

## Jeff Watson

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**From:** William Fields <fieldswr@fairpoint.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 02, 2014 12:43 PM  
**To:** Jeff Watson  
**Subject:** CU-14-00001 GT Ranch Conditional Use Application

Dear Mr. Watson,

My name is William R. (Dick) Fields, Jr. and along with my wife, Adrienne R. Fields, own property adjoining GT Ranch to the northwest. We are writing to raise concerns about CU-14-00001, a conditional use permit filed by GT Ranch to remove sand and gravel from the construction of two ponds on their property. I, Dick Fields, was told that the owner of GT Ranch wanted ponds for fishing and recreation and had approached Ellensburg Cement about this project. There is already a 4-acre pond, which was dug several years ago, on this property and is used for recreation and wildlife habitat.

I, Dick Fields, was also told that the access to these two proposed ponds would be via a railcar deck bridge to be constructed across Mill Ditch. There is no mention in the application of Mill Ditch even existing near this project. There is no mention of any permits for construction of a bridge over the Mill Ditch. We would like to know if all interested parties such as the Fish and Wildlife have given the okay for construction of this "temporary bridge".

I, Dick Fields, was told that this project would not be completed in a short period of time but would be in one, two, or three week periods over the course of years on an as needed basis. This leads me to believe that this could be a very prolonged project. If so, will the county keep up the road maintenance when trucks start hauling? Since North Second Street is a gravel road, if trucks haul during wet weather will the county put more gravel on the road to keep mud holes from developing? Will the county repair broken asphalt where North Second Street adjoins Thorp Highway as these trucks will more than likely cause increased deterioration of the edge of Thorp Highway. Will measures be taken to keep dust and noise down during the course of this project? Will a Stop sign or a Yield sign be placed at the point where GT Ranch's driveway enters North Second Street as some vehicles leaving the ranch fail to stop before coming onto this Street. As stated, North Second Street is a gravel street crossing the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad tracks and since the County does minimal maintenance to this street, we are concerned that it will suffer greatly with truck traffic. Will the county maintain the street so that the three families that use it daily for access to their homes will not be adversely affected?

Our most important concern is the issue of how this project will affect irrigation water rights for some Mill Ditch Water Users. Mill Ditch Water Users Association, Inc. was not even notified of this project and yet there is the possibility of a bridge being constructed over and two ponds being dug within a short distance of the Mill Ditch. There are landowners downstream that may be adversely affected and may not be able to obtain the water they are entitled to under their Water Right agreement due to some unforeseen circumstances associated with this project.

If this project is given the go ahead we would hope the above concerns will be addressed so neighboring land owners will not be negatively affected.

Sincerely submitted,

William R. Fields, Jr.

Adrienne R. Fields