

January 13, 2009

Mike McAllister
Clackamas County Planning Division
Development Services Building
150 Beaver Creek Road
Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Re: Minthorn Creek buffer

Dear Mike,

Recently, members of the Oak Lodge Community Council (OLCC) were made aware of the devastation at an undeveloped 1.2 acre lot on Minthorn Creek, along the north boundary of OLCC's service area. You referred to this lot in an email message to Steve Wheeler sometime after Pat Russell of the North Clackamas CPO brought it to your attention on November 19, 2009. The subject lot is on the north side of Harmony Road, just west of its intersection with Linwood and Railroad Avenues (Tax Lot 2200 on Map 1-2E-31D). I visited the site last week and confirmed your own observation that 14 mature conifers, including coast redwoods and sequoias, had been felled on the southern, upland side of the lot in near proximity to Minthorn Creek (as identified on the tax lot map), which runs through the north side of the lot.

In your message, you note that no permits had been recorded for development of the property. You also note that "Water Quality Resource Area District regulations...require stream buffers based on the type and quality of the resource." You informed Mr Wheeler that you would require the owner of the property to submit a "natural resource assessment (stream buffer analysis)." The findings of that assessment would inform further action.

When you receive the stream buffer analysis, please send a copy to me. I will be discussing the current condition of this property with the members of the Oak Lodge Community Council. We should expect a land use application for this lot (zoned MR-1) and will want to know that the property owner has conformed to the laws and regulations of the County to protect our watersheds. We will also share our understanding of these issues with members of the North Clackamas Watersheds Council.

Sincerely,

Eleanore Hunter, Chair
Oak Lodge Community Council