

**From:** [BOYLE Phil \\* PUC](#)  
**To:** [YAMADA Stephanie \\* PUC](#)  
**Cc:** [TOEWS Kimberly \\* PUC](#); [MENZA Candice \\* PUC](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition of Proposed Caldera Springs Expansion  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 7:21:06 AM

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A public comment in WA 83.

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**From:** Blake Chandler <blakebchandler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021 7:00 PM  
**To:** [planning@deschutes.org](mailto:planning@deschutes.org)  
**Cc:** PUC CONSUMER PUC \* PUC <[puc.consumer@puc.oregon.gov](mailto:puc.consumer@puc.oregon.gov)>; HENDERSON Sarah A \* WRD <[Sarah.A.Henderson@oregon.gov](mailto:Sarah.A.Henderson@oregon.gov)>  
**Subject:** Opposition of Proposed Caldera Springs Expansion

Deschutes County Planning Commission,

I'm an Oregon resident in 8th grade, and a Sunriver property owner. I am writing in Opposition of the Proposed Caldera Springs Expansion. I believe that the proposed expansion of Caldera Springs, to add 415 homes, should not be approved for the following reasons: 1) it will cause too much traffic; 2) take too much water; 3) have a negative impact on wildlife. I strongly believe that my generation should not have to suffer the consequences of unsustainable development such as what is contemplated in the proposed expansion.

There are already too many people in Central Oregon. For example, the population of Bend has exploded over the last 20 years, doubling from roughly 50,000 in 2000 to over 100,000 in 2021! The roads outside of Sunriver are very crowded most of the year and it results in a loss of quality of life. It feels awful to get stuck in traffic when I'm driving to Bend. South Century Drive to Mt. Bachelor is so full of cars in the winter that you run into traffic right outside of Sunriver. The trails in the summer are not enjoyable to use because you don't feel like you're in nature when the trail you're on is stuffed with other people. Our family tried to go camping this summer and we couldn't, because all the campsites in every campground we looked at were full. You had to reserve a campsite months in advance to go camping! There are already so many people in Central Oregon, we don't need to add any more.

In addition, all of the people in Central Oregon already take a toll on its natural resources. There already isn't enough water in the Upper Deschutes River Basin for fish and other wildlife, so we shouldn't pull out any more water, regardless of what is allowed under existing permits. The Deschutes River has three endangered species: the spotted frog, bull trout, and steelhead. These animals depend on sufficient water all year long to survive, and their populations are in decline because of humans. I would rather see the water go to native species of aquatic wildlife that depend on it to live, instead of more new homes.

Lastly, turning 393 acres of land into residential area will negatively effect wildlife. Several animal populations in Central Oregon are on the decline for multiple reasons, most of which are caused by human population growth, resulting in increased traffic, more fences and more recreation in the backcountry. Take the mule deer for example. The mule deer population near Metolius, merely 50 miles from Sunriver, has decreased nearly 40% in 3 years! More people means more fences, more traffic, and more recreation. These things will negatively impact ALL the animals in the area, including the mule deer.

In conclusion, hundreds more houses means thousands more people in Central Oregon - thousands more people crowding the roads, campsites, and trails, and thousands more people hurting wildlife simply by disturbing it. At a minimum if the the Caldera Springs plan moves forward, they need to ensure that existing permit holders offset the use of water, through a permanent reduction of existing uses. This plan would bring more people to Central Oregon, when it already feels like there are just too many people.

Sincerely,

Blake Chandler