

## Grifan Cayce

The stated goal of the CWA is "to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters." I appreciate this work, and urge that for any systemic change to be effective on Soos Creek, the DOE \*must\* examine the significantly altered water levels in Lake Sawyer. Lake Sawyer is fed by spring, along with the waters of Ravensdale & Rock Creeks. The Lake spills over it's weir and feeds into Covington Creek, and eventually Big Soos Creek.

At this time Covington Creek is DRY. Bone dry at the weir and beyond. The Lake levels are at a record low. Why? Because Covington Water District is pulling water from their 222nd Street Wells to sell waters to WD #111 via a 2015 Intertie. Robust data supports the belief that the aquifer the 222nd street wells are pulling from is hydrologically connected to Lake Sawyer.

The lack of water flowing over the weir of Lake Sawyer is reducing the instream flow of Covington and Soos Creek. Because the water has been reaching unprecedented lows -- lows that are NOT consistent with other area lakes -- the lake is taking longer to fill up, which means it takes months longer to flow over the weir, therefore impacting the instream flow of Covington and Soos Creeks.

The groundwater use of the 222nd Street Wells is grossly impacting the Surface Water and lake levels of Lake Sawyer consequently impacting the downstream water levels. Low water levels impact TMDL.