



March 7, 2019

Mr. Kim Carstensen  
Director-General  
Forest Stewardship Council International  
Adenauerallee 134 · 53113 Bonn  
Germany  
dispute.resolution@fsc.org  
fsc@fsc.org

CC:

Robert Hrubes rhrubes@scsglobalservices.com  
Sarah Harris sharris@scsglobalservices.com  
Bruce Shoemaker bshoe@bitstream.net

Dear Kim,

Greenpeace USA strongly encourages you to take seriously the Water for Citizens of Weed, California complaint regarding Roseburg Forest Products under Forest Stewardship Council Policy for Association FSC-POL-001-004. FSC-International should ensure that Roseburg's behavior and stakeholder relations outlined in the complaint are thoroughly investigated.

Roseburg's abusive use of the courts to silence opposition is part of a growing trend with far reaching impacts on democracy and systems like the Forest Stewardship Council. Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP) can undermine the FSC system as they are fundamentally contradictory to FSC Principles and Criteria 1 (Applicable law) and 4 (Social and Economic Well Being of Local Communities). SLAPPs dramatically impact environmental governance, transparency, democratic principles and undermine human rights under customary law.

Roseburg Forest Products lawsuit against local community members and water rights defenders is an egregious SLAPP and attack on free speech. FSC's association with companies that file these types of lawsuits has implications for your brand and values. For these reasons, Greenpeace USA urges you to apply careful consideration of the complaint filed by Water for Citizens of Weed, California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Brindis', is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel Brindis  
Interim Forest Campaign Director  
Greenpeace USA