

From: [Jeffrey Delapena](#)
To: [Cnty 2025 Comp Plan](#); Heatherpritchett11@gmail.com
Cc: [Bart Catching](#); [Oliver Oriako](#); [Jose Alvarez](#)
Subject: RE: Comprehensive Plan Update Comments
Date: Thursday, September 26, 2024 4:16:07 PM

Good day, Heather,

Thank you for your comments regarding the proposed Surface Mining Overlay in Yacolt. I have forwarded these to staff and will enter your comments into the Comprehensive Plan Index of Record.

Regards,
Jeff Delapena

From: Clark County <webteam@clark.wa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2024 4:08 PM
To: Cnty 2025 Comp Plan <comp.plan@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: Comprehensive Plan Update Comments

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Submitted on Thu, 09/26/2024 - 4:07 PM

First Name

Heather

Last Name

Pritchett

Email Address

Heatherpritchett11@gmail.com

Address

Yacolt, Washington. 98675

Message Subject

Mining Overlay on Deer Drive

Parcel Number

247859000, 247858000, 247860000, and 247849000

Comments

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed surface mining overlay for parcels 247859000, 247858000, 247860000, and 247849000 off Sunset Falls Road in Yacolt. Our community is a unique and vibrant ecosystem, home to a rich diversity of wildlife and natural beauty, situated on the fringe of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The introduction of mining activities would severely disrupt this peaceful environment, with blasting noise, pollution, and nonstop heavy-hauling truck traffic posing significant safety and quality-of-life concerns for both residents and wildlife. The devaluation of homes and land that would accompany such industrial activities is unacceptable for a community that thrives on its rural character.

In addition to these immediate concerns, the potential environmental consequences of mining operations near the East Fork Lewis River are deeply troubling. The parcels in question contain critical waterways that drain directly into the river, and any runoff from mining would threaten the health of this fiercely protected river system. The East Fork Lewis River is a critical habitat for endangered fish and other unique aquatic species, and the introduction of pollutants and sediment from mining could have lasting, detrimental effects on these sensitive ecosystems. This is a risk we simply cannot afford to take.

Our community has fought to protect this area before, and we are prepared to do so again. Many of the concerns that led us to oppose the Bonneville Power Administration's power lines apply here.. The rural nature of our surroundings and the environmental integrity of the area are essential to our way of life. Allowing mining to take place in these parcels would permanently alter the character of our community and cause irreparable harm to the surrounding ecosystem, wildlife, and the East Fork Lewis River itself. These consequences are far too significant to be outweighed by any potential economic gains from mining operations.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to reject the proposed surface mining overlays. The health and well-being of our environment, wildlife, and community must take precedence over industrial development. Please consider the long-term impacts and stand with us in protecting this precious natural area from the threat of mining. I appreciate your attention to these concerns and hope you will act in the best interest of the residents and the environment we all cherish.

Thank You

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