



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife

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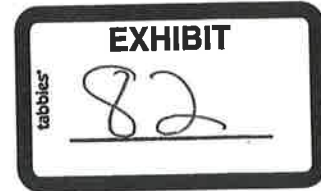
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JUL 26 2022

Crook County
Community Development

July 26, 2022

Crook County Planning Department
300 NE 3rd Street, Room 12
Prineville, OR 97754



RE: 217-22-000082 – PLNG - Crossing Trails Resort Modification Application

Dear Crook County Planning Department:

The purpose of this letter is to provide formal comments on the Crossing Trails Resort Modification Application. ODFW has not been contacted by the Applicant to coordinate and address if there are any substantive changes to the Resort plan that may make it necessary to adjust and modify the *Draft Crossing Trails Resort Wildlife Mitigation Plan (July 31, 2008)*.

The Draft plan identified impacts of the proposed development using a Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP), which also was used by Powell Butte Resort in 2004, Remington Ranch Resort in 2007 and Thornburgh Resort in 2008.

The question ODFW would have for the Applicant is whether the proposed modification with the elimination of the golf course, and modification of the siting and types of housing units will significantly impact the original calculation of the original HEP. ODFW recommends since this proposal is a substantial modification, these calculations be completed again to account for the modification.

Condition #22 from the original approval included a formula and language that speaks to both on-site and off-site mitigation measures. From the *Draft Crossing Trails Resort Wildlife Mitigation Plan (July 31, 2008)*, page 15, the Applicant proposes a formula to satisfy the off-site mitigation requirement. The language states;

To cover a portion of CTR's mitigation obligation, CTR propose to use a permanent donation of 20 acre-feet of Central Oregon Irrigation District water rights to be used to enhance fish habitat through increased in-stream flows in the Crooked River system. The current value of this donation is estimated at \$40,000 (\$2,000/acre) which would reduce CTR's finance obligation for mitigation to \$110,000.

Is this water right still available and how will it be recorded to assure that it meets the mitigation measure? If the water right is not available, then the financial contribution identified in Condition 22 needs to be updated.

ODFW would recommend the third party in condition 22 be identified as Crook County Soil and Water Conservation District (Crook SWCD). Crook County and the Crook SWCD have a MOU in place to assure money taken in for mitigation purposes be held and spent on projects benefiting fish and wildlife.

Finally in addition to the Waiver of Remonstrance addressing wildlife damage concerns at the destination resort, ODFW would like to recommend a "wildlife feeding ban" at the site. This feeding ban may be specific to ungulates (mule deer) and not include songbirds. This will prevent the un-natural concentration of ungulates and predators that target those ungulates from the destination resort.

ODFW appreciates the ability to comment and recommend how the Applicant can prevent significant adverse impacts to fish and wildlife habitat from the development of the resort.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Greg Jackle".

Greg Jackle
District Wildlife Biologist
Prineville Field Office