

# Julie Carpenter

Rulemaking Lead Sawabini,

I'm a "tree hugger" and lifelong student of human ecology as well as someone who has worked on my grandparent's small family farm. I'm also a 23 year experienced Realtor licensed in WA and I represent rural property owners.

Please continue to revise the newly proposed Nooksack River watershed permit-exempt well rule. The proposed rule unreasonably and unfairly restricts both indoor and outdoor water use by rural households. The restriction on outdoor water to an area less than that authorized by statute isn't good regulation.

Typical rural households using permit-exempt wells have one to twenty acres under some level of cultivation, from kitchen gardens to pastures. Many rural property owners maintain a subsistence lifestyle including watering some marketable crops, and they may have a small number or herds of livestock to water, but they are not sufficiently large, capitalized or competitive to be regulated as commercial operations.

It is important (and Constitutional) to permit self reliance and further, it's important to legislate and regulate to support development of sustainable small farms in WA.

At this strange time when multinational corporations and foreign investors have been permitted nationally to monopolize food & water production for corporate profit, the Washington State DOE must protect not only our physical ecology, you must also include workable protection for productive use of appropriate lands for local human ecology. This requires permitting sufficient rural exempt well water use to maintain crops and livestock, as well as sometimes multiple households.

The regulations as currently presented fall short of this reasonable requirement. Please present further revisions that include consideration for human ecology and support, not extinction, of small farms & sustainable local self-sufficiency. Julie Carpenter