

From: [Patricia Hathaway](#)
To: [HWREC Exhibits](#)
Subject: Public Comments for House Special Committee on Wildfire recovery for Holiday Farm Fire
Date: Sunday, February 21, 2021 4:46:33 PM

Public comments for House Special Committee on Wildfire Recovery for the Holiday Farm Fire Meeting 2/22/21 at 5:30 pm

Hello,

Our home was lost in the Holiday Farm Fire and I would like to submit comments on the recovery process:

First, I am very concerned about homebuilding costs. Homeowners are faced with large costs regarding property cleanup and rebuilding. Currently, these costs are severely inflated, and the homeowners are being forced to bear the cost both in cleanup, ie getting rid of debris and dead trees, and then in re-build. It seems particularly unjust in the area of timber, where so much of the timber is being provided by this area, and yet those planning to rebuild will not recoup any benefit in purchasing lumber at now extremely inflated costs. I propose some type of "rebate" on lumber prices for those rebuilding in fire areas; something that will allow those rebuilding to buy lumber at pre-fire costs. It is not fair that timber that comes off one property provides a profit to a timber company that then makes a second profit off of the same property when that homeowner needs lumber to rebuild. Please consider ways to help those rebuilding with these costs. In addition, Heather Buch told me that our building permits cannot be waived because it would wipe out the budget. Why is profit from the timber industry not paying for this?

Second, I am extremely concerned about the health of the Mckenzie area due to private timber interests. It is past time that the timber interests get a free pass for the sole reason that they subsist on private property. The clearcutting currently taking place on private land is unprecedented. That combined with the chemical herbicides that will end up in the Mckenzie River creates a situation that is harmful to the health of all who exist in this area at best, and catastrophic at worst. It is past time that the timber industry is allowed such power, with no consequence to their destruction actions. If this fire does not meet your definition of scorched earth, what will? And yet everyday, those logging trucks continue to deplete the future forests of what they need to regenerate, to create an environment where wildlife, forests, and the river can coexist. What will it take to change the policies that helped create this disaster? Please, use science based facts, consider climate change, and stop subsidizing the timber industry in the name of fire prevention!

Lastly, provide funds and information for the community to rebuild. I currently have to research on my own to figure out how to build a fire resilient home. Help us do this; prepare resources we can utilize, hook us up with those who can help us with this. Any homes going up after this fire should be built to sustain another event such as this. Many are not even aware of these options, and need to have the information.

Thank you,

Tish Hathaway
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