



JAMESTOWN S'KLALLAM TRIBE

1033 Old Blyn Highway, Sequim, WA 98382

360/683-1109

FAX 360/681-4643

September 8, 2021

Pinky Feria Mingo
Environmental Health Manager/ Jefferson County Public Health
615 Sheridan Street
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Dear Ms. Mingo:

I am writing on behalf of Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe to emphasize the urgency of removal of an abandoned (red-tagged) trailer situated on the bluff above Chimacum Creek just downstream of Irondale Rd. It is my understanding that removal of the trailer structure (with its associated debris) from above Chimacum Creek has been complicated because of the precarious position of the structure. I understand it is challenging, but I am writing to implore the County to identify an immediate remedial action. The situation will only worsen with time.

With fall rains imminent, it may become a greater challenge: removing the trailer debris from the ravine and creek itself with contamination from insulation, wiring and asbestos spreading downstream such that it may be impossible to capture. The Tribe is particularly interested in public health protection for Jefferson County and tribal citizens – and preventing exposure to chemical contamination via seafood ingestion.

The Tribe is also concerned that removal of the trailer from the creek itself will mean much greater disruption to the creek and ravine. As you know, restoration efforts in Chimacum Creek have yielded positive results, especially for the federally listed ESA summer chum. Many other species of fauna and flora have also benefited from restoration and protection of Chimacum Creek riparian habitat, which further benefits marine resources and water quality of Port Townsend Bay.

It is time for Jefferson County to pull out all stops and get the site cleaned up BEFORE the trailer slides to the creek.

Sincerely,

Hansi Hals
Natural Resources Director