



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Central Region Office

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August 25, 2022

Kelly Bacon
Kittitas County Planner I
411 N. Ruby St. Suite 2
Ellensburg WA 98926

RE: 202203799, CU-15-00002, SD-15-00001, SP-15-00001

Dear Kelly Bacon.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment during the Optional Determination of Non Significance process for the Yakima River Campground. We have reviewed the documents and have the following comments.

WATER QUALITY

Dividing or platting a piece of property is often the first step in a proposed development. An NPDES Construction Stormwater Permit may be required if there is a potential for stormwater discharge from a construction site with disturbed ground. Ground disturbance includes all utility placements, and building or upgrading roads. The permitting process requires going through SEPA, developing a stormwater pollution prevention plan, submitting an application, and a 30-day public notice process. This may take 38-60 days. A permit and a stormwater plan are required prior to beginning ground-breaking activities.

Please contact Wendy Neet with the Department of Ecology at 509) 571-6733 or email at wendy.neet@ecy.wa.gov, with questions about this permit.

WATER RESOURCES

Dust Control from a Well

If you plan to use water for dust suppression at your project site, be sure that you have a legal right. In Washington State, prospective water users must obtain authorization from the Department of Ecology before diverting surface water or withdrawing ground water, with one exception. Ground water withdrawals of up to 5,000 gallons per day used for single or group domestic supply, up to 5,000 gallons per day used for industrial purposes, stock watering, and for

the irrigation of up to one-half acre of non-commercial lawn and garden are exempt from the permitting process. Water use under the RCW 90.44.050 exemption establishes a water right that is subject to the same privileges, restrictions, laws and regulations as a water right permit or certificate obtained directly from Ecology. Temporary permits may be obtainable in a short time-period. The concern of Water Resources is for existing water rights. In some instances water may need to be obtained from a different area and hauled in or from an existing water right holder.

If you have any questions or would like to respond to these Water Resources comments, please contact **Christopher Kossik** at (509) 379-1826 or email at christopher.kossik@ecy.wa.gov.

SHORELANDS

It is unclear if a new critical area report has been submitted to the County. Ecology's 2016 comment letter states the need for a new critical area report, including an ordinary high water mark (OHWM) determination is required for a complete application, per WAC 173-27-130 and 173-27-180. The application must demonstrate mitigation sequencing has been applied and that the project will result in having a "no net loss" of riverine, riparian, and wetland functions and values.

Any unavoidable wetland, stream, or buffer impacts will require compensatory mitigation. If unavoidable impacts are proposed, please include a compensatory mitigation plan with your application materials.

Ecology recommends the County request a new critical area report (and wetland ratings) for review and consideration. Any new reports should be submitted to Ecology's Shoreline and Environmental Assistance Program for review and comment prior to the issuance of a Shoreline Permit decision.

Please contact Lori White, Regional Environmental Specialist, at lori.white@ecy.wa.gov with any questions you may have regarding the above comments.

Sincerely,

Lucila Cornejo

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