

Lee Napier

From: Chase Buffington <buffington@cispus.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 8:43 PM
To: Lee Napier
Subject: Letter of Support YMCA Mineral
Attachments: YMCA Support Letter.docx

Dear Napier,

A letter of support is attached for the following YMCA being acquired in Mineral, WA. If you need further information or inquires please contact me for further discussion.

Sincerely,

Chase Buffington
Cispus Learning Center Director
(360) 497-7131
#cispusforever
www.cispus.org

Steering Chair - Washington Outdoor School Consortium
Board Member - E3 Washington
Vice Chair - Morton School District
Vice President - White Pass Scenic Byway

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Cispus Learning Center

Chase Buffington, Director

2142 Cispus Rd • Randle WA 98377

buffington@cispus.org

www.cispus.org

phone: 360-497-7131

fax: 360.497.7132

Email to: lee.napier@lewiscountywa.gov

SUBJECT: Support of YMCA Application for Comp Plan Amendment

Dear Ms. Napier:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the YMCA's proposed camp at Mineral Lake in east Lewis County. As a parent, as a Morton School Board member, and as an educator, I believe this project would be of tremendous benefit to the children and families in Lewis County, and to all who would visit.

As director of Cispus Outdoor Learning Center in Randle, I can tell you firsthand the power of these outdoor experiences for children of all backgrounds and ages. Washington state has a long history of providing essential outdoor education experiences for school students. Outdoor camp helps children learn by engaging their natural curiosity about the natural world around them.

I can also share that the Y's proposed camp would benefit the state's larger effort to increase outdoor environmental education opportunities. This past legislative session, I coordinated an effort by the Outdoor School consortium, a collection of other overnight camps in the state, to secure state funding for curriculum and support for these experiences.

In short, there is tremendous demand for what the Y is proposing at Mineral Lake, for our local community and those who would visit. As such, I would encourage Lewis County to approve the comprehensive plan amendment as submitted by the YMCA.

Sincerely,

Chase Buffington

#cispusforever

Karen Witherspoon

From: Mark Waters <theMuddster@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 10:53 AM
To: Karen Witherspoon
Cc: Wally Work; Eric Waters; Bren waters; a.shellenback@gmail.com; Justin Shellenback; kayla_h20@icloud; Kendall Waters; Mark Waters
Subject: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture Mineral, WA

Karen,

As a local property owner (164 Mineral Hill Rd.), and an affected party, I would like to receive notice on any and all applications, permits or submittals related to the following Lewis County Tax Parcel numbers;

037019001120
037019001130
038931001130
038931011001
038931011002
038931011003
038931011004
038931011005
038931011006
038931011007
038931011008
038931011009
038931011010
038931011011
038931011012
038931011013
038931011014
038931011015
038931011016
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038931011021
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038931011031
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038931011033
038931011034
038931011035
038931011036
038931011037
038931011038
038931011039
038931011040
038931011041
038931011042
038931011043

Please notify me via email at the themuddster@msn.com and US Postal mail.

Regards,

Mark Waters
33716 36th Ave E
Eatonville, WA. 98328

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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Lee Napier

From: Mark Waters <theMuddster@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 2:41 PM
To: Lee Napier
Subject: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint venture on Mineral Lake, Lewis County, WA

Lee & Gary,

Where to begin ? I, along with many residents of the Mineral Lake area, have so many concerns about this project.

I began coming to the Mineral area as a youth 50 or so years ago. It was an area that my elder family members had come to know and love after spending countless days camping, hunting and fishing. They wanted my brothers, cousins and I to experience an area they were thoroughly enamored with, and enjoy the piece and tranquility (and some darn good fishing to boot) the area had to offer. By the time I was old enough to hold a fishing rod, and trout season opened, my great uncles would take us on weekly (yes, weekly) fishing trips to Mineral Lake. The beauty, serenity and fishing were unrivaled!

When I became old enough to drive, and the elders could no longer drive or manage their boat, I would take them...and so the tradition and joy continued.

Fast forward a few years (while continuing to frequent the area/lake), I began dating my wife. After a several months of dating, Opening Day of trout season comes along. I mention to her I am going to Mineral Lake for opening day and she says, "You should talk to my Grandpa and Grandma, they have property on Mineral Lake." Naturally, I knew I HAD to marry this woman, ha, ha, ha. All joking aside, I did marry her, and we had three daughters.

As soon as the girls could walk, they were on our boat and on the lake fishing and swimming. Throughout their years growing up, they are now 25, 23 and 21, we would go camping, fishing and swimming at Mineral several times a month throughout the year. Seeing the excitement and joy in their eyes anytime I mentioned going to the lake is something I will always cherish. They would always comment about how beautiful and peaceful Mineral Lake is and have truly come to love the area.

Fast forward again, not too long ago an opportunity arose for us to buy the property (164 Mineral Hill Rd). It was a no brainer, we wanted to buy the property. In order to make the purchase a reality, we needed to restructure our family economics situation,

which was a bit of a challenge to say the least, but we made it happen. We made the necessary sacrifices to purchase the property so we could continue to enjoy the area/lake and so our children could watch their children experience the same joys they did as children and see the same look of joy in their children's eyes that we saw in theirs when at the lake. We currently have one grandchild (6 months old) and he has already been to, and played in, the lake....and so the tradition continues. My heart is full.

Unfortunately, this project stands to change the landscape, not only physically, but also metaphorically, in a significant way. Beyond the minimal ancillary benefits this project may bring to the greater local area, I cannot see one single, significant, long-term benefit that this project would bring to Mineral. The significant increase in vehicle traffic, increased noise related to said vehicle and pedestrian traffic, as well as the influx of folks on the lake during the best part of the fishing season, and throughout the entire summer, would have an immensely negative impact on what is, and has been for decades, a very beautiful and peaceful area.

There are numerous other concerns I have about the project however, I will address those through the appropriate channels.

I, along with my family and many area residence, am adamantly apposed to this project moving forward or receiving approval at any level.

I request to be notified via email and US Mail, of any and all Public meetings, applications, permits or submittals, as well as any associated decisions by Lewis County and the State of Washington related to the aforementioned project.

Regards

Mark Waters
33716 36th Ave E
Eatonville, WA 98328

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Karen Witherspoon

From: Mark Waters <theMuddster@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 11:15 AM
To: Karen Witherspoon
Cc: Wally Work; Eric Waters; Bren waters; a.shellenback@gmail.com; Justin Shellenback; kayla_h20@icloud; Kendall Waters; Mark Waters
Subject: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture - WEST FORK TIMBER Property

Karen,

As a local property owner (164 Mineral Hill Rd.), and an affected party, I would like to receive notice on any and all applications, permits or submittals related to the following Lewis County Tax Parcel numbers;

011122001002
037078000000

Please notify me via email at themuddster@msn.com and US Postal mail.

Regards,

Mark Waters
33716 36th Ave E.
Eatonville, WA 98328
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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Karen Witherspoon

From: Mark Waters <themuddster@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 5:31 AM
To: Karen Witherspoon
Subject: FW: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture Mineral, WA

Karen,

In addition to the previously outlined request related to the previously enumerated parcel numbers, I would like to receive notification on any and all associated decisions by Lewis County and the State of Washington, as well as all future public processes, this may be meetings or comment periods for applications or rulings by governing agencies related to said parcel numbers.

Regards,

Mark Waters
33716 36th Ave E
Eatonville, WA 98328

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Mark Waters](#)
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 10:52 AM
To: [Karen Witherspoon](#)
Cc: [Wally Work](#); [Eric Waters](#); [Bren waters](#); a.shellenback@gmail.com; [Justin Shellenback](#); kayla_h20@icloud.com; [Kendall Waters](#); THEMUDDSTER@MSN.COM
Subject: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture Mineral, WA

Karen,

As a local property owner (164 Mineral Hill Rd.), and an affected party, I would like to receive notice on any and all applications, permits or submittals related to the following Lewis County Tax Parcel numbers;

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038931011037
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038931011043

Please notify me via email at the themuddster@msn.com and US Postal mail.

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Mark Waters
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Eatonville, WA. 98328

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Karen Witherspoon

From: Mark Waters <themuddster@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 5:32 AM
To: Karen Witherspoon
Subject: FW: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture - WEST FORK TIMBER Property

Karen,

In addition to the previously outlined request related to the previously enumerated parcel numbers, I would like to receive notification on any and all associated decisions by Lewis County and the State of Washington, as well as all future public processes, this may be meetings or comment periods for applications or rulings by governing agencies related to said parcel numbers.

Regards,

Mark Waters
33716 36th Ave E
Eatonville, WA 98328

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Mark Waters](#)
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 11:15 AM
To: [Karen Witherspoon](#)
Cc: [Wally Work](#); [Eric Waters](#); [Bren waters](#); a.shellenback@gmail.com; [Justin Shellenback](#); kayla_h20@icloud.com; [Kendall Waters](#); THEMUDDSTER@MSN.COM
Subject: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture - WEST FORK TIMBER Property

Karen,

As a local property owner (164 Mineral Hill Rd.), and an affected party, I would like to receive notice on any and all applications, permits or submittals related to the following Lewis County Tax Parcel numbers;

011122001002
037078000000

Please notify me via email at themuddster@msn.com and US Postal mail.

Regards,

Mark Waters
33716 36th Ave E.
Eatonville, WA 98328
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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Lee Napier

From: Eric Waters <iaff3390@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 10:50 AM
To: Lee Napier
Subject: Comments: RZ20-00002 and SEP20-0033

August 20, 2021

Lee Napier, Director
Lewis County Community Development
2025 NE Kresky Ave
Chehalis, WA 98532

RE: Comp Plan Amendment (RZ20-00002) and SEPA (SEP20-0033)

By Email

Dear Director Napier,

As an affected property owner, 164 Mineral Hill Rd., I strongly oppose the YMCA's Comprehensive Plan Amendment (RZ20-00002) and SEPA (SEP20-0033). A rezone from Forest Resource Land to Master Planned Resort will allow a full urban development to occur in a pristine and serene area of Lewis County. It will start the process of destroying the quality of life that my family has enjoyed for generations.

In reviewing the 12-30-2020 Application for Amendment Questions and responses by the applicant, it is clearly communicated the YMCA Greater Seattle rezone and Comprehensive Plan Amendment is intended to fix a Seattle YMCA camper problem. The proposed amendment will begin the process of destroying the natural and cultural attractiveness of the area and will create irreversible adverse impacts on environmental and natural features and cultural and historic resources and their settings. This amendment will allow for the destruction of the essence that has attracted people to the area for generations.

I understand (SEP20-0033) is a non-project application. However, the applicant's assertions and theoretical analysis are meaningless. Site specific data and analysis must be used to ensure complete concurrency for this application and any future applications. The applicant's references to projects outside the Mineral area are not relevant.

If you have any questions related to my comments do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

Eric Waters

253-677-7755

iaff3390@gmail.com

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Lee Napier

From: Mark Waters <themuddster@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 2:35 PM
To: Lee Napier
Subject: FW: FW: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture
Attachments: FW: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: postmaster@outlook.com
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 2:34 PM
To: leenapier@lewiscountywa.gov
Subject: Undeliverable: FW: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture

Delivery has failed to these recipients or groups:

leenapier@lewiscountywa.gov (leenapier@lewiscountywa.gov)

Your message couldn't be delivered. It appears that the email address you sent your message to wasn't found at the destination domain, or the recipient's mailbox is unavailable. The email address might be misspelled or it might not exist. Try to fix the problem by doing one or more of the following:

- **Send the message again.** Before you do, delete and retype the complete address. If your email program automatically suggests an address to use don't select it.
- **Clear the recipient Auto-Complete List entry** in your email program by following the steps in [this article](#). Then resend the message, but before you do, delete and retype the complete address. If your email program suggests an address to use don't select it.
- **Contact the recipient by some other means** (by phone, for example) to confirm you're using the right address. Ask them if they've set up an email forwarding rule that could be forwarding your message to an incorrect address.

If you're still unable to fix the problem, ask the recipient to tell their email admin about the problem, and give them the server that reported the error below.

For Email Admins

When Office 365 tried to send the message, the external email server returned the error below. This error was reported by an email server outside Office 365, and if the sender is unable to fix the problem by correcting the recipient's email address or clearing the Auto-Complete List entry, then it's likely a problem that only the recipient's email admin can fix.

- **Check the error for information about where the problem is happening.** For example, look for a domain name. The domain name will tell you which organization was responsible for the error. The recipient's email server could be causing the problem, or it could be due to a third-party service that your organization or the recipient's organization is using to process or filter email messages.
- **If you can't fix the problem, contact the responsible party's email admin.** This could be the recipient's email admin, your smart host service admin, or someone similar. Give them the error and the name of the server that reported the error to help them troubleshoot the issue.

Unfortunately, Office 365 support is unlikely to be able to help with these kinds of externally reported errors.

Diagnostic information for administrators:

Generating server: CO1PR05MB8119.namprd05.prod.outlook.com

leenapier@lewiscountywa.gov

Remote Server returned '550 5.1.351 Remote server returned unknown recipient or mailbox unavailable -> 550 permanent failure for one or more recipients (leenapier@lewiscountywa.gov:550 No such user (leenapier@lewiscountywa.gov))'

Original message headers:

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([fe80::9047:f3fb:b822:4272%5]) with mapi id 15.20.4457.005; Thu, 19 Aug 2021
21:34:18 +0000
From: Mark Waters <themuddster@msn.com>
To: "leenapier@lewiscountywa.gov" <leenapier@lewiscountywa.gov>
Subject: FW: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture
Thread-Topic: YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Joint Venture
Thread-Index: AQHX1TOqGgS5PIbZIUkYtZBnwseBcKt7WT0t
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Content-Language: en-US
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X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:
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boundary="_000_MWHPR05MB3614FF3A243FE9BBA2B52057B4C09MWHPR05MB3614nampr_"
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(UTC)
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X-MS-Exchange-Transport-CrossTenantHeadersStamped: CO1PR05MB8119

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Lee Napier

From: S Lago <slago@live.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 12:54 PM
To: Lee Napier
Cc: Sean Swope; Lindsey Pollock; Gary Stamper; TeamRidgefield@dfw.wa.gov; Stacie.Kelsey@dfw.wa.gov
Subject: Greater Seattle YMCA/Nisqually Tribe Mineral Lake Project

Dear Ms. Napier, Community Development Director,

I am writing in regards to the proposed Greater Seattle YMCA / Nisqually Tribe – Mineral Lake Youth Camp.

At this time, I am against the development of this site as a camp.

I am concerned there have not been any public meetings regarding this project.

The report by GeoEngineers (ref 2) (section 4.3 “No elk or evidence of elk concentrations were observed during site reconnaissance.”) is an abject lie! Our family and friends hunt, hike, and recreate in that area and we have never not seen evidence of elk or deer in that area.

And that is the least of my concerns. I have concern about the strain it will put on our already beleaguered volunteer fire department, I have concerns about traffic, I have concerns about the potential damage to fish and wildlife habitat, I have concerns over the water issues...and more

While this project may benefit Mineral and the surrounding communities, there is also the potential for great harm. There needs to be public meetings where the residence of Mineral can voice their concerns about this project and hear, first hand, how the County intends to handle the issues of concern before this project goes any further!

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Starla Lago
Mineral, Wa

Sent from my iPhone
External Email - Remember to think before you click!

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Lee Napier

From: Klinton Patrick Caillier <Klinton.Caillier@cwu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 1:52 PM
To: Lee Napier
Cc: jaclyncaillier22@gmail.com
Subject: "Greater Seattle" YMCA Mineral Lake Project comments

Good afternoon, Lee.

I'm writing to you based on my concern for the Mineral Lake YMCA project. My name is Klinton Caillier and I work as a state licensed Senior Wastewater Operator for the City of Tacoma. My past work has included Department of Fish and Wildlife water quality and chemistry testing on all the large lakes in eastern Washington and salmonid studies. My wife works for the National Park Service as a dispatcher, is an ex Federal Law Enforcement Officer, and has taught trail groups at the Environmental Learning Center, on Lake Diablo in the North Cascades. We are local community members of Mineral and live at 158 Glacier Drive in a large private community called LB Ranch. I'm vice president of the HOA for LB Ranch. I believe all of this is relevant to what I'm writing to you about based on our previous and current occupations.

This project has come to my attention by word of mouth. We have not received any notice in the mail for this project. The public outreach has been nonexistent, until last week when a meeting had to be moved from a Lions Hall meeting to a larger venue. It didn't seem like they were there to answer questions but to sell their project proposal. If you have any notes from that meeting, I would appreciate a copy. I have large concerns about the emergency response, wastewater, surface water, drinking water, and environmental impact on area.

The emergency response from the volunteer fire department is not sufficient. The sheriffs don't patrol our area unless there is an issue. This could lead to poor search and rescue response for children or adults at the proposed site. The Lewis County Sheriff's Office is stretched thin in the area as well, Pierce County to the north across the Nisqually River.

As for the wastewater treatment, is it a commercial mound system or lagoon system? The impact of septic trucks constantly pumping this out and sending it to Tacoma, who is the only local receiving treatment plant around will leave a large carbon footprint. The surface water runoff to the lake will need to be treated and tested routinely like any other commercial facility in the state. There is no storm water or wastewater treatment facility in the town of Mineral. Who will be filling out their monthly reports required for their NPDES permit if they discharge anywhere? The drinking water and fire suppression required for this facility might exceed the aquifers' ability to maintain the local community.

This year helicopters pulled from the lake to fight a local forest fire. In doing so they had to draw water from right in front of where the planned facility will go. The safety of the camp guests and staff is important during this. The local osprey and bald eagles that nest on the shore will be disturbed as will the fish hatching grounds. Is there a plan to mitigate any of these concerns? The submittal response from 7/9 by SCJ Alliance Consulting services seems like they are trying to strong arm your department. All of the county's responses from earlier Letters of Incompleteness were well founded and made perfect sense. The tone of their response for the completeness determination on July 9th is essentially them telling you its complete and you must move forward. When you won't see plans until the 30% drawings. That's engineer speak for rough napkin drawings. 90% drawings and punch lists are what we want to see before a project gets approved.

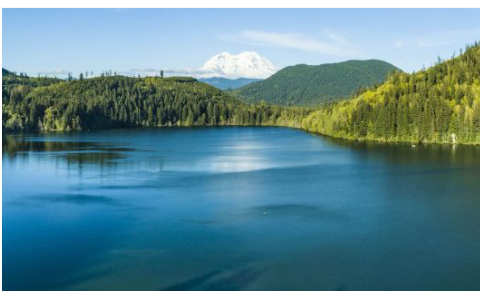
The road improvement section doesn't specify how they will handle Mineral hill roads' non-existent shoulder from the town of Mineral to the turn off for the proposed camp. If right across the Nisqually River between Elbe and Ashford a private person can't build a lodge / hotel a quarter mile from the river due to environmental concerns, then why can a conglomerate do it right on a lake?

The little investigation I've done into the YMCA since finding out about this plan has me concerned. The YMCA doesn't pay property taxes. Which means no local money is returned for infrastructure up-keep. The local community members are flipping this bill based on our taxes. The business tax that they pay might go to Olympia but not back into the local area. The project on certain articles states its over 2000 acres but, in the submittals, I'm only seeing 643 acres, which is it? There is no evidence that the YMCA or Nisqually Tribe is going to give back to the community.

Even the submittal response doesn't mention the amount of tribal activity that will occur but just the number of kids based on their other camps. Based on the news articles I've read it's all about the children and tribal members. Will the local community members be allowed to get YMCA memberships and use the facility? If they add in hiking or biking spots open to the general public, we are going to see waves of more people up here. Take a look at the Little Mashel Falls or Pack Forest in Eatonville. These sites are swamped with cars parked all over the road with little regard for the natural surroundings. We all live out here for the peace and quiet as well as the beautiful environment. A large corporation like the YMCA tries to do good things for children but the evidence on what they do for the environment, or the local community seems to be an afterthought.

I would love to hear more from the Tribe about their presence in this YMCA partnership. The long-term goal of the camp is only being described in numbers of campers and employees. It is not being descriptive of how the tribe will be interacting with the land, the camp itself and the area around it. The first attached news articles make me wonder if the Nisqually Tribe has longer term plans in the area, we won't be aware of until after its all built. The second article speaks to the environmental impact of a large camp resort YMCA already owns. There is some great incite in these two articles.

<https://www.seattleyymca.org/blog/partnership-nisqually-indian-tribe-new-overnight-camp-and-environmental-education-center>



Partnership with Nisqually Indian Tribe on New Overnight Camp and Environmental Education Center | YMCA of Greater Seattle

Planning Underway for Project at Mineral Lake in Rural Lewis County. SEATTLE — The YMCA of Greater Seattle (YMCA) and the Nisqually Indian Tribe are joining forces to create a new overnight camp on land adjacent to Mineral Lake in rural Lewis County.. In addition to a traditional camp offering youth and families from the

local area and throughout Washington access to hiking, swimming ...

www.seattlemca.org

<https://www.columbian.com/news/2021/aug/09/what-would-you-need-to-give-up-to-save-salmon-in-washington/>



What would you need to give up to save salmon in Washington? - The Columbian

In this photo provided by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, a juvenile Chinook salmon leaps from the raceway at the Iron Gate Fish Hatchery, Siskiyou County, Calif., July 7, 2021 ...

www.columbian.com

History is a better guide than good intentions.

I hope you hear our concerns and deeply reevaluate this proposed "Greater Seattle" YMCA plan. We don't need a company in Seattle dictating how our small and great community expands. Please be the reason for keeping Lewis County wonderful.

Sincerely,
Klinton Caillier
253-686-5350

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Lee Napier

From: steve mayer <theoregonone@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 4:57 PM
To: Lee Napier
Cc: Sean Swope; Lindsey Pollock; Gary Stamper; TeamRidgefield@dfw.wa.gov; Stacie.Kelsey@dfw.wa.gov
Subject: Subject: Greater Seattle YMCA/Nisqually Tribe Mineral Lake Project

Dear Ms. Napier, Community Development Director,

I am writing in regards to the proposed Greater Seattle YMCA / Nisqually Tribe – Mineral Lake Youth Camp.

At this time, I am against the development of this site as a camp.

I am concerned there have not been any public meetings regarding this project.

I have concern about the strain it will put on our already beleaguered volunteer fire department, I have concerns about traffic, I have concerns about the potential damage to fish and wildlife habitat, I have concerns over the water issues...and more

The report by GeoEngineers (ref 2) (section 4.3 “No elk or evidence of elk concentrations were observed during site reconnaissance.”) is an abject lie! Our family and friends hunt, hike, and recreate in that area and we have never not seen evidence of elk or deer in that area. The local Elk herd spend a lot of time in the area they are wanting to develop.

What is the benefit to Mineral and the surrounding area? There is potential for great harm to the ecosystem, and the aquifer that residents rely on. There needs to be public meetings where the residence of Mineral can voice their concerns about this project and hear, first hand, how the County intends to handle the issues of concern before this project goes any further!

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sent from my iPhone
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08-20-21

Comments to Lewis County Government and Lee Napier

We ask that county extend timelines because of the C-virus. This app is more like a Sears catalogue wishlist, foot in the door then we will expand our master plan as we wish. 3 attempts at development have failed big time. The reasons for failure are the same now plus more reasons because of the nature of the wishes (plan) involved. It is obvious the change in zoning won't fly. This is Forestland not development land. Fundamental SEPA requirements will be violated now and more so in the future. The lake and the community of Mineral will be slammed so there will not be a community of Mineral as it has existed for the last 130 years. Mineral Lake is the only lowland natural lake in Lewis County. YMCA says they looked at 31 sites in WA state and the Mineral site was head and shoulders above the rest because of everything it has to offer for recreation and tourism. Seattle, etc. wants to own it for their greed. Does Lewis County want to give it to them? Hasn't Tacoma already taken enough of our wonderful county? Urban sprawl at its worst! An environmental catastrophe. We are circulating these petitions that explain our motivation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Nilson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ron Nilson

Coordinator, Friends of Mineral Lake

PETITION FOR SUBMISSION TO THE LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON STATE AND UNITED STATES OF AMERICA GOVERNMENTS

We the undersigned citizens, voters, and taxpayers respectfully make known that we are opposed to the development on lands in the watershed of Mineral Lake, Mineral Creek, and the Nisqually River proposed by the YMCA Greater Seattle and Nisqually Indian Tribe. We want public ownership of these 2080 acres so that generations to follow will be able to enjoy this precious land and clear water forever. We would like all levels of government to join with private conservation groups as a consortium to purchase this land at a price agreeable to the seller and buyer. The timber land will generate revenue and the recreational land, water, and resources will generate quality of life for all of the public. Mineral Lake and the river waters must be protected for public use. If developed now, it will be lost forever. Members of the YMCA Greater Seattle and the Nisqually Indian Tribe may also use this land in common with the public at large. This land and its resources should be for the benefit of all citizens and not just the privileged few.

I have personally signed this petition, my address is correctly stated, and I have knowingly signed this petition only once.

#	DATE	PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	STREET ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS or E-MAIL OR FAX
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

I, _____, swear or affirm that I circulated this sheet of the foregoing petition, and that, to the best of my knowledge, every person who signed this petition knowingly and without compensation or promise of compensation willingly signed his or her true name and that the information provided therewith is true and correct. I further acknowledge that I offered no consideration or gratuity to any person to induce them to sign.

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____ PRINT NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ FAX: _____

Please return to: Friends of Mineral Lake, P.O. Box 132, Mineral, WA, 98355-0132 or e-mail to friendsofminerallake@rainierconnect.com.

Lee Napier

From: badarn ---- <badarn@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 11:58 AM
To: Lee Napier
Cc: Sean Swope; Lindsey Pollock; Gary Stamper; TeamRidgefield@dfw.wa.gov; Stacie.Kelsey@dfw.wa.gov
Subject: Mineral Lake YMCA/Nisqually Tribe Planned Camp

Dear Ms. Napier – Community Development Director,

I am writing in regards to the proposed Greater Seattle YMCA / Nisqually Tribe – Mineral Lake Youth Camp.

I am against the development of this site as a camp. Besides the fact that I grew up on this lake and resent having to share it with money grubbing, inconsiderate organizations, the following are just some other issues that I have with the proposal.

Impact to Mineral Lake, lake use by community and boating/fishing public. - As stated on the YMCA blog/website (ref 1), the camp will provide “swimming, canoeing”, this will require a portion of the lake be restricted from the public use, as all “youth” camps require a “safe swim/safe aquatics” area. This is a safety requirement even for state parks. Based upon the proposed location of the lodge and future cabins (as discuss and shown at the Mineral Lake Lions Club presentation (ref 6)) I foresee the YMCA/Nisqually Tribe requesting a portion of the lake being docked, roped/buoyed, and “safe zoned”. I believe based on 12+ years as a Scoutmaster whom attended many different camps that the logical location would be directly in front of the lodge (even as at other YMCA camps/Camp Coleman as example). See screen grab of (Insert #1) Camp Coleman and my predicted location of the “safe swim/dock” area (Insert #2).

I am also concerned that since the YMCA / Nisqually Tribe are considering a “canoeing” program they will be petitioning the state limit speed (even lower that currently established), restricting boating hours, and limiting “safe zone” buffers along the shoreline for the canoeing activities. This would further restrict the general publics use of the lake for fishing and recreating.

Impact to local wildlife – The proposed camp and use by campers (400+/-) and staff (100+/-) will have a significant impact on the local Blacktail Deer and Rocky Mountain Elk population. The camp development will reduce and disrupt this forested wildlife area used by these mammals. Currently there are deer and elk on this property and I disagree with the report by GeoEngineers (ref 2) (section 4.3 “No elk or evidence of elk concentrations were observed during site reconnaissance.”) and would be willing to escort you or any state agents on this property to show you evidence. The state currently sets aside areas and season (hunting season) so these animals have a safe and low stress area during fawning/calving season and winter season. The state and federal government also have implemented road and access restriction in these areas to help with conservation efforts.

I am also concerned that since the YMCA has “partnered” with the Nisqually Tribe the hunting practices and season could have a severe impact on the local elk and deer herds/population. As stated on the YMCA blog “The partnership will provide Nisqually Tribal members with expanded access to berries, roots, and other native plants for spiritual retreats and vision quests and will offer opportunities for game and bird hunting to fulfill cultural and traditional experiences. The Tribe plans to help build the next generation of stewards of this land by working directly with the YMCA to develop programming and curriculum for Tribal families and by providing the Tribe access to the camp’s facilities.” (ref 1) the Nisqually’s will be hunting this land, which implies that the

general public will not be allowed to hunt this area (How is hunting on a youth camp safe or will they restrict access during the tribal hunting?). Also, the tribes have in the past show contempt for conservation activities and limiting of hunting elk. If you have questions please contact WDFW and ask about the decimation of the Colockum Elk Herd. (ref 3) Tribes are not required to document and report their harvest to the state, so the impact is only a projected number.

Transportation – the Mineral Hill Rd (north) would be used as access to the camp based on the YMCA's documentation. As a resident of the area I can attest that Hwy 7 and Mineral Hill Rd will be dramatically impacted as will the local community. Based upon yearly experiences during holiday weekends (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day) and opening weekend of trout fishing season the traffic is so bad on Hwy 7 that it is backed up from the Elbe Bridge to/or past Pleasant Valley Road. (2.17 miles). On opening weekend of trout season it is not unusual for traffic to be backed up both north and south for .5 mile. A 30% - 57% (ref 4) increase of individual/private vehicles will cause a significant problem for local population and increase the wear and tear of the roads which will increase the oil and vehicle fluids into the local water systems (damaging fish habitat) and I believe a increase in trash along the road (based on personal experience after long weekends. Remember state DOT has documented the negative impacts on salmon/fish/watershed from increased vehicles on the roadway.

Water Use/Table – I am very concerned about the negative impact to local water resources both the lake and the water tables. In reviewing Lewis Counties Aquifer Recharging Area (ref 5) it appears that a fairly large area of level 2 “moderate” area will be under the camp and main lodge area. This could have an impact on the local watershed.

Increasing the “well water” use by 100+/- staff and 400+/- campers during the driest part of the year will cause dramatic use and draws on the water needed and used by the local community. The camp will need to use water for showering, cooking, cleaning, etc. and the volume of use could be more than the system could handle. I have a questions for the YMCA/Nisqually Tribe regarding how many fulltime residences will be living onsite year around, as a deterrent to homeless/vagrant/drug use/crime? Will they commit to hiring more than 50% of the staff/builders/etc for full time camp staffing? Will the YMCA sign a legally binding contract with Lewis County that this property will not be turned over to the Nisqually Tribe if the YMCA decides in the future to close the camp, perhaps deeding the property back to the local community or the state? Why isn't the YMCA/Nisqually Tribe purchasing one of the camps that are closing, i.e. Boy Scout camps, Church Camps?

Lastly, as a resident I believe Lewis County Development should be focused on the development of the community and those developments that will provide significant tax revenue increases and job opportunities. The YMCA/Nisqually Tribe will pay no taxes as stated at the Lion Club presentation (ref 6), as a 504c3 and tribe, therefore Lewis county will gain very little if any tax increase or benefit from this camp. This will then become a property tax increase to local communities.

I believe the Greater Seattle YMCA is looking at establishing this camp opportunity outside of King County because the property values/costs are lower and trying to get away from the problems they, Seattle/King County, have committed for themselves. Water, Land, and Road use/development within King County has become so restrictive that the YMCA knows it would take an act of Congress to build a new camp within King County. They are looking to take advantage of Lewis County and rural communities. It also appears that the YMCA was trying to keep it hidden from locals, state agency's (WDFW contact Region 5 office) and news agency's (The Chronicle) that the Nisqually Tribe would be the “purchasing partner” (ref 1) for this property.

I believe that the Nisqually Tribe is looking to increase their land holding, similar to the Nisqually Community Forrest, which will limit use of these land/potentially waters by other residents and local citizens. If the Nisqually Tribe gains control and use of this land they will be able to control and restrict use, and the State will not be able to or willing to stop them. This is proven time and time again at state hunting and fishing setting

meeting with WDFW.

Please keep Lewis County residents and communities as your focus, especially the small Mineral community!

Thank you
Arne L. Shields

Reference Information:

Ref 1 - Greater Seattle YMCA blog - [https://www.seattleyymca.org/blog/partnership-nisqually-indian-tribe-new-overnight-camp-and-environmental-education-center#:~:text=SEATTLE — The YMCA of Greater,Lake in rural Lewis County.&text=The YMCA is in the,to begin developing the property.](https://www.seattleyymca.org/blog/partnership-nisqually-indian-tribe-new-overnight-camp-and-environmental-education-center#:~:text=SEATTLE%20%E2%80%94%20The%20YMCA%20of%20Greater,Lake%20in%20rural%20Lewis%20County.&text=The%20YMCA%20is%20in%20the,to%20begin%20developing%20the%20property.)

Ref 2 -GeoEngineers Critical Areas Letter - https://lewiscountywa.gov/media/documents/2021.04.05_YMCA_Mineral_Lake_Critical_Areas_Letter_00Lcg_hc.pdf

Ref 3 -Colockum Elk - [https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/uploads/cds/land-use/Conditional Use Permits/CU-09-00005 Teaway Solar Reserve/16 SEPA AttH Wildlife Mitigation Plan.pdf](https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/uploads/cds/land-use/Conditional%20Use%20Permits/CU-09-00005%20Teaway%20Solar%20Reserve/16_SEPA_AttH_Wildlife_Mitigation_Plan.pdf)

Ref 4 - Mineral Lake Trip Generation - https://lewiscountywa.gov/media/documents/2021.04.05_YMCA_Mineral_Lake_Trip_Generation_Memo.pdf

Ref 5 -Lewis County Aquifer Recharge - https://maps.lewiscountywa.gov/maps/Environmental/cnty_aquifer.pdf

Ref 6 - Video of Lions Club meeting with YMCA - <https://fb.watch/7uJYSwrzu3/>

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Lee Napier

From: Marcelle Stenzig <marcelle.stenzig@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 2:00 PM
To: Lee Napier
Subject: Mineral Lake YMCA/Nisqually Tribe Planned Camp

Dear Mrs. Napier – Community Development Director,

I am writing in regards to the proposed Greater Seattle YMCA / Nisqually Tribe – Mineral Lake Youth Camp.

I am against the development of this site as a camp. Following are just some of the issues that I have with the proposal.

Impact to Mineral Lake, lake use by community and boating/fishing public. - As stated on the YMCA blog/website (ref 1), the camp will provide “swimming, canoeing”, this will require a portion of the lake be restricted from the public use, as all “youth” camps require a “safe swim/safe aquatics” area. This is a safety requirement even for state parks. Based upon the proposed location of the lodge and future cabins (as discuss and shown at the Mineral Lake Lions Club presentation (ref 6)) I foresee the YMCA/Nisqually Tribe requesting a portion of the lake being docked, roped/buoyed, and “safe zoned”. I believe based on 12+ years as a Scoutmaster whom attended many different camps that the logical location would be directly in front of the lodge (even as at other YMCA camps/Camp Coleman as example). See screen grab of (Insert #1) Camp Coleman and my predicted location of the “safe swim/dock” area (Insert #2).

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I believe that the Nisqually Tribe is looking to increase their land holding, similar to the Nisqually Community Forrest, which will limit use of these land/potentially waters by other residents and local citizens. If the Nisqually Tribe gains control and use of this land they will be able to control and restrict use, and the State will not be able to or willing to stop them. This is proven time and time again at state hunting and fishing setting meeting with WDFW.

Please keep Lewis County residents and communities as your focus, especially the small Mineral community!

Thank you for your time,

Marcelle Stenzig, Mineral Home Owner

Reference Information:

Ref 1 - Greater Seattle YMCA blog -

<https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.seattleyymca.org%2fblog%2fpartnership-nisqually-indian->

tribe-new-overnight-camp-and-environmental-education-center%23%3a~%3atext%3dSEATTLE%20%e2%80%94%20The%20YMCA%20of%20Greater%2cLake%20in%20rural%20Lewis%20County.%26text%3dThe%20YMCA%20is%20in%20the%2cto%20begin%20developing%20the%20property.&c=E,1,snjB1t9K4vqHp4CaSvtoO0buRXqcvT7CLRBqFP25QAvbb-xoIE93oluxlL9FC3TEluGJ4Iba1ZjFKDLTxbMM2Mn8wrvYrM41lvVHevefdAKI-H69M1p_2UvO24,&typo=1

Ref 2 -GeoEngineers Critical Areas Letter -

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2flewiscountywa.gov%2fmedia%2fdocuments%2f2021.04.05_YMCA_Mineral_Lake_Critical_Areas_Letter_00Lcghc.pdf&c=E,1,HcHC37rIrhuxdxqgv5lovVTklgt7blOR3d0AG5QzNv6b0dxuAb9Oulbm7E-cegZ_RWve8u-SiAF77TRqJARiOJyL6xA0bBUJ_Cuavi2W_Bp0lxhKttq83Su&typo=1

Ref 3 -Colockum Elk -

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.co.kittitas.wa.us%2fuploads%2fcds%2fland-use%2fConditional%20Use%20Permits%2fCU-09-00005%20Teanaway%20Solar%20Reserve%2f16_SEPA_AttH_Wildlife_Mitigation_Plan.pdf&c=E,1,EUrO1ny52urezkdnmP34ZzFgPb-cZESyHe1sLY9S6rYBhiJbljyVmlx7h7qUBflowfGduUW71CA-fUGI5cuvengNvv_t35HbldQYHdChAQ,,&typo=1

Ref 4 - Mineral Lake Trip Generation -

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2flewiscountywa.gov%2fmedia%2fdocuments%2f2021.04.05_YMCA_Mineral_Lake_Trip_Generation_Memo.pdf&c=E,1,sT8pZMVykoDFVpydHyShBZa5byLB3NENPhqvEgHBB2gG-xbls3n907mWz7ER6N_bKXIWausx5-9B0kxO-kbcVHnzFHbFDRjQDC6Z_fsURffRhVH823M-zQ,,&typo=1

Ref 5 -Lewis County Aquifer Recharge -

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fmaps.lewiscountywa.gov%2fmaps%2fEnvironmental%2fcnty_aquifer.pdf&c=E,1,JpCZg187dhuMYOaj7tikGNdpAlIH1z8kuenLzR3TzK_l61v6wEuv81J1DAZdp9DWEc4_riWECGG-dNZbjh8jwHhyReGV9uQJ2T85YkUwhw,,&typo=1

Ref 6 - Video of Lions Club meeting with YMCA - <https://fb.watch/7uJYSwrzu3/>

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Lee Napier

From: Kendall Waters <kendallwaters55@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 2:36 PM
To: Lee Napier
Cc: Gary Stamper; TeamRidgefield@dfw.wa.gov; stacie.kelsey@dfw.wa.gov
Subject: Mineral Lake YMCA/ Nisqually Tribe Project

Dear Lee,

I am writing in objection to the proposed Mineral Lake, Nisqually Tribe Project. I believe this project would be detrimental for this town of Mineral, WA.

I have been coming to this lake and our families property since I could walk. We come here to fish, camp, swim and boat on the lake. This is our escape from the hustle and bustle from everyday life, where we can enjoy the peace and tranquility. This project would have an overall negative impact on the town from the wildlife, water resources, vehicle and human traffic.

Based on the YMCA blog they will be providing swimming and canoeing. To do so they would have to section off part of the lake for the swimming area. They may also try and impose a speed limit for the canoeing, this will greatly limit the use to the boating public. Due to the size of the project it will have a negative impact on the wildlife in this area. A project of this size will displace and destroy the homes of many animals. In addition it has the potential for significantly polluting the lakes, creeks, streams and rivers in this area. Allowing this project to go through would also add substantial wear and tear on the current roads due to the increase in vehicle and human traffic. This project will impact the water resources for local residents as well. To support a camp of this stature it will need a substantial amount of water, this amount of water could impact the local watershed. The YMCA and Nisqually Tribe will pay no taxes per the Lions Club presentation therefore the town will gain very little or no tax benefit, it will only raise the taxes for the local community. Another issue with letting this project move forward is the emergency services. To bring in this many children the risk of a serious life threatening incident is increased exponentially. This town does not have the resources nor aide to take on a serious incident for example, a drowning victim. The nearest major trauma hospital would be Good Samaritan Hospital. This project would be negligent in many ways but most importantly to bring in this camp knowing the resources for aide cannot support it, you would be putting children's lives at risk. This size project belongs in an urban setting not a rural setting.

Sincerely,

Kendall Waters
164 Mineral Hill Road

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Lee Napier

From: labrecq2@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 11:29 AM
To: Lee Napier
Cc: miclar9871@aol.com; Sean Swope; Lindsey Pollock; Gary Stamper; TeamRidgefield@dfw.wa.gov; Stacie.Kelsey@dfw.wa.gov
Subject: RE: Mineral Lake YMCA/Nisqually Tribe Planned Camp Development

Dear Mr. Napier – Community Development Director,

We are writing in regards to the proposed Greater Seattle YMCA / Nisqually Tribe – Mineral Lake Youth Camp.

We are against the development of this site as a camp. Following are just some of the issues that we have with the proposal as lifelong property owners in Mineral and have discussed with other local stakeholders.

Impact to Mineral Lake, lake use by community and boating/fishing public. - As stated on the YMCA blog/website (ref 1), the camp will provide “swimming, canoeing”, this will require a portion of the lake be restricted from the public use, as all “youth” camps require a “safe swim/safe aquatics” area. This is a safety requirement even for state parks. Based upon the proposed location of the lodge and future cabins (as discuss and shown at the Mineral Lake Lions Club presentation (ref 6)) this will likely be the need for the YMCA/Nisqually Tribe to request a portion of the lake being docked, roped/buoyed, and “safe zoned”.

We are also concerned that since the YMCA / Nisqually Tribe are considering a “canoeing” program they will be petitioning the state limit speed (even lower that currently established), restricting boating hours, and limiting “safe zone” buffers along the shoreline for the canoeing activities. This would further restrict the general publics use of the lake for fishing and recreating.

Impact to local wildlife – The proposed camp and use by campers (400+/-) and staff (100+/-) will have a significant impact on the local Blacktail Deer and Rocky Mountain Elk population. The camp development will reduce and disrupt this forested wildlife area used by these mammals. Currently there are deer and elk on this property and we disagree with the report by GeoEngineers (ref 2) (section 4.3 “No elk or evidence of elk concentrations were observed during site reconnaissance.”) and have many local (and concerned) residents that would be willing to escort you or any state agents on this property to show you evidence. The state currently sets aside areas and season (hunting season) so these animals have a safe and low stress area during fawning/calving season and winter season. The state and federal government also have implemented road and access restriction in these areas to help with conservation efforts.

We are also concerned that since the YMCA has “partnered” with the Nisqually Tribe the hunting practices and season could have a severe impact on the local elk and deer herds/population. As stated on the YMCA blog “The partnership will provide Nisqually Tribal members with expanded access to berries, roots, and other native plants for spiritual retreats and vision quests and will offer opportunities for game and bird hunting to fulfill cultural and traditional experiences. The Tribe plans to help build the next generation of stewards of this land by working directly with the YMCA to develop programming and curriculum for Tribal families and by providing the Tribe access to the camp’s facilities.” (ref 1) the Nisqually’s will be hunting this land, which implies that the general public will not be allowed to hunt this area (How is hunting at a youth camp safe and/or will they restrict access during the tribal hunting?). Also, the tribes have in the past show contempt for conservation activities and limiting of hunting elk. If you have questions please contact WDFW and ask about the decimation of the Colockum Elk Herd. (ref 3) Tribes are not required to document and report their harvest to the state, so the impact is only a projected number.

Transportation – the Mineral Hill Rd (north) would be used as access to the camp based on the YMCA’s documentation. As lifelong residents of the area we can attest that Hwy 7 and Mineral Hill Rd will be dramatically impacted as will the local community. During holiday weekends (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day) and opening weekend of trout fishing season, the traffic is so bad on Hwy 7 that it is backed up from the Elbe Bridge to/or past Pleasant Valley Road. (2.17 miles). On opening weekend of trout season it is not unusual for traffic to be backed up both north and south for .5 mile. A 30% - 57% (ref 4) increase of individual/private vehicles will cause a significant problem for local population and increase the wear and tear of the roads, which will also contribute to the increase in oil and vehicle fluids into the local

water systems (damaging fish habitat) and we believe a increase in road pollution (The State DOT has documented the negative impacts on salmon/fish/watershed from increased vehicles on the roadways).

Water Use/Table – We are very concerned about the negative impact to local water resources both the lake and the water tables. In reviewing Lewis Counties Aquafer Recharging Area (ref 5) it appears that a fairly large area of level 2 “moderate” area will be under the camp and main lodge area. This could have an impact on the local watershed.

Increasing the “well water” use by 100+/- staff and 400+/- campers during the driest part of the year will cause dramatic use and draws on the water needed and used by the local community. The camp will need to use water for showering, cooking, cleaning, etc. and the volume of use could be more that the area could handle.

Additional Questions: How many full-time residences will be living onsite year round? Methods to deter homeless/vagrant/drug use/crime? Will they commit to hiring more than 50% of the staff/builders/etc for full time camp staffing? Will the YMCA sign a legally binding contract with Lewis County that this property will not be turned over to the Nisqually Tribe if the YMCA decides in the future to close the camp, perhaps deeding the property back to the local community or the state?

Please keep Lewis County residents and communities as your focus, especially our small community. This not the right development for this area. We are adamantly against this proposal.

Thank you,

Gary & Agnes Labrecque
Larry & Mary Raab

Reference Information:

Ref 1 - Greater Seattle YMCA blog - <https://www.seattleyymca.org/blog/partnership-nisqually-indian-tribe-new-overnight-camp-and-environmental-education-center#:~:text=SEATTLE%20%E2%80%94%20The%20YMCA%20of%20Greater,Lake%20in%20rural%20Lewis%20County.&text=The%20YMCA%20is%20in%20the,to%20begin%20developing%20the%20property.>

Ref 2 - GeoEngineers Critical Areas Letter

- https://lewiscountywa.gov/media/documents/2021.04.05_YMCA_Mineral_Lake_Critical_Areas_Letter_00Lcghc.pdf

Ref 3 - Colockum Elk - https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/uploads/cds/land-use/Conditional%20Use%20Permits/CU-09-00005%20Teaway%20Solar%20Reserve/16_SEPA_AttH_Wildlife_Mitigation_Plan.pdf

Ref 4 - Mineral Lake Trip Generation

- https://lewiscountywa.gov/media/documents/2021.04.05_YMCA_Mineral_Lake_Trip_Generation_Memo.pdf

Ref 5 - Lewis County Aquifer Recharge - https://maps.lewiscountywa.gov/maps/Environmental/cnty_aquifer.pdf

Ref 6 - Video of Lions Club meeting with YMCA - <https://fb.watch/7uJYSwrzu3/>

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Lee Napier

From: Alexis Shellenback <a.shellenback@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 4:35 PM
To: Lee Napier
Subject: Mineral Lake YMCA/ Nisqually Tribe Project

Hello Lee,

I am reaching out in regards to the Mineral Lake YMCA/ Nisqually Tribe Project.

My parents (property owners on the lake), grandparents and great grandparents on both sides of my family, have been coming to the lake for 60+ years, bringing us since we could walk and hold a fishing rod. From opening weekend fishing every year, to week long camping trips multiple times over the summer, to just taking a drive up to see the mountain on a nice sunny day. Over the years we have made many memories coming to the lake and have enjoyed the peace and tranquility. Most importantly, Mineral Lake and the surrounding area, have been a crown jewel in the region for well over a century. I believe by allowing this project to move forward would create more negative impacts to the area than positive. From vehicle traffic, foot traffic, boat and/or people on the lake, as well as negativity impacting local businesses. I am completely and utterly opposed to this project.

Sincerely,

Alexis Shellenback

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Lee Napier

From: Jane Hodges <janehodges@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 4:56 PM
To: Lee Napier
Subject: SUBSTITUTE COMMENT Mineral YMCA/Nisqually Camp site

August 20, 2021

Dear Lee Napier,

I have owned property in Mineral since 2013 and spend about half the year living in town, and I wanted to express my thoughts in favor of the proposed camp plan. While I have questions about how the site will operate in terms of emergency services, security, lighting, the possible size and scale of development, and waterfront and lake usage (questions I don't feel qualified to nitpick about at this juncture and where others have more detailed/informed queries), I feel that through negotiation the county and town can work out an arrangement through which the YMCA/Nisqually pay into funds to support the local fire department and possibly also support and run a public water system. I spoke with a friend who used to work for a tribal government in risk management and he said it is customary for tribes, especially with hunting rights or other land usage agreements, to pay a percentage into the local tax base for purposes such as these and that all is negotiable.

Many longtime Mineral residents or regular summertime visitors feel they "own" the lake and waterfront and don't want "outsiders" to "disturb their peace." While I understand the town fended off a project in which timber lands would be sold as 20-acre lots overlooking the water, possibly creating an "affluent hill" overlooking a "regular folks' village," and why that project was opposed culturally speaking, I feel the YMCA project brings a combination of factors that would be beneficial to the local community, economic development broadly speaking in Lewis County, and the national profile of the area as it relates to Mt. Rainier. While many people have chosen to be in Mineral because it is quiet and has a limited, rural economy -- and I chose Mineral as a site for an artists' residency because our fundraising-driven economics don't require a "bustling local economy" for our program to operate, and "being the residency near Mt. Rainer" is a handy way for folks to remember us -- there are numerous ways in which Mineral is left behind regarding basic advances in terms of infrastructure (a public water system or recycling collection, for instance), public safety (our lack of incorporation and small population mean it can take 20-30 minutes for police assistance), and economic opportunity (a small population, many of whom live on fixed retirement income or seasonal employment, means there are few people to support new businesses and few young adults running services business ranging from landscaping to contracting, and those who do run these services are few and hard to find out there).

Why am I in favor of a camp plan? There are several reasons. The camp can potentially:

- Shift the lake's usage away from so much motorized and beer-can boating toward more family friendly and all-ages usage
- Shift the town's dependence away from "fishing season" to a year-round economy
- Bring the town desperately needed infrastructure improvements that benefit not just the camp site but the entire town, such as a potential public water system that we pay for proportionately (with their site likely the far-largest customer), possible public restrooms, etc.

- Shift the town's insular vibe to one that is inclusive, nationally known small community where everyone coexists in harmony and in nature, with the Y and Nisqually project sited on a low-impact space across the lake and the "downtown" still as is
- Bring in what Lewis County needs -- a tilt toward "a little more REI, a little less Cabela's" -- less motors, more self-propelled athletics with a lower carbon footprint, more environmentally gentle camping
- Create ballpark 300 jobs for skilled workers who are vetted to work in community and around children/educational setting. With this many full-time jobs, there are opportunities to build or rent out workforce housing, and there would be opportunities for more than one restaurant in town. I know the American Legion, which is under-utilized except for fishing opener, is approved for at least occasional commercial kitchen use. It's ready to go...
- Reduce perceptions of rural racism and xenophobia by advancing the coexistence of a camp and Native American cultural site alongside the town's legacy businesses and activities.
- Dovetail with what I understand are potential plans for Timberland Regional Library to bring one of its mobile libraries and potential associated programs to the town
- Dovetail with artist programs at Mineral School
- Increase the skilled labor force, especially for seasonal employment and jobs like cleaning, cashiering, and landscaping/contracting
- Create an opportunity to collaborate with the Nisqually Indian Tribe on joint economic activity that benefits who lives in/around town and also honors the land's history as Nisqually land -- it is an opportunity for Lewis County to set an example in how to collaborate.
- Create a valuable stop on the "Road to Rainier Scenic Byway" initiative started a few years ago out of Pierce County -- including Eatonville, Elbe, Ashford, and with a spur to Mineral -- to bring visitors to town to see what is there.
- Replace the lost income and job opportunities formerly available via the Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad

I could go on and on about the possible benefits to Mineral that I see with this project. I feel it would be possible (but not necessarily easy), with thoughtful planning and innovative economic development thinking, to weave the presence of this large site into the fabric of Mineral without excessively burdening the shoreline, fishing lake activities, emergency services, or resulting new "taxes" anyone faces.

I realize I spend time in Mineral as a "second home" and do not have the deep roots of some people in the community. However, I can think of no less than 10 new residents of Mineral who have arrived during the COVID-19 pandemic, and an additional 5 to 10 who plan to permanently move to Mineral when they reach early retirement. That's actually a sizable volume of demographic change for a town of 200, and many of these folks are not aware or have only learned recently about the possible camp project. I am interested in seeing more accessible, family-friendly opportunities in the area, and projects that are led by professional and deep pocketed organizations who have gone through large site development projects before.

Thank you for your time.

Jane Hodges

206-937-5643 (home office)

206-854-4476 (mobile phone)

Founding Director of Mineral School nonprofit (www.mineral-school.org)

Owner of the Mineral elementary school property

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Lee Napier

From: Bob Mohrbacher <bob.mohrbacher@centralia.edu>
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 1:47 PM
To: Lee Napier
Subject: Support for a YMCA Camp in Mineral

Dear Ms. Napier,

I am writing to express my support for the development of a YMCA camp at Mineral Lake. I have followed this project with interest since I first heard about it some months ago. I attended an online information session and have had some follow up emails with members of the development team. I believe that this camp would be a positive development for East Lewis County.

Centralia College works hard to maintain an active presence in East County through our campus in Morton. We are committed to supporting those communities with educational opportunities and with programming to keep those small communities vibrant. I believe that a YMCA camp at Mineral Lake would dovetail nicely with the college's efforts to serve all of East County.

In addition, youth summer camps are an excellent way to make sure kids get outdoor education and recreation. I went to summer camp when I was young; many members of my family have spent years working at a variety of summer camps around Washington State. I believe that the YMCA would bring valuable experiences to kids, would provide an appropriate level of development in rural East County, and would be good stewards of the property that they are asking to develop.

On behalf of Centralia College, I would like to express my enthusiastic support for this project. I encourage Lewis County to approve the comprehensive plan amendment submitted by YMCA of Greater Seattle.

Bob Mohrbacher
President, Centralia College
(360) 623 8552
bob.mohrbacher@centralia.edu



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Lee Napier

From: Jennifer Fueston <jennifer2116@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 11:13 AM
To: Lee Napier
Subject: To whom it may Concern;

I am writing today to express my concerns about the YMCA / Nisqually Tribe Camp Project in Mineral. We are a small community, we rely on the lake, woods and water table for our daily lives. This project would bring traffic, population and require the use of resources that simply aren't there. As a non profit this agency would offer the county nothing in the way of taxes and would cost major road repairs , wells of the community to run dry, massive amounts of money to fishing and hunting will be lost as well. As someone who resides in Mineral year round we see an influx of traffic for holiday weekends , opening day fishing and other major events. Our roadways are not equipped to handle the traffic this eye sore would bring. The YMCA / Nisqually Tribe has been secretive at best with the requirements of public hearings (offering to give a speech last minute at a members only event very quietly and posting signs on the far end of town facing railroad tracks) Obviously they have something to hide. We sought out beautiful Lewis County to get away from the destruction in King / Pierce . Please please think of the people whom you represent year round and the devastating impact this project would have on us.

Thank you for your time,
Jennifer Fueston
Mineral WA resident

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Lee Napier

From: Suzanne Boone <wyldunknown@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 11:46 AM
To: Lee Napier
Subject: YMCA/Mineral Lake Development

Dear Mr. Napier,

My family has owned a little house in Mineral since the 1970's. My grandfather built it. We are just starting the 5th generation of family enjoyment in the town and on the lake.

The lake is unique because it is undeveloped, quiet and clean. Allowing the YMCA to build a camp to accommodate up to 500 people with 47 permanent structures will destroy the character of the lake. There will be no more quiet fishing moments and the water quality is bound to suffer. Yes, I've read about the plans for low footprint existence, etc. That all sounds good on paper but in reality the quality will degrade.

This is such a small lake. Let them develop somewhere like Alder lake, somewhere bigger, where their existence will not be overwhelming. For years people have wanted to build on the lake. Never could. Now, in one fell swoop, close to 70% of the shoreline will be compromised.

Mineral Lake is truly one of the last remaining gems on the NW. To let one group come and change it forever is unfathomable to me and my family.

Please consider ejecting this plan.

Regards,
Suzanne Boone

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Lee Napier

From: Nick Boone <ipainttheway@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 12:16 PM
To: Gary Stamper; Lee Napier; Lindsey Pollock; Sean Swope; stacie.kelsey@dwf.wa.gov; teamridgefield@dwf.wa.gov
Subject: YMCA/Nisqually Tribe - Mineral Lake Camp

To Whom It May Concern,

I write to you today in regards to the new proposal of development by the YMCA of Greater Seattle on Mineral Lake. I HIGHLY oppose of this proposal.

My great grandparents built a house here that me and my family still use to this day. Having grown up coming to the town of Mineral since I was a baby and spending countless days fishing and playing on the lake, I am concerned for the future of both the lake and town. Mineral is a place of solitude, mostly undisrupted by the growing surroundings. And this is what makes Mineral special. I am also concerned about the pending changes made to a vital lake to many people. With the proposed construction and programs, rules/fishing/usage of the lake will all have to change dramatically.

The residents of Mineral and the community of Mineral should always be the first priority in this small town of Lewis County and this development plan does not reflect that.

Thank you for your time,

Nick

--

Nick Boone
ipainttheway@gmail.com

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