

From: Teren MacLeod [mailto:teren@ptproperty.com]
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2009 6:10 PM
To: Wessel, Ann (ECY)
Cc: Loranger, Thomas (ECY); Wiatrak, Phil (ECY); 'Norman MacLeod'
Subject: FW: Comments on Proposed Rule for WRIA 17 Quilcene-Snow Water Resources Management Program

Ann – thank you for the shape files I requested at the planning unit meeting.

Norm was able to download the arc viewer software for us to be able to look at them, and we were able to add some definition from aerials he has taken and with images from the county site. I share in his comments and questions, and would like to add that this is an area where agricultural and livestock activity is a part of the lifestyle, in combination with non-motorized trails systems, conservation easements, equestrian activities, orchards and gardens.

From having been here, you can see how much the people who live here value these attributes – as do the people who have yet to become full-time residents.

Teren

Subject: Comments on Proposed Rule for WRIA 17 Quilcene-Snow Water Resources Management Program

This comment regards the unnamed stream depicted on Map C, found on page 8 of proposed Chapter 173-517 WAC.

I contend that the mapping of the unnamed stream depicted is inaccurate, and thus that the depicted regulated area is inappropriately sized.

The following photos are provided to help illustrate this inaccuracy.

The first photo is an aerial photo taken from just north of the golf course, looking north. There is no channel north of the northernmost patch of scotch broom. In fact, most of this section of the unnamed stream is more accurately definable as a man-made drainage ditch system that was first put in place in support of the valley's agricultural activities. Soil types here are excellent for agricultural purposes, although some of the farming activities in the valley have not been continued to the present.



The next aerial view is looking to the south. Again you can see that the northern portion of the stream, now at the bottom of the photo, is a straight line, denoting that this is part of a drainage ditch system. The small pond near the center is roughly square, and is another man-made feature. Active agriculture is evident to the southern boundary line of this group of parcels.



The following is cropped from ArcGIS imagery overlay with the Department of Ecology's overlay of the stream course. About one-third of the way up from the bottom of the image you can see where the drainage ditch system terminates with a rough "T" shape. There is no stream channel to the north of that point.

At the northern end of the runway, the topography slopes **down** to the north, while the stream is purported to be flowing to the south. The depicted stream course is to the west, and several feet higher than the intermittent depression wetland to the east of the blue line.



Now that we've taken a look at the disparity between the mapped head of the unnamed stream, let's take a look at its mouth. For orientation, the lower left of this aerial is located where Discovery road meets the high bluff at Discovery Bay, with the golf course seen at the center area of the photo. The unnamed stream flows during wet times from the pond seen in the lower right portion of the photo. At this size you cannot see the pasture fences that run across the pond, indicating that the pond does not always hold anywhere near the amount of water seen at this phase of our wet-dry cycle.

As can be readily seen, this shoreline is best categorized as high bluff waterfront. There is no stream channel or delta formation seen across the beach where the stream comes down over the bluff. This makes access to the stream problematic for fish.



Taken in combination, these factors lead many in the WRIA 17 community to question whether there is a verifiable and independently peer-reviewed justification for the level of restrictions for this area as proposed in this draft of the rule.

Could you please answer this concern with documentation that demonstrates that the proposed level of restriction is justifiable? Could you please detail the functions and values of the unnamed stream that merit these restrictions? Will you redraft the map to reflect the actual extent of the stream? If not, why not?

Thank you for your time and kind consideration of these concerns, questions, and requests.

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