

Scott Turnbull

From: Tim Trohimovich [Tim@futurewise.org]
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2008 4:53 PM
To: CDS User; Scott Turnbull
Subject: FW: Additional Comments for Oct 29 Public Hearing on GMA Compliance
Attachments: HeraldNet_ Abuse of water laws jeopardizes supply for people, fish.pdf; White Paper .pdf; Local News _ Big growth, big fight over water _ Seattle Times Newspaper.pdf; RLAC%20narrative%20final.pdf; Pages from 10-25-06%20Public%20Hearing%20Exhibits_CompUpdate.pdf; 9_26_2006~Secretary Kempthorne Announces \$67 Million in Grants to Support La.pdf; Assessing Wildlife Habitat Connectivity I90.pdf; FinalExecutiveSummary.pdf

This is part 2



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Our mission at Futurewise is to promote healthy communities and cities while protecting working farms and forests and shorelines for this and future generations

From: Tim Trohimovich
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2008 4:49 PM
To: 'bocc@co.kittitas.wa.us'
Cc: 'cds@co.kittitas.wa.us'; 'scott.turnbull@co.kittitas.wa.us'
Subject: Additional Comments for Oct 29 Public Hearing on GMA Compliance

Dear Chairman McClain and Commissioners Crankovich and Johnson Huber:

I understand that that Kittitas County has left the record open for additional comments through the end of today, October 31st. While we do appreciate the county keeping the record open for additional comments, we are concerned that there has not been adequate time to review and comment on the county's proposal.

For example, I understand that the county is considering allowing property owners that wish to de-designate agricultural lands of long-term commercial significance to submit a soil sample that would somehow prove that the soil survey is incorrect. Soil surveys are prepared with a high level of accuracy. See the National Soil Survey Handbook, Section 6.09 at: <http://soils.usda.gov/technical/handbook/contents/part609.html#02> A copy is also enclosed with this email with the filename: NSSH Part 609 NRCS Soils.pdf

In contrast to the high quality high quality of soil surveys, soils tests from de-designation proponents have proven to be quite inaccurate. Enclosed is a report from a soil scientist hired by Pierce County who explains why the report from a de-designation proponent is inaccurate. The filename is Soil Report Eval Orton.pdf. This is also a very technical field, a Planning Department is not in a position to judge the accuracy of a soil sample. We recommend the county stick with protecting NRCS designated prime farmland, unique farmland, and farmland of statewide significance. Information on those soils in Kittitas County is enclosed.

Further, while there is water to irrigate farms because of their senior water rights status, there is no water for additional exempt wells as the enclosed reports and articles show.

Finally, we enclose information showing that the Gold Creek area is poorly suited to development. This area certainly does not qualify as a LAMIRD.

Thank you again for considering our comments,



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