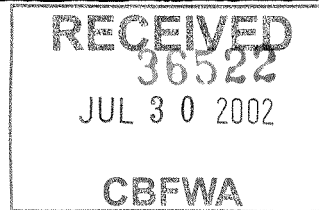


FROM :

FAX NO. : 3867351

Jul. 30 2002 08:44AM P2



July 29, 2002

Mr. Rod Sando
Director
Columbia Basin
Fish and Wildlife Authority

Dear Mr. Sando,

I am the owner of Hood River Mountain Sun, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in marketing, product development and project management for agriculture. I am active in the Hood River Chamber of Commerce and the leader of an informal group desiring to establish a community development program to gain economic and environmental benefits for our area.

We are very interested in bringing the Watershed Legacy Learning Community: Citizen Move to Action Program to our area. We are aware of its' work in Walla Walla / Milton-Freewater and believe it fits the needs of our community.

Like many rural regions in the Pacific Northwest, local Gorge communities, such as Hood River, have experienced deep economic recession at the same time they have been overtaken by environmental conflicts. Whatever the merits of respective positions, the end result has been to undermine progress both environmentally and economically. In my view, it is simply time to move on. We are in need of a movement that allows us to break through lawsuits and negativity, to build one rich opportunity in the Gorge to structure solutions of economic and environmental wins.

I believe this can be accomplished through a combination of promoting "value-added" production and marketing supported by "green" payments for environmental gains and judicious application of public and private resources. This can only happen if the community joins together in a common vision and plan of action.

I am looking forward to working with you to establish to establish such a process.

Sincerely Yours,

Ron Wherry
Owner,
HR Mtn Sun, Inc.

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