1/8 mile of this road has been constructed. The Company plans to continue construction South of the "B" line, then westerly paralleling the Agnew property (#21), then southerly along the section line of Section 28 to the confluence of Cabbage Creek. At that point, the logging operation will commence. It is imperative from the Company's point of view that this road be constructed prior to the time the winter rains start. They have no plans to log in this area until early spring or summer. When the logging starts they plan to work westerly up Skunk Cabbage Creek.

We understand that the Sierra Club's Mr. McCloskey has contacted Mr. Dehlendorph, President of Arcata Company, objecting to this road construction. We understand that the Arcata Company's legal advisors have been contacted by Mr. McCloskey of the Sierra Club. I was informed this morning by Mr. Chapman, Comptroller, Arcata Redwood Company, that they plan to continue the road construction as planned.

In reviewing the road construction, on site, the Company has left approximately a 1/8 mile fringe so that the road, per se, is reasonably well-screened as viewed from U. S. Highway 101. As the road proceeds westerly, around the Agnew property, it should not be visible from the highway. However, when the area west of the road being constructed is logged, because of the terrain, the logged-off area will be visible from U. S. 101. We understand that the Arcata Redwood Company has applied to the State of California for a clear-cut logging permit covering their property in the Skunk Cabbage Drainage.

Clear-cut logging will, of course, be objectionable from the scenic point of view. This is one of the reasons that I have requested your office to institute a Master Plan Study as soon as possible. The Conference Committee Report, September 10, 1968, states--commencing on Line 22, Page 5--"(d) The Secretary is further authorized to acquire, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, lands and interests in land bordering both sides of the highway between the present southern boundary of Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park and a point on Redwood Creek near the town of Orick to a depth sufficient to maintain or to restore a screen of trees between the highway and the land behind the screen and the activities conducted thereon." As mentioned above, a Master Plan Study should be undertaken, in my opinion, as soon as possible to determine what, if any, of this land should be acquired to conform with the above section of the Conference Committee's Report. I, personally, do not feel that the road construction into this area is overly objectionable. The objectionable portion would be the logging of the land immediately west of the "B" Line and west of the newly constructed road.

I am, therefore, urging you to consider immediate Master Planning of this area so that the lands necessary to protection of scenic integrity of the land from Prairie Creek to Orick be maintained.

Donald M. Spalding

Enclosure

cc:

Robert S. Luntz - SSC w/enclosure
Chester C. Brown - WASO w/enclosure

