

COMMISSIONERS:
Alan Eades
Kevin Fuhrer
Brad Lake
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GENERAL MANAGER:
Thomas Keown, P.E.



October 15, 2025

Cleo Neculae
Washington Department of Ecology
Water Quality Program
P.O. Box 330316
Shoreline, WA 98133

RECEIVED

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DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Re: Covington Water District's Comment Letter Relating to the Draft Soos Creek Water Quality Improvement Report and Implementation Plan

Dear Ms. Neculae,

I am writing on behalf of Covington Water District. The District appreciates the opportunity to provide comment on the Department of Ecology's draft Soos Creek Water Quality Improvement Report and Implementation Plan ("Plan"). The Plan describes numerous proposed actions to address fine sediment resulting from human activities which is having a negative impact on water quality in Soos Creek. The District fully supports the draft Plan as a reasonable effort to improve water quality and restore stream health in Soos Creek.

For the past couple of years, the District has been engaged in discussions with some Lake Sawyer residents regarding claims that the District's permitted use of its 222nd Street wellfield was drawing Lake Sawyer water levels down in the late summer months and impacting the residents' use of the lake. The District has previously offered to work with the Lake Sawyer residents and participate in a regional assessment of land use, climate change and other factors in the watershed with the goal of identifying potential actions and funding sources to achieve water supply and water quality resiliency. Ecology's development and implementation of the Plan is consistent with the District's view that a broad regional assessment of both water supply and water quality issues would be beneficial to addressing a number of environmental challenges. While the District's use of its 222nd Street wellfield is consistent with its existing water rights which are in good standing, the District is supportive of Ecology's efforts described in the Plan to ensure clean water is available for the local community today and for generations to come.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the draft Plan.

Sincerely,

Thomas Keown, P.E.
General Manager

CC: Board of Commissioners