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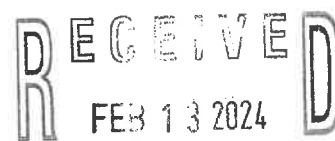


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DATE: 5 February 2024

TO: Kittitas County Community Development Services

RE: Ross Outdoor Training Center, PM-23-00015  
Vantage Valley Properties  
Pete and Amanda Ross  
509-306-9672  
pete.ross@crossvalley.training



**Kittitas County CDS**

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The purpose of this technical memorandum is to address the designation of Type 2 (F) water as identified on parcels 880833 and 840833 by the DNR Water Type layer in the Kittitas County COMPAS (Map 1). Parcel 890833 does not indicate this feature.

### **Conclusion**

The line identified as Type 2 (F) water on COMPAS is not a water feature found on these parcels. There is no feature that exhibits the characteristics of a stream, wetland type habitat, or a riparian zone. Further, there is no water that can be classified as Type 3, 4, or 5. There is no habitat to support fish at any time of the year and there are no fish indicated on the WDFW Priority Habitat and Species lists for this area.

### **Site Location**

The project site is located at 24661 Vantage Highway in Section 8, Township 17 North, Range 21 East. The property is a total 137 acres zoned Forest and Range, and has a land use of Rural Working. The suspected Critical Areas water feature is in two draws sloping South (West draw), Southwest (East draw) on parcel 840833 (Map 1) and joining in the Northwest corner of parcel 880833 (Map 1).

### **Background**

The parcels have a proposed use as a shooting range that will require dirt work and structures. For this application, Type 2 (F) water is typified as natural waters which are used by fish for spawning, rearing, or migration (WAC 222-16-031, (2) (d)). Fish habitats are presumed significant for fish populations when stream segments have a defined channel 20ft

or greater and a gradient less than 4%. Further, off-channel habitat is identified as being accessible to a fish bearing stream with drainage with a gradient less than 5%.

Wetlands are special habitats with unique plants and animals. Wetland identification may require a "certified" surveyor for designation and delineation in some circumstances. Where the application is allowed, vegetation characteristics may be used to identify habitats that are consistent with the features of a wetland. These include water saturated soil over predominant periods of time (e.g., inundation) and regionally common plants (e.g., cattails, bulrush and reed), trees (e.g., cottonwood and alder), and scrub-shrubs (e.g., willow, red Osier dogwood).

## **Field Reconnaissance and Results**

The site was surveyed on February 3, 2024. The project site is characterized as a typical shrub steppe habitat (Photo 1). No Type 2 (f) water identified on COMPAS was observed in those areas, nor were Types 3, 4, or 5. No defined stream channel, stream bank, or stream bed existed (Photo 2). Fish habitat is not present at this location.

A recent rain-on-snow event resulted in storm water flow down each of the East and West draws. Those washes saturated the soil, suspended the top sandy loam surface layer and exposed cobble-size rock (Photo 3). Some storm water remained in the water course entering the old impoundment area (Photo 4), but this is not a defined channel.

The area classified as wetland on COMPAS in the West draw used to be an impoundment that may have retained storm water flow (Photo 5). Both draws are tree-less except for two unidentified trees on the downslope bank of the impoundment area that are irrigated. Typical wetland habitat is not present at this location.

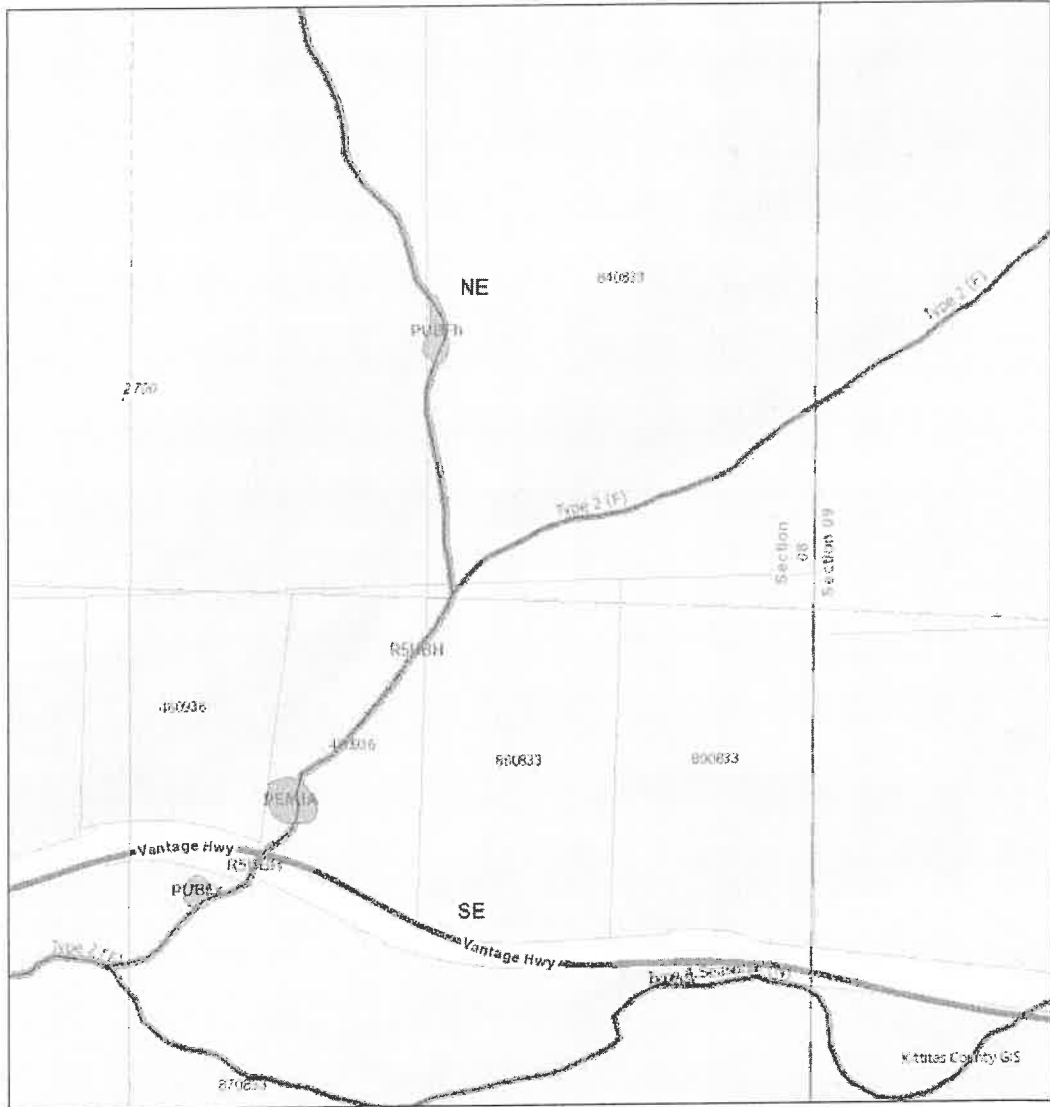
## **Limitations**

This assessment is the result of desktop investigation, interpretation and on-site reconnaissance using professional judgement. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this assessment.

Sincerely,

Bryan Nass  
Fisheries Ecologist  
30+ years of salmon fisheries consulting

Kittitas County COMPAS Map



Date: 1/23/2024

1 inch equals 752 feet

0 0.05 0.1 0.19 mi

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Map 1. Parcel overview with DNR water type and wetland layers.



Photo 1. Typical shrub steppe habitat.

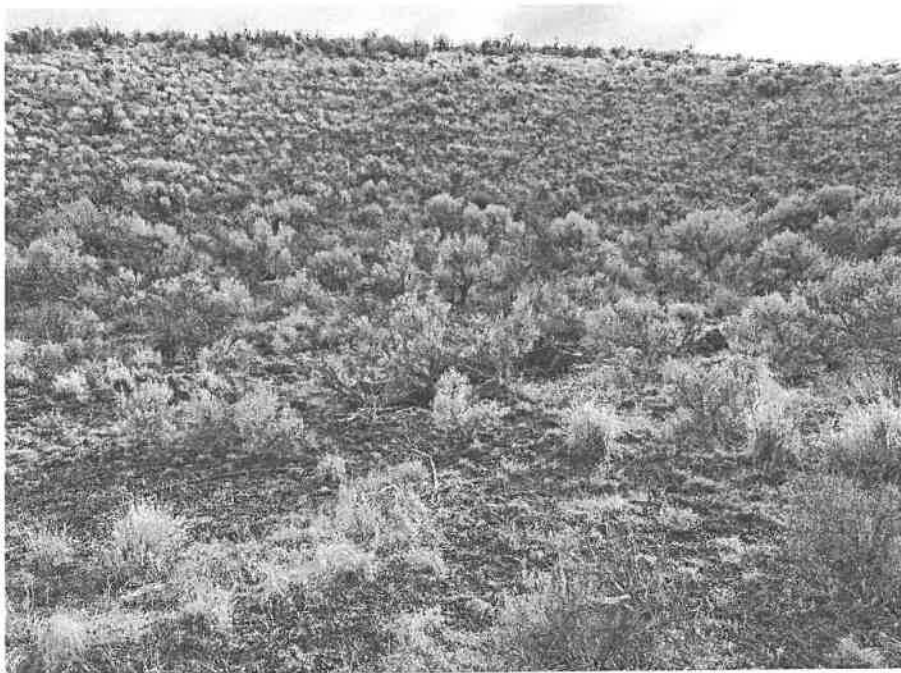


Photo 2. No stream habitat at this location.



Photo 3. Evidence of storm water runoff.



Photo 4. Storm runoff entering the impoundment area.

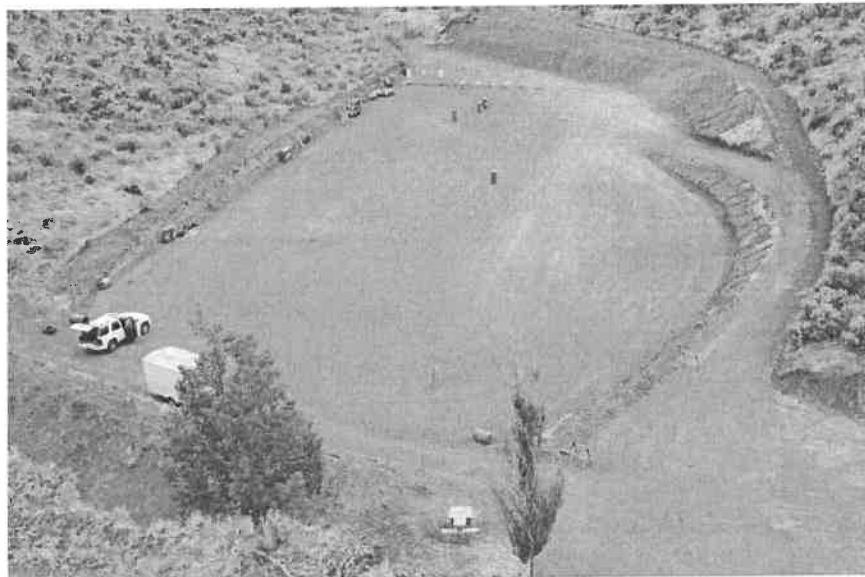


Photo 5. Historical impoundment in the West draw.