

July 31, 2020

Letters to the Editor
Mountain News
P.O. Box 2410
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352

By Email: newsdesk@Mountain.News.com

Dear Editor:

It's tragic that Church of the Woods is so fixated on its terrible plan to annihilate a large area of prime wildlife habitat and scenic forest at the top of Daley Canyon Road. Although "annihilate" might sound like a strong word, it accurately describes the plan, which will literally flatten, scrape clear, and obliterate every living speck of nature on the oversized construction area.

The plan creates major detrimental problems like traffic lights, fog hazard, storm water runoff, pollution, and other critical issues. It conflicts significantly with key policies and environmental laws that the county must ignore to approve the project, which will then cause legal entanglements for years.

That's not a farfetched scenario. Every developer consents to indemnify the County and the Board of Supervisors against any acts, errors or omissions, negligence or fault of any degree, when the supervisors approve a bad project, such as the Church of the Woods. In exchange, the County has never denied a bad project in the mountains. Look how the nesting Bald Eagles in Fawnskin just got thrown under the bus.

Why is an otherwise reputable church so intent on severely dividing and alienating the local community? How does it profit a church (of all our civic institutions) to create such turmoil and antagonism towards the very people it seeks to serve?

This is no longer a humble church "of the woods" nestled in the natural forest surroundings and respectful of God's creation. It has lost its way and become an alien force, bent on destruction, divisiveness, pride and acrimony. Such a hostile assault leaves the community no choice except to oppose the detrimental extremes of this terrible plan as it is currently (and so inappropriately) proposed.

Name
Community
Phone Number