

Character of the Area

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4. Please describe the “character of the area” of where you live, and what do you like about it?

We live on 21 acres of land, approximately 1,700 feet (.32 miles) directly north of the proposed water filtration plant on Carpenter Lane.

Our area possesses a character defined by its resplendent night sky and the rich tapestry of wildlife that thrives within its boundaries. Here, under the celestial canopy, the heavens reveal their grandeur, captivating our senses and evoking a profound sense of wonder.

When darkness descends, the brilliance of our night sky emerges, painting a celestial masterpiece above us. Far away from the luminous haze of urban life, our region boasts minimal light pollution, allowing the stars, planets, and galaxies to shine with unparalleled clarity.

This area teems with life, a testament to its ecological vitality. Amidst the forests and meadows, deer and elk gracefully roam, their majestic presence echoing the rhythms of nature. Bobcats, with their elusive nature, move silently through the underbrush, embodying the untamed spirit of the wild. Rabbits, swift and nimble, inhabit the fringes of woodlands, while coyotes, their haunting howls piercing the night, symbolize the resilience and adaptability of wilderness.

In the skies above, bald eagles soar majestically, their wings outstretched, embodying freedom and strength. They are guardians of our ecosystem, surveying their dominion with watchful eyes. Owls, wise and enigmatic, emerge from the shadows, their haunting calls echoing through the night, reminding us of the mysteries that lie hidden within the darkness.

Together, these diverse creatures compose the vibrant symphony of life, each playing a unique role in the intricate web of our ecosystem. They serve as a constant reminder of the delicate balance that nature meticulously maintains. The beauty of their existence nurtures our souls and connects us to the natural world, forging an unbreakable bond between humankind and the wilderness that surrounds us.

5. How would the proposed water filtration facility be inconsistent with what you described in #4?

As an enthusiastic member of our community, I believe it is of utmost importance to protect and preserve these invaluable assets for the benefit of current and future generations.

I'm concerned for the potential threats that loom over our natural treasures. Expanding infrastructure and indiscriminate development projects pose significant risks to the preservation of our area's natural beauty. Light pollution, for instance, can obscure the brilliance of the night sky, robbing us of the profound sense of wonder it evokes. Habitat loss and fragmentation also jeopardize the survival of our wildlife, disrupting their natural behaviors and impacting the delicate balance of our ecosystem.

We need to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy the same wonders and experiences that have captivated us and to preserve the treasures bestowed upon us by nature. By taking proactive steps to protect the night sky and the wildlife, we can maintain the unique character and pristine beauty of our area for generations to come.

Preserving this remarkable character is an imperative that transcends generations. It is our shared responsibility to safeguard the night sky, protecting it from the encroachment of light pollution, and to ensure that the habitats of our cherished wildlife remain intact. By embracing a mindset of conservation and stewardship, we can safeguard the essence of this area, allowing its magic to endure for the enrichment of all who dwell here and for the generations yet to come.

In the face of an ever-changing world, let us stand as guardians, united in our commitment to preserve the character of our area—a place where the magnificence of the night sky and the harmony of its wildlife intertwine, illuminating our lives with awe and reminding us of the profound beauty that nature bestows upon us.

Photos taken at 7428 SE Cottrell Rd, Gresham, OR 97080:



Deer - July 16, 2016



Bobcat - April 29, 2021



Elk - July 19, 2021



Deer - December 19, 2019

