



## DUNCANSON

*Company, Inc.*

June 19, 2009

DCI 00731.031

Jeff Watson  
Planner I  
Kittitas County CDS  
411 N Ruby Street, Suite 2  
Ellensburg, WA 98962

RE: Clint SP-08-00054 Wetland

Dear Mr. Watson,

We have addressed Philip Rigdon's memorandum, dated January 22, 2009, regarding the critical area issues for the Clint Short Plat, file #SP 08-00054. It had been stated that The National Wetlands Inventory indicates a palustrine emergent seasonally flooded wetland exists on site.

An on-site field investigation conducted on May 14, 2009, revealed wetland conditions present in the same general area as The National Wetland Inventory Map. The area in question lies east and parallels Reecer Creek, and is presently used for grazing. Six sample plots were performed in a transect across the site under dry unsaturated conditions with the flood irrigation system not in use. It was found that the wetland is in a flow-through area independent of Reecer Creek, where the water flows from a north to south direction. It was found that the water source for this wetland is influenced from a flood irrigation system. An irrigation ditch along the easterly side of the site, paralleling the southwest edge of the KRD Lateral, intentionally releases water onto the site causing the wetland characteristics to exist. The creek is approximately 2-5 feet lower than the adjacent grades and the wetland area is situated in a separate depressional area from the creek. Due to the existing topography on site it appears Reecer Creek does not influence the hydrology of this wetland, except under the possibility of an extreme flood event and would not inundate the site long enough to cause hydric soils and support vegetation adapted to saturated soils.

The irrigation water running through the site has caused wetland characteristics to develop. The subject area hydrology and soils are directly related to the irrigation system. The wet areas exhibit wetland hydrology, soils, and vegetation but due to the fact that the wetland was artificially created as a result of the utilization of irrigation systems it cannot be classified as a wetland according to KCC 17A.02.310.

Please call if you have any questions, 206-244-4141.

Sincerely,

Christopher D'Orazio  
Wetland Ecologist