



State of Washington  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

South Central Region • Ellensburg District Office • 201 N. Pearl St, Ellensburg, WA 98926  
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March 11, 2024

Zach Torrance-Smith  
Kittitas County  
Community Development Services  
411 N. Ruby Street; Suite 2  
Ellensburg, WA 98926

**RE: WDFW comments on SP-24-00001 4G Farms Short Plat**

Dear Mr. Torrance-Smith,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed short plat (SP-24-00001 4G Farms) to divide the existing parcel into two lots. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has reviewed the application materials and WDFW is primarily concerned about the identification and protection of critical areas on or near the project site and how they may be impacted by future development.

Mapping produced during the County's [Wilson-Naneum-Cherry Assessment](#) show Little Naneum Creek originating north of the project area and Cascade Canal, and flowing southerly through the property and called out in the preliminary short plat map as "Ditch", near the proposed new parcel boundary. Little Naneum Creek is a distributary channel west of the mainstem Naneum Creek. Little Naneum Creek flows year-round through most of its length and is a fish bearing stream. Ensuring Little Naneum Creek is correctly identified as a fish bearing stream in this short plat process will protect the functions and values of this important critical area.

As part of the short plat process, future building and septic locations for new parcels should be considered such that the critical areas can be protected along with future infrastructure without the need for future variances from the critical areas regulations. We appreciate the opportunity to comment and work with the proponents to meet their needs. Please feel free to contact me at (509) 961-6639 or [Jennifer.nelson@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Jennifer.nelson@dfw.wa.gov) if you have any questions about these comments.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Nelson  
Area Habitat Biologist