



Problem at Point Reyes Nat'l Park: Wild Elk vs. Cows-for-Profit

Ranchers want 600 wild Tule elk fenced and "culled," but it's their 5,600 cows that pollute Point Reyes soil, streams, air, and ocean.

- 1) Cows outnumber elk 9-to-1 — 5,600 cows to 600 elk. Cows weigh more, too, an avg. 1,200 lbs. (elk avg. 450 lbs.) compacting Point Reyes' soil, destroying vegetation.
- 2) The 5,600 cows drink over 200,000 gallons of water per day, in CA's record drought. And output 10 million gallons per year feces & urine, contaminating soil and waterways.
- 4) *E-coli* bacteria from all this cow poop puts Point Reyes on America's Top 10 Most Polluted Waterways list. 2020 water tests found fecal bacteria 5-to-300x health limits.
- 3) The 5,600 bovines are also the park's #1 source of heat-trapping greenhouse gases, exceeding the tailpipe emissions from the park's 2 million annual visitor vehicles.
- 5) The private-profit ranches & dairies don't own park land, they lease it from the govt.
- 6) Ranches & dairies are in violation of park regulations prohibiting pollution, but current policies prioritize ranches over natural resources, including elk, animals, plants, land & water.
- 7) To create the park in 1962, ranchers were paid \$350 million in today's dollars, agreed to leave by 1987. But since then they've dug in and lobby for lease extensions to this day.

LEARN THE FACTS, protect Point Reyes:
TreeSpiritProject.com/elk