



LUP Hearings <lup-hearings@multco.us>

testimony for the April 16, 2025, Remand Hearing.

1 message

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To: "LUP-Hearings@multco.us" <LUP-Hearings@multco.us>

Tue, Apr 15, 2025 at 1:14 PM

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Bill & Nicki Meyers
33045 SE Dodge Park Blvd
Gresham, OR 97080

re: North Fork of Beaver Creek

We submit this information to let the board know of the wildlife living along this small, year-round stream that is within 750 feet the construction areas.

The North Fork of Beaver Creek begins on the south side of Dodge Park Blvd. (DPB), just across from the temporary PWB road build along the proposed location for the pipeline route from DPB to Lusted Rd.

It crosses under DPB, entering a pipe which goes under the temporary PWB road, a few yards from where the road turns north to Lusted Rd. From that point, it flows NW beneath the Ekstrom property in a pipe to where it emerges from the pipe at the edge of the property at 33133 SE DPB. It flows west through our property to SE Altman and, of course, continues its journey to the Sandy River. Our property is adjacent-west to 33133.

Within the last two years, this creek, between the 33133 property and SE Altman has become the home to a second team of water engineers: beavers

The first photo, from Google, shows the distance from the proposed pipeline route to the beaver pond, about 700 feet.

The second photo is the east side of the pond at 33133, the last in a series of beaver habitats between SE Altman and the Ekstrom property.

The beaver is a keystone species, creating many environmental benefits. They are a semi-protected fur bearer, no longer considered a "nuisance". Any landowner wishing to remove one is subject to a permitting process with non-lethal mitigations as the first step.

Beaver ponds help filter chemicals from the stream. This is a problem we know well because contaminated stream water caused the death of one of our horses, a few years ago. Fortunately, East Multnomah County Soil and Water Conservation District helped us learn to manage our pastures and rehab the stream beds to protect and cool the water.

Beavers also help hold the water, creating environment for many native plants and recharging the water tables, another problem we know well. For the last two summer/fall seasons, our home water well went dry. It was a long wait and big expense to get a new well drilled.

Exhibit N.49

Our immediate area is home to many critters besides the beaver. This eco-system extends across farms and woodlands of the Cottrell-Pleasant Home area, including all the areas of PWB construction. Of course we have coyotes, rabbits, squirrels and the other critters the coyotes eat and control. Red tail hawks, kestrels and barn owls make homes here. Herons, vultures, quail, local and migrating ducks and geese, humming birds, crows, scrub jays, and all the usual suspects rounded up under the term American Songbirds, and in the new wetlands and ponds, crawfish, frogs, salamanders, snakes and lastly, insects, the poor devils who are the bottom of the food chain for all mentioned above.

We believe that the PWB's filtration plant and new pipeline activities are not at all compatible with the rural, natural environment of the Cottrell and Pleasant Home neighborhoods.

Thank you for taking time to understand this critical issue,

Bill and Nicki Meyers
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2 attachments



IMG_2744.jpeg
248K



IMG_2751.jpeg
405K



