

HOOD RIVER NEWS
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
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Sustain what?

So what if it took the threat of perjury to get three of our county commissioners, the county planners, the owners and managers of Mt. Hood Meadows, and members of the Forest Service to produce the documents that prove the land trade between the county and Mt. Hood Meadows was initiated by Meadows approaching the county with their plans for a destination resort? So what if the county planners and commissioners meant there were no final blueprints of each unit, when they said there were no plans for a resort? So what if they are continuing to bend over backwards to increase the number of seasonally unemployed minimum wage workers, create the need for a \$5 million drinking water filter, pollute and diminish the water available for irrigating farms, and reduce the options for quality outdoor recreation that draw the tourist dollars to the destination resort of Hood River? GreenPreach is cheap. The activities of Mt. Hood Meadows are what you should evaluate. Go see the Sustaining that has been going on at Cooper Spur Ski Area.

Check out the bulldozer work they have already done to Sustain the Slopes at Cooper Spur. The topsoil slid into the parking lot, and there are no plants, mosses, wildflowers, small trees, or anything else growing in those areas. Downhill, the amount of erosion from only one season of abuse in this low-snow year is stupendous. The damage is being done to Sustain Meadows' real estate expansion into sensitive areas. The ditches Meadows digs across the hillsides try to get the runoff into the woods where vegetation might trap the soils. Picture the results of applying this heavy-handed approach to Sustaining Meadows occurring up in the alpine, through the Tilly Jane, at Cloud Cap, and into the rest of the watershed from which we drink. Then tell your county commissioner, your state senator, your governor, and the new crew of Meadows' own GreenPreach Activists, that a destination resort is bad business for Hood River County. Before you make up YOUR mind about the resort, go see the damage Sustained by the Slopes of Cooper Spur.

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