

From: [Dan Carlson](#)
To: [Kelly Bacon \(CD\)](#)
Subject: FW: County Commissioner, please request a critical areas report for Mardee Lake
Date: Monday, November 28, 2022 8:55:54 AM

Dan Carlson, AICP
Community Development Services Director
Kittitas County
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dan.carlson@co.kittitas.wa.us

From: Julie Kjorsvik <julie.kjorsvik@co.kittitas.wa.us>
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2022 8:52 AM
To: Dan Carlson <dan.carlson@co.kittitas.wa.us>
Subject: FW: County Commissioner, please request a critical areas report for Mardee Lake

Julie Kjorsvik, CMC
Clerk of the Board
Kittitas County Board of Commissioners Office
205 West 5th Ave. Suite 108
Ellensburg, WA 98926
509.962.7508
<https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us>

From: Cory Wright <cory.wright@co.kittitas.wa.us>
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2022 8:52 AM
To: Julie Kjorsvik <julie.kjorsvik@co.kittitas.wa.us>
Subject: FW: County Commissioner, please request a critical areas report for Mardee Lake

Do you want these for the hearing?

From: Aja Woodrow <Aja.Woodrow.585729301@p2a.co>
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2022 3:25 PM
To: Cory Wright <cory.wright@co.kittitas.wa.us>
Subject: County Commissioner, please request a critical areas report for Mardee Lake

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Dear County Commissioner,

The rezoning proposal in the Mardee Lake area would open the door to potential development west of Gold Creek Pond and land adjacent to crucial I-90 wildlife crossing structures. If approved, this rezone could unlock myriad threats related to habitat loss and wildlife disturbance in a corridor that thousands of animals use to safely cross under I-90.

The State Environmental Policy Act requires the applicant to address any probable effects arising from a rezone - this has not been done – and is why I am asking you to request a critical areas report, and a Determination of Significance followed by an Environmental Impact Statement.

Wildlife crossing structures in the Gold Creek Valley have largely been funded by taxpayer dollars as part of the I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East Project. These investments have provided great benefits to all species that depend on the critical wildlife corridor that connects habitat north and the south of I-90. From 2014 to 2021, more than 7,000 animals have successfully passed under I-90 at the Gold Creek wildlife crossing structures.

Rezoning undermines the hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars and decades of collaborative work and research put into this key habitat along I-90.

To this point, rezoning planners have not considered that the Mardee Lake parcels are in a critical area and failed to adequately consider Kittitas County's own Comprehensive Plan and Critical Areas Ordinance. Further examination of the probable impacts of the rezoning application on the environment is needed before a rezoning is implemented. If left to stand, the decision to rezone threatens the integrity of the critical areas of Mardee Lake.

As a Kittitas County resident, I urge you to request a critical areas report that would more accurately identify the extent of critical areas (streams, wetlands, species habitat, and connectivity corridor), address potential impacts in or adjacent to the critical areas from future development, and how the proposed rezone application plans to avoid impacts to the critical areas and species it supports. The results of this report would support a Determination of Significance (DS) and subsequent Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and best protect the crucial habitat of Mardee Lake.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Regards,
Aja Woodrow
1005 Denny Ave
Cle Elum, WA 98922

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