

FSC Global Development GmbH • Adenauerallee 134
53113 Bonn, Deutschland

Water for Citizens of Weed, California (WCWC)
Mr. Jim Taylor; Mr. Bruce Shoemaker
872 Stringtown Avenue
Weed, CA 96094 USA

25-03-2019

Subject: Notification of decision regarding Policy for Association complaint, Water for Citizens of Weed, California and Roseburg Forest Products

Dear Mr. Jim Taylor, dear Mr. Bruce Shoemaker,

We are writing to you as a response to the Policy for Association complaint you filed with FSC International on 27 February 2019.

FSC International would like to thank you for your diligence and clarity in the preparation of this complaint. We express our appreciation for the time and effort you have invested in bringing these issues to FSC, especially since these are issues that affect you and your community so personally.

The Policy for Association is FSC's mechanism to identify organizations not committed to the basic fundamentals of responsible forest management, and to prevent them from misusing their association with us. It's the last line of defence in our mission to promote genuine stewardship of the world's forests. Because of this, the activities we hold as unacceptable to FSC in the Policy for Association are forest related. This includes traditional and human rights issues, which under the Policy for Association are defined as "*violation of traditional and human rights in forestry operations*".

It is in the context of the forest that FSC is at its most effective, benefitting from 25 years of learning and experience. As an organization, we do not set out ethical requirements for activities not connected to forestry or timber trade. The core documents where we express our values, such as the Principles & Criteria for Forest Stewardship and the Policy for Association, define what we expect within the forest.

Since the rights issues you raise are outside forestry operations, we do not have a framework or mandate to take action. We are therefore unable to accept your complaint.

We regret the current situation in Weed and distress within the community and express our sincere hope that an amicable solution will be reached.

1 of 2



If you have any questions, please do reach out to me or FSC's Dispute Resolution team: Saija (s.hotti@fsc.org), Alex (a.green@fsc.org) and Amparo (a.arellano@fsc.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kim Carstensen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kim Carstensen
FSC Director General