



Forest & River News
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April 14, 2011

MRC Response to “A Dream Delayed” by David Simpson

Dear Editor,

With respect to those working to explain their concerns and questions as well as defenses for current practices in state funded forestry preservation, let me state Mendocino Redwood Company's position as simply and constructively as possible.

1. MRC supports conservation.
2. We have had concerns about the way the WCB makes conservation investments since 2007.
3. Our concerns have been summarized and shared openly via letters that we have put on the web (see www.mrc.com).
4. We question the ecological merits of large state investments to buy development rights on steep and remote forestlands that are without threat of development now or in the foreseeable future.
5. We think the state can achieve far more ecological benefit by investing in restoration efforts, protecting pristine and unique stands of forest and purchasing development rights for lands actually under threat of development in the foreseeable future.
6. If and when the state is going to make significant investments to buy development rights, the best public policy is transparency. Members of the public should have the opportunity to review, understand and comment on the analysis upon which the purchase price is derived, *before* the money is committed and spent.

We look forward to the WCB's review of these investment practices.

Sandy Dean
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