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Sent: Friday, May 06, 2016 1:22 PM

To: Mike Kaputa <Mike.Kaputa@CO.CHELAN.WA.US>

Subject: Uphold the water rights of Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District

Chelan County Natural Resources Department
Attention: Mike Kaputa, Director

cc: Alpine Lakes Protection Society, El Sendero, Wilderness Watch.

My name is Robert Mullins. I am a resident and property owner in Leavenworth, WA. I have resided in Leavenworth and Chelan County since 1980.

This email is to comment in re the SEPA and any other consideration involving the rights of Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District water rights and resultant uses in the areas overlaid by Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

I support, actually I demand, that Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District will fully and completely use its water rights including any related construction, transportation, use of aircraft, use of power equipment, use of all legitimate activity, equipment, and construction related to full implementation of Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District water rights and resultant uses in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness as existed before the creation of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. These rights pre-exist- by many decades (!) - and are more important than the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and any uses of any visitors to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

Of interest, I have worked in advocacy in protection of Wilderness with those organizations copied above. I am a user of Wilderness. In advocacy, along with the above mentioned, in the cause of Wilderness Protection. Specifically in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, we have vigorously implored the protection of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness according to the 1964 Wilderness Act.

According to Law, per the 1964 Wilderness Act, the water rights of Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District and all related equipment and activity are established. These organizations opposing complete and full implementation of the water rights of icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District are making demands contrary to Law, specifically contrary to the 1964 Wilderness Act.

I have hiked, camped, fished, skied, climbed throughout the lakes and areas surrounding the reservoir high lakes of the Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District. I understand the water rights, my family and I are dependent on that water. I will point out that the negative impacts to be defined correctly are from the Wilderness tourists that enter the area or advocates who attempt to reduce or diminish the water rights of Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District and all related equipment and activity. In other words. users of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness have been allowed to travel into the areas of the water rights of Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District, Wilderness is an overlay of pre-existing water rights. Numerous examples exist of watersheds being closed to public entry in order to protect the resource.

I would invite the Wilderness users and advocates offended by this more important lawful water right to please stay near their own home and do not enter the area of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness that was overlaid on the the water rights of Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District. If there is any conflict, the pre-existing entity, the water rights of Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District and all related equipment and activity , must be protected, and therefore any unauthorized visitors to these areas must be prohibited from entry.

Sincerely,

Robert Mullins
234 Mine St.
Leavenworth, WA