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You are as close to a fact gathering/decisions made on facts organization as we have remaining in this country. And as such you all have an enormous responsibility.

Every "source" of information from company based decision making has baked into it the need to monetize results. In our world a tree is worth more dead than alive as are whales.

You do not have that kind of requirement. You can weigh all information—you're actually duty bound to do this—against your mission for existence: "Protect, preserve, and enhance the environment for current and future generations.

and determine if you're doing the right thing.

If I want a permit to build something that contravenes your mission for existence you have to deny my application even if I dot all i's, cross all t's and glom on to some part of some definition that colorably makes my application seem reasonable.

That is your duty and I don't envy you taking on that responsibility. Fulfilling that responsibility means deeply disappointing someone or some group or some thing you are personally connected to and/or that moves the needle in your heart.

It's pretty much an impossible task but you have a mission statement for a reason. It exists so you will not lose sight of what is really at stake in your deliberations. Are you meeting the goals you've stated enfranchise your actions?

People come to you—you come to you-carrying "facts" you've gleaned from sources. But what source can truly be trusted? Facebook and google searches will funnel you-individually, person by person- to whatever will keep you engaged on your search device because that's how your "research" is monetized.

Weigh what you're hearing not by the scale of your own biased sources or personal biases but by what makes common sense. Yes it's all so difficult to accomplish this now, in these polarized times, but you have the freedom to act like a human being tied to this Earth, this life and your children's lives.

Then do the right thing.