

From: [Oliver Orjiako](#)
To: [Sonja Wiser](#)
Subject: FW: Stream manipulation against railroad use is not acceptable
Date: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 8:48:46 AM

Hi Sonja:

For the record. Thank you.

From: Clark County Citizens United, Inc. <cccuinc@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 9:27 PM
To: Karen Bowerman <Karen.Bowerman@clark.wa.gov>; Gary Medvigy <Gary.Medvigy@clark.wa.gov>; Michelle Belkot <Michelle.Belkot@clark.wa.gov>; Glen Yung <Glen.Yung@clark.wa.gov>; Sue Marshall <Sue.Marshall@clark.wa.gov>; Kathleen Otto <Kathleen.Otto@clark.wa.gov>; Oliver Orjiako <Oliver.Orjiako@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: Stream manipulation against railroad use is not acceptable

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FOR THE PUBLIC RECORD AND THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
November 28, 2023

Re: Stream manipulation against railroad use is not acceptable

Dear Councilors,

Clark County Citizens United, Inc. has recently been informed by a forester, who is highly regarded, that there has been some stream manipulation happening in the ongoing mining overlay and Chelatchie Prairie Railroad use conflict that is now ongoing. This is a report obtained from a neighboring property included in the proposed fish bearing stream, that is reported to be impacted by railroad access in the Chelatchie Prairie area by Eric Temple.

The landowner reported that he owns land within the discussed "stream", which was highlighted to have contained fish and is being impacted by recent excavation. on behalf of a mining company. His claim is that those opposed to the construction of an access road to the railroad have manipulated a stormwater drainage area to make it appear to be a fish bearing stream.

He claims that water was brought into areas of the drainage area to make it look like a stream. That "stream" was then planted with small minnow like fish. That process killed some of the fish, which appeared to be floating in the water. This landowner said that the drainageway is dry most of the year, except when it rains. Even after a rain, it isn't long before the drainage area is dry again. It is an area of stormwater runoff that is not technically a "stream" and is simply rain water at certain times of year.

CCCU notes that technically, a true stream must have an underground source or headwater. Stormwater runoff is simply rain water that runs on top of the ground caused by rain storm events. This water does not have an underground source or headwater. There is a great deal of drainageways in Clark County that are being called "streams" which are not true streams and do not support fish or other stream habitat. There is a difference.

If it is true that the "stream" in question, being excavated, was indeed manipulated to make it appear to be a fish bearing stream, that would be considered clandestine actions by the persons doing such actions.

It is important that Clark County get it right, and interviews with all of the affected neighbors would be in order.

Sincerely,

Carol Levanen, Exec. Secretary

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