

From: [Christine McCroskey](#)
To: [Christine McCroskey](#); [Chace Pedersen](#)
Subject: CU-24-00001
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To Kittitas County Community Development: Chace Pederson,

This is public comment on the application and SEPA checklist for CU-24-00001. Dated April 5, 2024 to be included in the record for said hearings and record. At this time I am going to hit a couple highlights concerning this proposal in the shrubsteppe and open range.

In regard to the appropriate fit for the zoning and current uses of the surrounding properties. My residence is approximately 1.7 miles from the proposal. I have resided on acreage here for 24 years and recently built my small retirement home. I have and do produce Mammoth Stock donkeys, raise cow calf pairs, chickens and occasionally lamb. All graze on the property producing meat for family and friends. This not only exemplifies the forest and range conditions as we have an active grazing rotation, it also matches the designation for the agricultural specifications of the AG 20. This area is contiguous with the Whiskey Dick Wildlife area and surrounded by the Wildhorse Wind Project and DNR and BLM. The surrounding properties are either protected habitat (as is the current proposal), wilderness and wildlife areas, open range with cattle grazing, or rural working residences with small agricultural production.

I do not see that a Training Center fits with the current zoning. This IS NOT a shooting range, it is called a Training Center with massive expansion plans that will incorporate all the acreage into an "expansive outdoor training venues including: tactical training, land navigation, competition, where instructors will be FREE to train without restrictions." "Our primary goal is to make a training site for instructors around the world where they can train without restrictions."

This sounds more like the wild west than a "shooting range" as the county is trying to portray the use. Also the use on the signage of law enforcement and EMS based use is completely misleading. This is a for profit venture with no specific target audience. The police and EMS have a small training area at the District 2 station, search and rescue applications are not relevant in this environment. The current application and proposal will be removing the protected habitat to build and use the open space to have explosive areas, a helipad, training towers and buildings, over flow parking, long range shooting, land navigation.....and more. This individual has already begun the shooting and large training weekends.

My freedom to have a peaceful retirement home and the opportunity to safely raise and breed my livestock is definitely negatively impacted. The gun fire when larger caliber weapons are fired over and over stresses the livestock and my dogs are terrified. I have run a 501C3 rescue at this same location for 18 years and run the livestock and training of Mammoths for 24. This has already shown itself to have negative impact on my way and style of living. The quiet and wilderness is why I chose to locate here all those years ago. The native habitat is the perfect breeding and grazing for my donkeys and cattle. My dogs, who are death-row rehabilitation,

can relax and rehabilitate. This proposal is in direct conflict with my long time agricultural endeavors. It is in conflict with all the surrounding open spaces.

The SEPA checklist sent to the county is not at all complete. They endangered species of animals and of PLANTS are not even mentioned. No conditions to protect or prevent contamination are listed. The huge herd of migratory elk is directly impacted with this proposed project's location. The lead from all the proposed shooting areas is only grossly mentioned one time in all the applications.

In conclusion: A Training site is not listed as a conditional use within our zoning. This proposal directly negatively impacts my current quality of life and my long term agricultural commitment to raise livestock and breeding animals and maintain the native vegetation with rotational grazing. It also has shown to disturb all the animals, but particularly the damaged and anxious rescue animals I am seeking to rehabilitate. This proposal is poorly planned, destructive to the habitat and to my existing residence, and agricultural investments and animals.

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