

Darcey Peterson

Hello, I am very concerned about the increased water temperature in the streams. Especially as it relates to Covington Creek, which originates from Lake Sawyer. Lake Sawyer stops feeding this creek about July 1st, when the water no longer flows over the weir. My neighbors and I have long been concerned that water pumping from the Covington Water District's well field, adjacent to the lake, is the primary reason the in-stream flow to Covington Creek stops in early July of every year. Covington is currently only pumping 1/2 of their total Water Rights. They have plans to pump the entire Water Right by 2029 and additional commitments to provide water to the remainder of the Ten Trails development, as well as the new LakePointe development in Covington, Washington. The average water temperature in the lake is over 70 degrees and reaches 80 degrees by the end of summer. Covington claims that their well field is not hydraulically connected, but it is only 500 ft east of the lake, and the intake is at the same exact level as the bottom of the lake. I would be happy to provide data. There is a current plan in place to replace the Culvert between Lake Sawyer and Covington Creek, at a cost of many millions of dollars. Why are we spending money on a fish culvert project when the fish culvert is dry for most of the summer and early fall? We cannot address these water quality issues without taking a serious look at the Covington Water District's impact on Lake Sawyer. I am attaching pictures of how dry Lake Sawyer got this summer.





