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Rezone.

Kittitas County CDS

Question 11.C. The proposed amendment has merit and value for Kittitas County or a sub-area of the county

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines "merit" as "a good quality or feature that deserves to be praised' and/or "the quality of being good, important, or useful ".

Protection of the existing and surrounding land: With the concept of protecting land, this proposal is not good forestry land. This property contains mainly ponderosa pine, and cotton wood. These types of woods are not marketable timber. The soil is extremely rocky and not conducive to forestry. All the surrounding land has been continually developed into smaller parcels (non-conforming lot sizes) making it even more difficult to continue with any sort of resource practices allowed under the Forest & Range zone. By changing the land use designation and zoning designation allows for the continued rural residential lifestyle to occur at the same time directing growth away from larger tracts of timber resource ground. By doing this the amendment and rezone has merit and value for the county.

Protection of Yakima River: The Yakima River is located on portions of this proposal. By directing this rural residential growth, to more buildable grounds, away from the Yakima River and its associated flood plain and wetlands provides merit and value for the county.

Water Availability: This amendment and rezone will also allow any future development to use of a community water system for domestic uses along with the applicant's senior water rights. By doing this the amendment has merit and value for the county.