

March 6, 2020

RE: 217-20-000116-PLNG

Cooper Application for Personal Use Airport

Planning Commission,



Crook County  
MAR 09 2020  
Community Development

I just want to address the issues brought up by Mr. Irwin- see Exhibit 2.

I am glad Mr. Irwin agrees with us that the Paulina Hwy is in bad shape. Airplanes will not be taking off to the East over Hwy 380. This airstrip is a one way in and one way out as noted and approved by Airport Operations Specialist, Don Hankwitz (see page 2 of his Site Investigation Report.)

Cattle ranchers oftentimes take advantage of small aircraft for counting and locating cattle. There are over 12 cattle ranches with private personal use airstrips in Crook Co. and the surrounding area. These small airstrips are a benefit to cattle ranchers. I have listed a few of these cattle ranches below:

Blue Mountain	Sunrise Valley	GI	Busted Pit
Silver Springs	Shaniko Cattle Co.	Ochs	High Country
Antone	Pine Ridge	Big Muddy	Wagontire

Application #217-18-000142-PLNG was approved for a conditional use airstrip. It is similar in nature to ours as the land around it is used for seasonal grazing. The airspace above our property is a direct path from the East to the Prineville Airport. In addition we have student pilots in the area. Mr. Irwin noted several different dates and times but without a tail number it is impossible to identify who it might be.

This airstrip IS NOT visible from Mr. Irwin's house or Hwy 380. There will be no change in land owner practices (cattle grazing) or traffic on Hwy 380. Mr. Irwin's house is approximately 5400 feet (over a mile) from the west end of the airstrip and over a rise in topography. Mr. Morgan's house is approximately 4400 feet from the west end and over the rise. The rock pit crushers and dump trucks with jake brakes make a continuous noise all day long. Mr. Hankwitz has taken these residential properties into consideration and has determined (on page 3 of his report) that there are NO noise considerations. The FAA has determined that this proposed airstrip does not pose a threat to airspace, persons, or property. See maps which indicate distances from Hwy 380 and residences.

The airstrip will be grass. Joan Smith from the Oregon Water Resources Department said we could use up to 5000 gallons of water a day from our well for dust control if needed. There is an area near Mr. Morgan's property that is used for motorcycles and 4 wheelers. This activity generates a huge amount of dust. In addition, the rock pit generates a huge amount of dust. Our property is within the boundaries of city fire department services.

We have been clearing juniper trees from our property for the past two years. Both ODFW and the fire department have been appreciative of these efforts. This clearing is not just in the airstrip path. The berm was placed there for privacy due to neighbors creeping around taking pictures. When we moved here in March of 2018 there were no deer or elk on our property for over a year. There appeared to be a lot of poaching going on. We discovered hundreds of bones. Some with fresh meat still on. Finally in the winter of 2019 the herds began to reappear. It is our opinion that the neighbors simply don't want to be seen by airplanes overhead.



# Untitled Map

Write a description for your map.

- Legend**
-  Path Measure
  -  Tailwheel

*Morgan*

*Twin*

*4404*

*5351*

*380*

*Highway*  
*Cooper*  
*2100*

*072*





# Untitled Map

Write a description for your map.

## Legend

-  Path Measure
-  Tailwheeler

