



To the Hearings Officer and interested parties,

My name is David R Shapiro. I have lived at 36014 SE Lusted Road Boring, Oregon since the end of 2016. My career in Oregon began in 2000 with an AmeriCorps EnviroCorps program. Currently I'm a licensed general contractor with a focus on creating outdoor structures and trails to help private landowners enjoy their lands.

In 2001 I began to learn animal tracking with Cascadia Wild, a 501c(3). I later became involved as an instructor and lead tracker. In 2003 Cascadia Wild formed a partnership with the USFS under the supervision of Alan Dyck and Dr. Leslie Haysmith. Cascadia Wild shared animal tracking skills with USFS and in return we learned trail camera usage. These skills were combined in the "Wolverine Tracking Project", an endeavor that saw fruit in 2023 when a wolverine was seen moving from the Columbia River through Multnomah County to Santiam Pass.

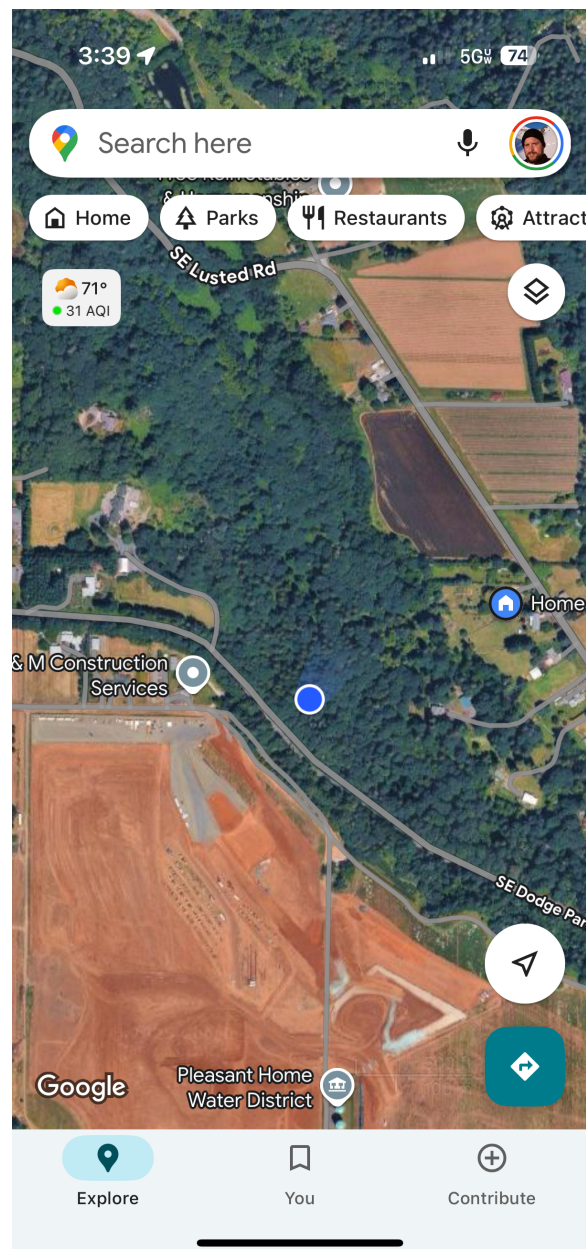
Through the USFS, Cascadia Wild was given special access to the Bull Run watershed in order to set up wildlife trail cameras and check these cameras weekly with an employee of the USFS. I was in the Bull Run watershed regularly from June through November of 2004 checking cameras and training USFS employees on the use of trail cameras.

During this time I also became a student intern with the USFS and finished my undergrad work with Prescott College in which these camera studies were a major part of my curriculum in wildlife studies. Many of my credits were supervised and taught by Dr Haysmith and Mr. Dyck. I

was featured in OPB's March 2003 episode of Oregon Field Guide all about the search for the wolverine in Oregon. Twenty years later and I still brag about this accomplishment.

I moved out of Portland to my property in Boring at the end of 2016 in order to be closer to the Oregon nature that I have so enjoyed since my first days here. I started setting up the trail cameras in the forest behind my house as a hobby and a passion. I have video footage of elk and other animals in The Lusted Forest up to April of 2025.

I primarily work with video. The videos are time stamped with the accurate date and time. They are taken from various points around the forest between Dodge Park Rd and Lusted Rd. I have camera footage of the elk living in our forest from February to September. I have footage of elk in all stages of life.



The above photo is from Google Maps. My home is marked on it. The blue dot shows one of my most productive camera sites. Just across Dodge Park Road is the huge footprint of the proposed WTF. It is clear to see the construction impact on the land.

But what if the treatment facility is fully constructed? What then? Well, no formal study was done of the wildlife of the “Lusted Woods”, which is the name I am calling this patch of forest because it has no official name. With the land use laws and “overlays”, Multnomah County protects this forest from development. All of us residents who have an ownership stake pay taxes on our property and know WE cant build on it. So it stays as a refuge of sorts for the animals.

But of course it is not big enough to be the only habitat for the elk, bear, bobcat, mountain lion, owls, and more which call the land home. It is an extension of the much larger habitat that is made up by the Sandy River, Oxbow Park, the BLM old growth, Nature Conservancy Land, The Diack Property, and Metro’s holdings on both sides of the river.

You can go to google maps and clearly see all of the green. Those are forests. Some of those trees are 500 years old. Those lands are still forests because of the efforts of many people over the past 80 years since World War Two to keep this area wild as a heritage to the children of the greater Portland metropolitan area as well as to visitors from all over the world.

So why infringe upon that effort to preserve the wild nature of this area and bend the land-use rules for the Portland Water Bureau? Because they’ve owned that land since the 1970’s? Who cares? The elk have used that land since the end of the ice age. It’s been “theirs” since at least 18,000 years ago when it was a haven from the floodwaters of the first Missoula Floods.

Any competent biologist will know about “edge effects” and how the edges of protected habitat are just as important as the center of any wildlife preserve. There needs to be a transition zone in-between wild and developed areas. Tree farms and rural residential areas work well for this purpose.

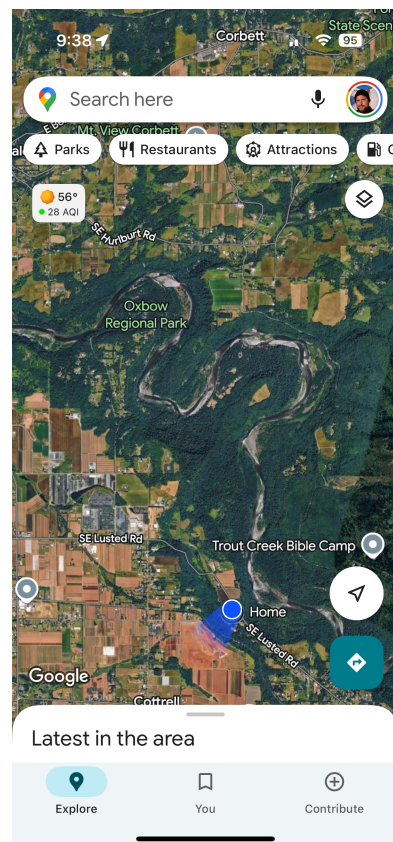
Grafting this monstrosity of a water treatment facility on the very edge of a beautiful transition zone from the wild to urban areas will do irreparable harm to the wildlife of this area. The food chain needs the buffer zone. The animals need the dark of the night. They don’t need this illuminated, fenced off, barren industrial complex at the top of one of Multnomah County’s greatest treasures.

Please deny the Portland Water Bureau’s bid to build here. If I am the only voice for this forest than please hear me loud and clear. The impact on the wildlife of the final outcome of this WTF has not been considered. It has not been studied and catalogued by Multnomah County. I know the animals. The Diack’s, Reed College and the Nature Conservancy have the data too but in no official capacity does the County have a record of what lives here.

I can not name all the components of this ecosystem but from the smallest worm to the largest elk, I can tell you that the impact on the biota of this area by the completion of the proposed WTF has not been considered scientifically. The impact must be considered for the sake of the owls, the hawks, the eagles, the falcons, the mice, the voles, the chipmunks, the coyotes, the bobcat, the mountain lion, the black bear, the wolverine, the wolf (yes those two have probably come through this forest in the dark of the night) and especially the impact upon the elk, the deer, and the future generations of Oregonians who need to know the value of green spaces and transitions from wild to settled landscapes. One voice speaks out from the forests: Please deny the permit to the Portland Water Bureau!

Respectfully Submitted,

David Shapiro
36014 SE Lusted RD
Boring, OR 97009





LUP Hearings <lup-hearings@multco.us>

T3-2022-16220 Comments

1 message

David Shapiro <cascadiadave@gmail.com>

Tue, Apr 15, 2025 at 9:02 AM

To: "lup-hearings@multco.us" <lup-hearings@multco.us>



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To the Hearings Officer,

Attached you will find my comments on behalf of the forest against the permit for the PWB WTF.

Thank you

David Shapiro
36014 SE Lusted RD
Boring OR
97009



T3-2022-1622 Comments.pdf

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