

Rusty Bar Ranch

Chelsea Morris
Washington Department of Ecology
PO Box 47696,
Olympia WA 98504-7696

Dear Chelsea,

I oppose the CAFO rules as drafted and concur with the comments of Okanogan, Thurston and Yakima County Farm Bureaus.

We need to work with those who raise livestock on a small scale providing locally sourced food. Applying CAFO standards to small operations, will be devastating to local food production and our overall food security.

My husband and I own a horse boarding, training and lesson facility. We compost our manure in bins, and have been very responsible about managing waste to keep it from leaching into the ground water. This will affect each horse owner. Feed, veterinary, shoeing, and hay prices have already increased. Our insurance and property taxes have increased and this fee, if it passes, may be the end of us, and our boarders, and have a huge impact to the pleasure horse industry.

Ecology must recognize the work of the Voluntary Stewardship Program and local conservation districts. Instead of regulating, Ecology needs to encourage participation in these voluntary programs, proven to protect water quality.

I realize it is very easy to go after the tax payer, because we are responsible, contributing members of society. So, I am going to step away from the livestock issue and address the homeless issue. The homeless, most of whom choose to live on the streets for a variety of reasons, drop their bodily functions anywhere they choose. When provided Sani-cans, they vandalize them, instead of using them because they can. Our parks are full of used heroin, and who knows what drug of the month, needles. Recently, on the news, two homeless people at different camps in Seattle, were interviewed and asked what it would take to get them off the streets. Each one answered, a house and \$1500 per month. Well, who would not like that perk? The homeless problem has turned into a multi-million dollar bonus for the people who are benefitting being on committees to address the problem, but no one in government is doing anything about it for fear of becoming unpopular with the bleeding hearts who don't want to take them into their homes, but feel they should have more rights than the rest of us, who get to pay for them in armed robberies, etc. So, until the DOE goes after their filth, which is a MUCH bigger health hazard than where a cow or a horse poops, I am going to fight you every step of the way. This is just another money grab from the pockets of

responsible tax payers.

Sincerely,

Kathy Richardson

August 15, 2022