

From: [Jeffrey Delapena](#)
To: [Cnty 2025 Comp Plan](#); teshardy31@gmail.com
Cc: [Jenna Kay](#); [Amy Koski](#); [Harrison Husting](#); [Jose Alvarez](#)
Subject: RE: Comprehensive Plan Update Comments
Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 4:11:18 PM

Good day, Teresa,

Thank you for submitting comments in support of FOCC's proposed changes to the Climate Goals and Policies.

I have forwarded these to members of Staff and they will be entered into the Comprehensive Plan Index of Record.

Regards,
Jeff Delapena
Program Assistant, Clark County Community Planning

From: Clark County <webteam@clark.wa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 12:15 PM
To: Cnty 2025 Comp Plan <comp.plan@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: Comprehensive Plan Update Comments

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of Clark County. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Submitted on Tue, 02/25/2025 - 12:14 PM

First Name

Teresa

Last Name

Hardy

Email Address

teshardy31@gmail.com

Phone Number

[510-407-5855](tel:510-407-5855)

Organization/Agency Name

Sierra Club Local Chapter LooWit

Message Subject

Climate- forestry /mining

Comments

Sierra Club supports Friends of Clark County's suggested improvements to to the Climate CAG's Draft Goals and Policies with the following emphasis:

We agree that it is imperative for this group which is tasked with making climate policy for all of unincorporated Clark County to specifically address existing threats to meaningful climate action in their recommendations. The GHG inventory from Parametrix shows that 75% of our agriculture, forestry, and land use emissions are caused by deforestation, and the mining industry has requested for this Comp Plan update to approve surface mining overlays over nearly 3,000 acres of forest-zoned land. We simply cannot sacrifice 3,000 acres of carbon-sequestering forest to mining during a climate emergency. Similarly, we cannot ignore state-mandated obligations to protect water quality and the availability of water for needless mining.

Furthermore, the GMA Natural Resource Industries Element requires maintenance and enhancement of forestry, agriculture, fisheries, and mining industries, as well as to identify and protect critical areas. The mining industry has used this element to imply that the County must designate new areas for mining just because the industry wants it. This is untrue. This Comp Plan update should not favor mining over the protection of our forests, agriculture, fish, water, and climate—all of which would be heavily impacted by mining.

The mining industry has also engaged in a campaign to mislead the public and local officials about the supposed need for new aggregate sources within the County—so much so that County staff felt it necessary to remind Councilors that the GMA does not require them to establish a 20 year supply of aggregate within Clark County. Friends of the Columbia River Gorge and many highly-respected community members have investigated the industry's claim that Clark County is running out of access to aggregate and found it to be completely unfounded. There is no rock based construction materials access shortage in Southwest Washington, and competitively-priced aggregate has been barged into the Portland Metro area for years.

To address the climate crisis, we must depart from the pillage and plunder for profit mindset that brought us to this point, and that starts with rejecting pressures from private interests to continue destroying every last bit of the environment we need to live. For these reasons, the CAG should explicitly recommend that our forests, water, and climate be protected from new surface mining overlays in the Comp Plan update.

We are also very much in support of FOCC's call for the CAG to establish an ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goal that is in line with the latest climate science, as well as the need to acquire staff for the implementation of this climate action plan.

© 2025 Clark County Washington