



ENVIRONMENTAL VOICES

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USDA, USFS District Ranger SMMU
204 West Alma Street,
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APR 13 2010

Greetings Ms. Franco:

U.S. FOREST SERVICE
Shasta-Trinity National Forests
Mt. Shasta District

Enclosed are four lab reports of public concern. I have been presenting this information to you and your staffs over the front desk for a year and you have not replied. This letter is stamped in as proof and we expect a reply within ten working days.

The first shows 61,100 ug/l of aluminum, 83 barium, and 383 strontium in water above the ski bowl on Mt. Shasta. The second shows 1010 aluminum plus barium in an official NWS plastic rain gauge in Mt Shasta. The third shows 375,000 ug/l aluminum, 3,090 barium, 345 strontium in a lined pond, or a wildlife guzzler north of Shasta Lake. The fourth shows deposition of 4,640,000 ug/l aluminum in sediment going into Shasta Lake.

Our concern is that people are drinking snow water as they climb the mountain, and this level is toxic. Not deadly, but well over a reasonable limit. USFS has not replied.

We think certain people are more subject to these toxin effects, particularly concerning the recent death on the mountain and possible neurotoxin reactions.

Aquatic insects are now under 10% of their natural population levels. No reply.

We wonder if the deer and other wildlife are affected from drinking out of wildlife guzzlers with these high amounts of Al, Br, & Sr in them. Debbie Derby has not replied.

I have noted that the pH of fresh rain and snow has varied widely in the last year from 5.5 to near 7.0. Soils that should be 5.6 are now about 6.6-6.8. We are concerned that this is predisposing the forest ecology to insects and fungus diseases in areas like McBride Springs. I have tested McBride at 6.6-6.8 pH. Peter Van Susteren has not replied.

We ask that you direct your staff to reply, and investigate the pH and aluminum, barium, and strontium in our soils and waters as indicated above. We ask that you investigate and inform us of the source of contaminants, or your best estimate.

Sincerely,

Francis W. Mangels 4/11/10

Francis Mangels, Environmental Voices, Consultant
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