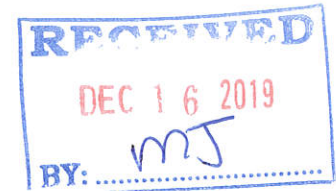


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GEO FARMS Inc.



December 15, 2019

To the Tillamook County Department of Community Development,

I am writing this letter to address the issue of the Floodway/Estuary/Floodplain Development Permit 851-19-000511-PLNG: The Nature Conservancy.

Since the beginning of this project in 2015 my farm and surrounding property have been affected by The Nature Conservancy's poor planning and execution. The result of their actions have negatively affected the way my farmland and property handle the accumulation of tidewater, rain fall and flooding. This is detrimental to the future of farming in this area and will only continue to get worse if not addressed.

The first project by The Nature Conservancy took out a stretch of dike along the Kilchis River starting behind former owner Sean Dooher's farm. This made all the water which used to go South into Casey Allen's property go toward the recently cleaned Stassek Slough. Now when it floods, there is twice as much water in this collection area causing it to backup into the fields along the east side of Highway 101. The willow and spruce trees that were planted will affect the flow of flood waters over time. They catch debris and aid in the accumulation of silt which is forcing water further and further up the Kilchis River Valley.

I expressed this concern to Dick from The Nature Conservancy only to be told it has helped the water drain faster. I disagree. The water is getting deeper and flooding Stassek Slough and the property that I lease from Sam Vermilyea. This project has made my fields unusable certain times of the year due to high water and residual fluctuation of the tides.

Once again I have expressed this to Dick with The Nature Conservancy repeatedly. Two years ago they were going to put water beacons around the Vermilyea property to measure the rising of the water. They never did.

The Nature Conservancy removed a tide gate in a small field between the railroad and Highway 101 which has caused even more flooding on that side of the property and made it impossible for me to access the neighboring property certain times of the year.


I was called a little over a year ago to meet with Dick again. Dick showed me where they wanted to clean and replace the culvert. This is supposed to help water flow out faster. Maybe, I don't know if this will help. It is yet to be seen.

There was never any word of lowering dikes and this is why I am writing this formal letter to you. I have been disappointed with the entire process involving The Nature Conservancy and I feel that the current issues must be resolved before they go any further.

In conclusion, I feel very strongly that the problems created by The Nature Conservancy must be addressed and resolved before we can move forward.

Sincerely,

Michael Prince



Geo Farms Inc.