

STOP THE PALOMAR PIPELINE FROM CLEARCUTTING OUR MT. HOOD NATIONAL FOREST!



The Palomar Pipeline is a proposal by a subsidiary of Northwest Natural to build a pipeline from the Columbia River to Molalla and across Mt. Hood National Forest to meet up with an existing pipeline. Palomar would be facilitating the transmission of foreign liquefied natural gas (LNG) from proposed terminals on the coast.

The proposal would include a highway-wide clearcut corridor that would require new road construction for permanent access! The pipeline corridor would cross Fish Creek, the Wild and Scenic Clackamas River and cut forests in several key watersheds and old-growth forests that have already been compromised by years of timber management! The corridor would amount to an approximately 709 acre clearcut! It would go through popular recreation areas, across hiking trails (such as the Pacific Crest Trail) and through proposed off-highway vehicle designated areas!

Some concerned citizens have asked how the Palomar Pipeline could be legally constructed. Well, the short answer is that it can't... at least not without changing the current environmental rules that protect our national forest. The Forest Service has been told to change the rules, but they need to hear from the public first.

Please take the time to send in comments to the Forest Service regarding the Palomar Pipeline. If you have questions, contact Bark or check out our website at www.bark-out.org.

MAJOR POINTS OF CONCERN:

- ★ The proposed LNG pipeline crosses 47 miles of Mt. Hood National Forest causing more than 700 acres of clearcutting in its path, including old growth forests. If this proposal was just a logging project, it would be illegal. Why are we making special exceptions for a natural gas company?
- ★ The pipeline route crosses 15 streams and rivers in Mt. Hood National Forest, not to mention the hundreds of unnamed tributaries and drainages. These streams and rivers are habitat for endangered fish runs and act as the lifelines for Mt. Hood's ecosystems and will be harmed by the logging of a corridor.
- ★ The Clackamas River is one of the most important water sources in this region. We depend on it for drinking water, recreation and fishing. Many of us live downriver from the Clackamas and depend on the forest ecosystems to deliver a clean water source.
- ★ Mt. Hood National Forest is the backyard of our region. More people visit Mt. Hood than any other national forest in the Pacific Northwest. Recreation is not only a cultural priority to communities, but is an important part to the economic vitality of surrounding towns.
- ★ The Clackamas Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail, two nationally recognized trails are revered for their scenic and historic qualities and will be intercepted by the pipeline route.
- ★ The pipeline route poses continued concern for the growing abuse of public lands by off-road vehicles. The clearcut offers an additional trail to a proposed sanctioned off-roading area. This proposal threatens the kind of recreation we should be promoting in our national forest, while encouraging a known destructive presence.
- ★ As Americans are forced to find alternative sources to meet our energy needs, we should be promoting domestic supplies. However, no American should ever have to be asked to risk their access to clean drinking water for corporate profit.

SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO THE FOREST SERVICE BEFORE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4th

MAIL: Mike Redmond, Mt. Hood National Forest, 16400 Champion Way, Sandy, OR 97055 EMAIL: <u>comments-pacificnorthwest-mthood@fs.fed.us</u>