# Commissioners (Petersen's appeal)

On January 24th Gene and I are scheduled to speak before you for some 25 homeowners to appeal the decision of the planning commission, to allow a subdivision consisting of 8 four bedroom homes all on wells and septics on Tide Creek Rd. owned by Aggnes Petersen. The subdivisions wells are downhill and a few hundred feet from our wells that we collectively have spent hundreds of thousands on our wells, storage tanks, redrills, etc. trying to keep up with our dwindling water supply, also there are health and safety issues that have been ignored.

The Petersen's have had about four years to put together their application using the county rules and using and ignoring 37/49 rules.

We on the other hand are given three minutes to object to this subdivision. The planning committee as stated they must vote for the applicant regardless of our objections, as long as the applicant has satisfied the county requirements, which she has.

Does this mandatory vote also include the county commissioners? If it does, there is no point in us taking up your time and ours to present our case before you.

The claimant's property consists of 69.09 acres. Therefore, state land use regulations prohibit the claimant from establishing on the Measure 37 claim property the three home sites the claimant may qualify for under Section 6 of Measure 49.

# 6. The Establishment of the Lot, Parcel or Dwelling Is Not Prohibited by a Land Use Regulation Described in ORS 195.305(3)

ORS 195.305(3) exempts from claims under Measure 49 land use regulations:

(a) Restricting or prohibiting activities commonly and historically recognized as public nuisances under common law;

(b) Restricting or prohibiting activities for the protection of public health and safety;

(c) To the extent the land use regulation is required to comply with federal law; or(d) Restricting or prohibiting the use of a property for the purpose of selling pornography or performing nude dancing.

#### **Findings of Fact and Conclusions**

Based on the documentation submitted by the claimants, it does not appear that the establishment of the three home sites for which the claimant may qualify on the property is prohibited by land use regulations described in ORS 195.305(3).

# 7. On the Claimant's Acquisition Date, the Claimant Lawfully Was Permitted to Establish at Least the Number of Lots, Parcels or Dwellings on the Property That Are Authorized Under Section 6 of Measure 49

A claimant's acquisition date is "the date the claimant became the owner of the property as shown in the deed records of the county in which the property is located. If there is more than one claimant for the same property under the same claim and the claimants have different acquisition dates, the acquisition date is the earliest of those dates."

#### **Findings of Fact and Conclusions**

Columbia County deed records indicate that claimant Agnes Petersen acquired the property on July 18, 2006, when Agnes Jane Thompson passed away.<sup>2</sup>

On July 18, 2006, the Measure 37 claim property was subject to Columbia County's acknowledged Forestry Agriculture (FA-19) zone. Columbia County's FA-19 zone required 80 acres for the creation of a new lot or parcel on which a dwelling could be established.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In their Measure 37 claim, the claimants asserted an acquisition date of December 30, 1966, for the Measure 37 claim property. The claimants recorded a deed signed by Agnes Thompson, dated December of 1966, and recorded on October 2, 2006. This deed is invalid because it was not notarized as required by ORS 93.010 and ORS 93.410. Additionally, the Estate of Agnes Jane Thompson indicates that the Measure 37 claim property was an asset of the Estate of Agnes Jane Thompson. The Order Approving Final Account and Judgment of the Final Distribution (the Estate) dated October 11, 2007 distributed the property from the Estate to claimant Agnes Petersen.

THIS YEAR

438,300

438,300

155,040

155,040

2,063.85

ACCOUNT NO: 16381

CODE: 0209 MAP: 6N2W25-00-00401 ACRES: 69.06 SITUS: 33541 TIDE CREEK RD ST HELENS 16381 - 4 - 003529 - 200193 PETERSEN JOHN ALLAN & AGNES MARIE VANNATTA AND PETERSEN

ST HELENS OR 97051

**PO BOX 748** 

VALUES

LAND

**REAL MARKET** 

STRUCTURES TOTAL RMV

**EXEMPTIONS NET TAXABLE:** 

**PROPERTY DESCRIPTION** 

NW REGIONAL ESD	23.32
ST HELENS 502 SCHOOL PORTLAND COMM COLLEGE	779.80
EDUCATION TOTAL:	846.97
COLUMBIA COUNTY	210.95
COLUMBIA 4H & EXTENSION	8.67
COL 9-1-1 COMM DISTR	82.66
COLUMBIA VECTOR	19.32
GTR ST HELENS PK & REC	36.39
COLUMBIA HEALTH (2)	58.92
RAINIER CEMETERY	9.88
PORT OF ST HELENS	13.38
COLUMBIA SWCD	0.00
COLUMBIA RIVER FIRE	426.64
COLCO DEV AGENCY	10.54
GENERAL GOVT TOTAL:	877.35
COLUMBIA COUNTY	47.52
ST HELENS 502 SCHOOL	193.20
PORTLAND COMM COLLEGE	31.95
FIRE PATROL	28.80
FIRE PATROL SURCHARGE	38.00
BONDS - OTHER TOTAL:	339.53

POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL TAX LIABILITY

TOTAL ASSESSED VALUE

TOTAL PROPERTY TAX:

If a mortgage company pays your taxes, This statement is for your records only. Debit/credit card payments accepted at 1-877-246-3058 www.officialpayments.com

VALUATION (503) 397-2240

Questions:

LAST YEAR

225,310

225,310

150,540

150,540

2,111.70

TAX PAYMENT (503) 397-0060

2006 - 2007 TAX (Before Discount) 2,063.85

PAYMENT OPTIONS							
<b>3% Option</b>	2% Option	<b>Trimester Option</b>					
2,001.93	1,348.38	687.95					
		687.95					
	687.95	687.95					
2,001.93	2,036.33	2,063.85					
	3% Option 2,001.93	3% Option 2% Option   2,001.93 1,348.38   687.95					

#### TOTAL DUE (After Discount and Pre-payments)

2,001.93

↑ Tear Here	Р	LEASE RETURN TH	IS PORTION WIT	TH YOUR PAYM	ENT		Tear Here 👌
2006 - 2007 PROPERTY	TAXES	COLUN	IBIA COUNTY	REAL		ACCOUNT	NO. 16381
PAYMENT OPTIONS Full Payment Enclosed	Discount 3%	Date Due	<b>Amount</b> 2,001.93	Date Due	Amount	Date Due 05/15/07	Amount
or 2/3 Payment Enclosed	2%	11/15/06	1,348.38			05/15/07	687.95
or 1/3 Payment Enclosed	0%	11/15/06	687.95	02/15/07	687.95	05/15/07	687.95
			( UNI	PAID DELINQUE	ENT TAX INCLUDED	) IN PAYMENT)	

#### **DISCOUNT IS LOST & INTEREST APPLIES AFTER DUE DATE**

Mailing address change on back

Enter Payment Amount

\$

**16381 - 4 - 003529 - 200193** PETERSEN JOHN ALLAN & AGNES MARIE VANNATTA AND PETERSEN PO BOX 748 ST HELENS OR 97051 MAKE PAYMENT TO:

COLUMBIA COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

230 STRAND STREET ST. HELENS, OR 97051

#### 05100000163810000068795000013483800002001936

Our main concern is the diminishing water in the aquifer that feeds the homes in this area. The well logs, taken on the drill date, have proved totally worthless to gauge future water. Nearly all the homes here that started with drill logs that were over 10 gpm to 35 gpm are now struggling to survive due to low water, many have been redrilled or reworked and are still struggling, some cannot redrill and most are on storage tanks due to low water. My water volume is .4 gpm. Many of the trees in our area are dying due to our declining water table. See photos.

The 37/49 rule on contiguous property has been continually ignored. This rule went into effect on 11/30/2006, the day the Petersen's signed their 37/49 claim. Both lot 401 and lot 400 were in their names as of 10/2/2006 when lot 401 was deeded back from Jane Thompson. Even though lot 401 is a FA80 property and was divided up in 2020 this does not change the fact that Petersen's owned lot 401 with an occupied dwelling contiguous to lot 400, limiting the homes on lot 400 to two homes not 8. Deeds included.

The DLCD stated they relied on information from Columbia County and the applicant, "no contiguous property was noted so no contiguous property was stated". Even so the applicant must abide by the 37/49 rules as stated in their application, DLCD rules "Home Site Authorization", pg. 5 of 8: #4. "Lots are reduced regardless of whether evidence of their existence has been provided to our department". Being that the home sites on lot 400 have been reduced from 3 to 2, clustering should not be permitted.

We do know our well rights, being that it is very probable that the diminishing aquifer that feeds our homes will also feed the eight 4 bedroom homes on the subdivision and if this additional water draw adversity affects our wells the state would require the junior, or newer wells, would have to be shut off. With all the water information available and also given this would be a terrible (but too late) situation. Somebody would be held responsible and no doubt a huge lawsuit would be the result.

The deed that the Petersen's used to show ownership of lot 400 in their application is the deed used to sell lot 401 to Jane I hompson from the Petersen's. WHY??

Tide Creek Rd. is a disaster in progress, then add the thousands of extra trips per year, (approximately 12 - 18,000 per year for eight four bedroom homes), and even before that, there is the construction for the road, then for the lots, drainage preps, the lots, drain fields, wells, homes, ect., ect.

Page 18 of 22 states they are complying to road standards serving no more than six lots, the plot map shows 8 homes, there is a statement that two homes will have separate access to Tide Creek Rd., this is not shown on the plot map, though they do show both drain fields are partly under the road.

With about 80 feet of fall from Tide Creek Rd. to the turn around, with this amount of slope to the lots we see this as a wash out in waiting. The location of the last two homes on the west and the one at the end, this area turns into a swamp in most winters, how well does a septic system work under water? There is a 150 foot of fall to the fish stream, there are 2 wells there and how many more wells between here and the Columia river, 2 miles away where it comes out that could be in danger of contamination.

We also have a concern on the height of these homes, unlike nearly all the homes on Tide Creek Rd. which have a viewable frontage setback, and the close proximity to adjoining properties these homes should not exceed 24" in height, even this would be a view blocker from three sides.

Since this property is not within the service district of an existing community water system, the authorized dwellings on all Lots will be served by private wells. This was stated in the previous application, this seems to be omitted in this application to lessen the expense of the builder. Shared wells are always a huge problem and a constant headache for the new owners <u>forever</u>, both water quantity and quality should be a guarantee before any purchase.

### List of home owners signed on to having us and/or our selected representative represent them. We have more signatures to collect. List includes Frank and Gene

We the following are on the list opposed to the Lupine Meadow Subdivision. We each are giving our permission for Gene Hester, Frank Hall, or their representative to speak on our behalf at any meeting against said subdivision:

Frank Vall 33268 Tide Creek Rd. Anice Hal Thister 32829 Tide Creek Rd DEER ISland, OR 97054 Christie E ISRAEL REA 32830 TIDE CREEK RD DEER ISLUD, OR 97054 EMMA KIRCHHOFF 33562 Tide Creek Rd Deer Island OR DR GTORN ANDREW AHRNEBRAK Wisens 33220 Tide Creek Rd. Deer Island DR Patter 970514 Whit Harson mcfarland 33300 Tide CK Rd Deer Island, OR 97054 Mine fin Land 33386 Tile Ch Reat 33318 Fide Cle Ra DE 97054 Where qui agt fast likeale othe

WARRANTY DEED

8004 159 PART 790

NORMAN MONTGOMERY and DOROTHY JEAN MONTGOMERY, husband and wife,

herein referred to as grantors, hereby grants, bargains, sells and conveys unto

JOHN ALLEN PETERSEN and AGNES MARIE PETERSEN, husband and wife, herein referred to as grantee, the following described real property, with tenements, hereitaments and appurtenances, to wit:

> The Northeast quarter of the Southwest quarter and the Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter of Section 25, and that part of the North half of the Southeast quarter of the Southwest quarter, and that part of the Southwest quarter of the Southeast quarter of Section 25, described as follows:

Beginning at a point 357 feet East of the South quarter section corner; thence North 12°24' East 35.3 feet; thence North 7°05' West 39 feet; thence North 33°49' West 51.6 feet; thence North 32°34' West 76.3 feet; thence North 12°10' West 137.2 feet; thence North 6°15' West 264.6 feet; thence North 32°49' West 367.7 feet; thence North 72°22' West 1430 feet to a point on the West line of the North half of the Southeast quarter of the Southwest quarter; thence North to the Northwest corner thereof; thence East to the Northeast corner of the Southeast quarter of the Southeast quarter; thence South to the Southeast corner of said Southwest quarter of the Southeast quarter; thence West to the point of beginning, all in Township 6 North, Range 2 West of the Willamette Meridian, Columbia County, Oregon.

SUBJECT TO:

Deed # 1 A

Montgomery

Sells Property

Petersous

t 401+400

Oct. 1965

Real Property taxes from October 1, 1965. Rights of the Public in roads and Highways. Easement recorded in Book 68, Page 131, Deed Records, Columbia County, Oregon. Easement recorded in Book 93, Page 376, Deed Records. Easement contained in Book 137, Page 452, Deed Records, Columbia County, Oregon.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said premises unto said Grantee, his heirs and assigns forever. And the said Grantor hereby covenants that he is lawfully spized in fee simple of said premises; that they are free from all incumbrances, except

> Real Property taxes from October1,1965. Rights of the Public in roads and Highways. Easement recorded in Book 68, Page 131, Deed Records, Columbia County,Oregon. Easement recorded in Book 93, Page 376, Deed Records. Easement contained in Book 137, Page 452, Deed Records, Columnia County,Oregon.

and that they will warrant and defend the above granted premises against all

lawful claims whatsoever, except as above stated.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 1965.

Horning Montgomeny

STATE OF OREGON ) ) ss. County of Columbia)

October 6 , 1965.

Personally appeared the above named NORMAN MONTGOMERY and DOROTHY JEAN MONTGOMERY, husband and wife, and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be their voluntary act and deed.

Before me:



1

5125

Motary Public for Oregon My Commission Expires 10-4-68

3.00 File

1004 159 PAG 791



LEORDED ON FILLO S. ULT & 4 40 PN 85 159 PAGE 28 A MILLSON CO CLA BI JJ Rhune DER

Deed#1B Montgomert Selig Property To John and Agnes Petersin October 1965

#### 163 00 802

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, John A. Petersen and Agnes Marie Petersen, husband and wife-----

in consideration of TEN DOLLARS and other valuable consideration

Dalhas.

3

to us paid by Agnes Jane Thompson, a single person -----

do hereby grant, bargain, sell and convey unto said Agnes Jane Thompson, her

heirs and assigns, all the following real property, with the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances situated in the County of Columbia and State of Oregon, bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

> The Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter of Section 25, and that part of the Southwest quarter of the Southeast quarter of Section 25, described as follows:

Beginning at a point 357 feet East of the South quarter section corner; thence North 12°24' East 35.3 feet; thence North 7°05' West 39 feet; thence North 33°49' West 51.6 feet; thence North 32°34' West 76.3 feet; thence North 12°10' West 137.2 feet; thence North 5°16' West 264.6 feet; thence North 32°49' West 367.7 feet; thence North 72°22' West 1430 feet to a point on the West line of the North half of the Southeast quarter of the Southwest quarter; thence North to the Northwest corner thereof; thence East to the Northeast corner of the Southwest quarter of the Southeast quarter; thence South to the Southwest corner thereof; said Southwest quarter of the Southeast quarter; thence West to the point of beginning, all in Township 6 North, Range 2 West of the Willamette Meridian, Columbia County, Oregon.

Deed # 2 A John and Agnes Peterson Sell property To Jane Thompson Dacember 1966 Lot 401

To Have and to Hold, the above described and granted premises unto the said Agnes Jane Thompson a single person, her

heirs and assigns forever.

And we, John Allan Peterson and Agnes Marie Peterson

the grantor

above named do covenant to and with the above named grantee , her heirs and assigns that we are lawfully seized in fee simple of the above granted premises, that the above granted premises are free from all encumbrances,

and that we will and our heirs, executors and administrators, shall warrant and lorever defend the above granted premises, and every part and parcel thereof, against the lawlul claims and demands of all persons whomseever, save as above set for th.

Witness

hands and seals this

29 day of December , 19 66. . (SEAL) LAL (SEAL) (SEAL)

(SEAL)

WARRANTY DEED STATE (POEM No. 108) STEVENS-NEES LAW PUB. 60., PONTLAND, ORE. 20 OREGO Ohy ano Vecember 1 ee o STATE OF OREGON. 9 County of ronerty I certify that the within instruhompson Ŧ ment was received for record on the day of 19 , at o'clock M., and recorded in book Santa 00 6 1966 page , Record of Deeds of said County.  $\mathcal{D}$ Witness my hand and seal of G County affized. reterson BOOM County Clerk-Recorder 163 Deputy. 126.803 HEN REGORDED RETUR Box 1 254 Station A St. Helens Oregor hent attixec

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That I, Agnes Jane Thompson,

in consideration of TEN DOLLARS and other valuable consideration

a single person------

*to* me *paid by* John Allan Petersen and Agnes Marle Petersen, husband and wife,

do hereby grant, bargain, sell and convey unto said John Allan Petersen and Agnes Marie Petersen, husband and wife, their

heirs and assigns, all the following real property, with the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances situated in the County of Columbia and State of Oregon, bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

The Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter of Section 25, and that part of the Southwest quarter of the Southeast quarter of Section 25, described as follows:

Beginning at a point 357 feet East of the South quarter section corner; thence North 12°24' East 35.3 feet; thence North 7°05' West 39 feet; thence North 33°49' West 51.6 feet; thence North 32°34' West 76.3 feet; thence North 12°10' West 137.2 feet; thence North 6°16' West 264.6 feet; thence North 32°49' West 367.7 feet; thence North 72°22' West 1430 feet to a point on the West line of the North half of the Southeast quarter of the Southwest quarter; thence North to the Northwest corner thereof; thence East to the Northeast corner of the Southeast quarter of the Southeast quarter; thence South to the Southeast corner of said Southwest quarter of the Southeast quarter; thence West to the point of beginning, all in Township 6 North, Range 2 West of the Willamette Meridian, Columbia County, Oregon.

Deed #3 A Jane Thompson Sold John and Agnes Peterson The Property Back October 2006

Lot 401

11 11111

and a second sec

 COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON 2006-012915 DEED-D Cnt=1 Stn=8 HUSERB \$10.00 \$11.00 \$10.00 Total:\$31.00

00049165200600129150010025 I, Elizabeth E, Huser, County Clerk for Columbia County, Oregon certify that the Instrument Identified herein was recorded in the Clerk records.

Elizabeth E. Huser - County Clerk

To Have and to Hold, the above described and granted premises unto the said John Allan Petersen and Agnes Marie Petersen, husband and wife, their

heirs and assigns forever.

And I, Agnes Jane Thompson

the grantor

above named do covenant to and with the above named grantees, their heirs and assigns that im lawfully seized in fee simple of the above granted premises, that the above granted premises are free from all encumbrances,

and that I will and  $m\gamma$  heirs, executors and administrators, shall warrant and forever defend the above granted premises, and every part and parcel thereof, against the lawful claims and demands of all persons whomsoever, save as above set forth.

Witness	hand	and seal	this	day of	December	, 19 ,66 -
Roturn to				$\bigcirc$	)()	STT.
VANNATTA & PETERSEN ATTORNEYS AT LAW				agnes	yane)	Thompson's
PO BOX 748 ST HELENS, OR 97051						(Seal)
	ancen	,				(Seal)
and magnet per	ل (میریمی میشور ا					(Seal)

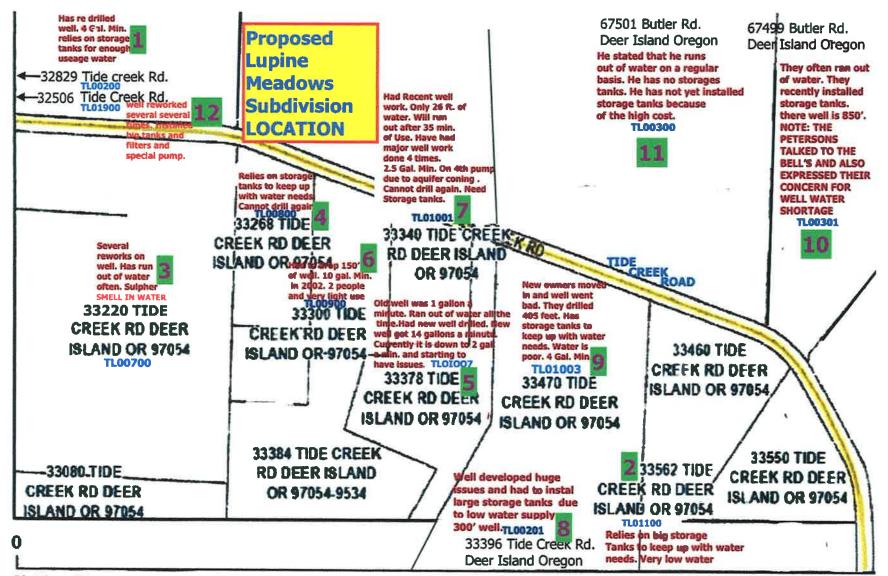
Jane Peteron Was The Reconciso Deed Owner from December 1966 To October 2006 Almost 40 Years

John and Agnes Peterson have Been The Recorded Deed owner Since October 2006

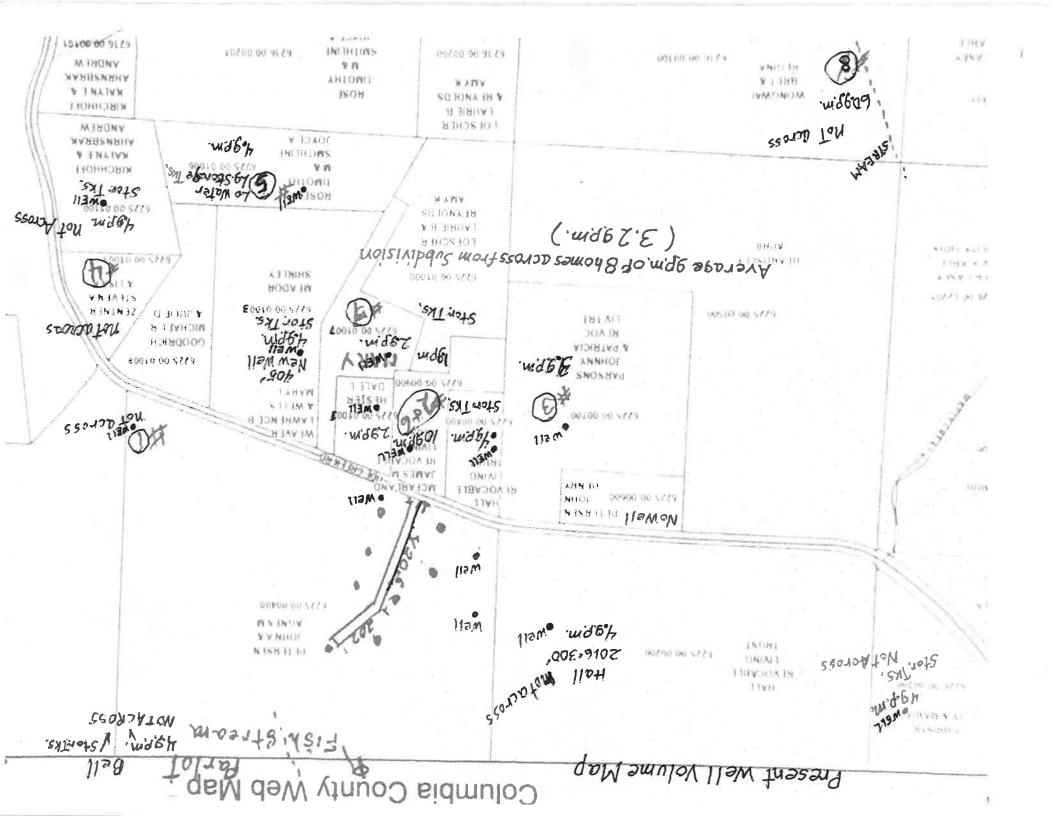
-Dollers,

SA

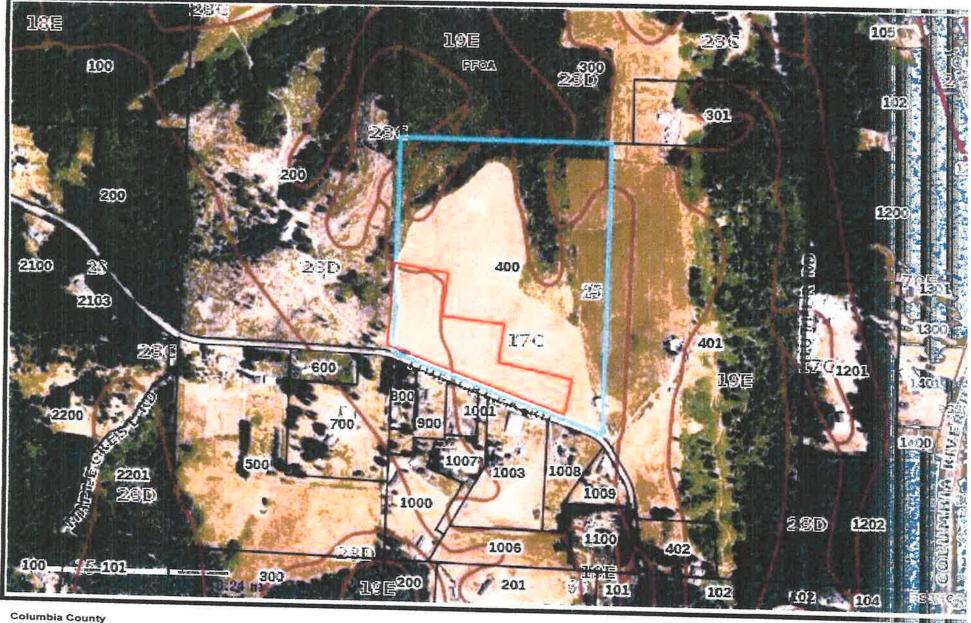
STATE OF OREGON. 59, County of BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this day of 19 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared the within named known to me to be the identical individual described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowlanged to me that executed the same freely and voluntarily. IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and alfixed my-official seal the day and year last above written. NOTAR m Notary Public for Oregon. URIT My Commission expires 10-4-6 67 Tums o'clock M., ok on . Record of Deeds of ъ WARRANTY DEED I certify that the within instru-was received for record on the County Clack-Rocardar, Deputy. WHEN RECORDED RETURN TO Witness my hand and seal County altixed. (FORM No. 763) GTEVANS-REAS LAW PUB. CO., PO STATE OF OREGON, 19 , at and in book day of County of page said County. znonz A ł Peed # 3 B June Thompson Sold John and Agnes Peterson The property Back October 2006



Disclaimer: This map was produced using Columbia County GIS data. The GIS data is maintained by the County to support its governmental activities and is subject to change without notice. This map should not be used for survey or engineering purposes. Columbia County assumes no responsibility with regard to the selection, performance or use of information on this



# Hydric Soils Map and 6 New Lots





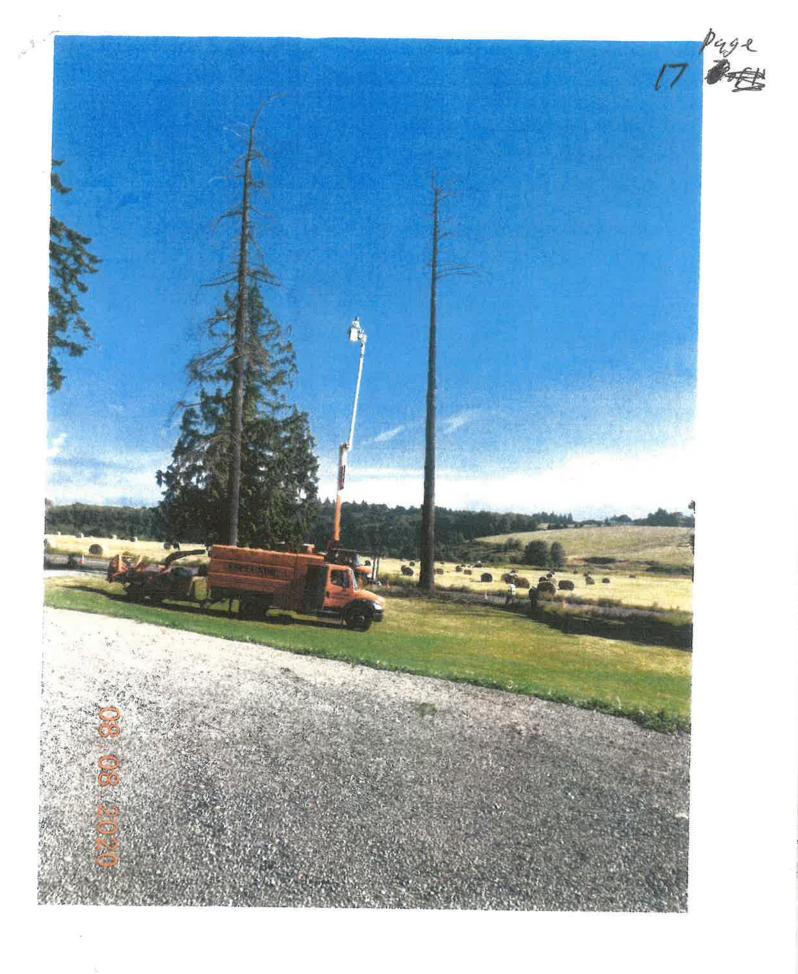
# **Columbia County Web Maps**

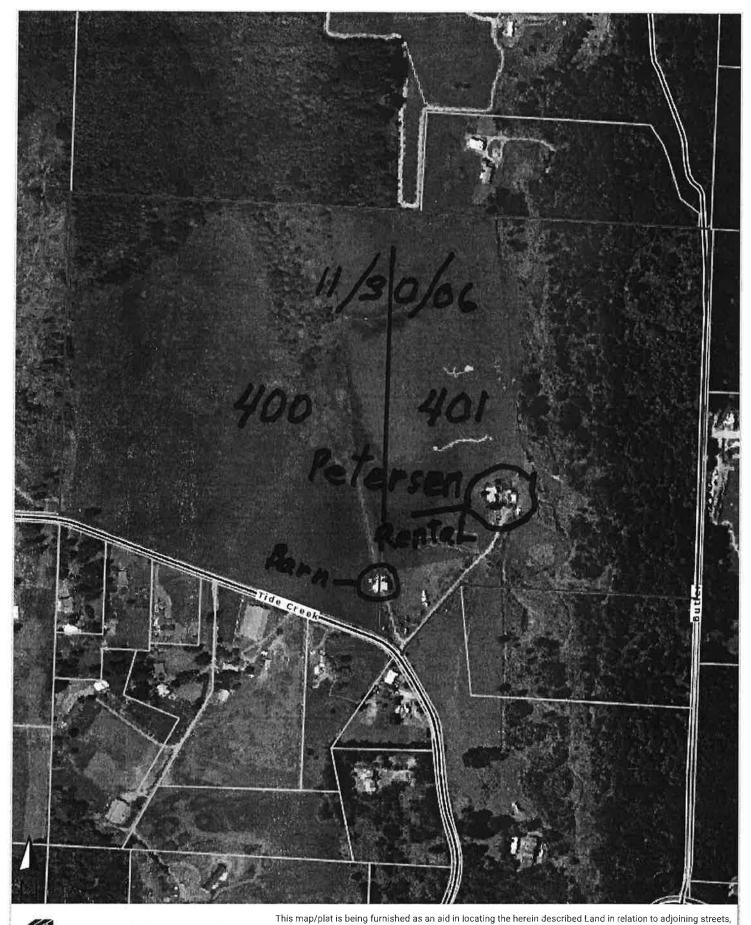
Disclaimer: This map was produced using Columpia County GIS data. The GIS data is maintained by the County to support its governmental activities and is subject to change without notice. This map should not be used for survey or engineering purposes. Columbia County assumes no responsibility with regard to the selection, performance or use of information on mis

Geo

Oregon







**M** TICOR TITLE COMPANY

natural boundaries and other land, and is not a survey of the land depicted. Except to the extent a policy of title insurance is expressly modified by endorsement, if any, the Company does not insure dimensions, distances, location of easements, acreage or other matters shown thereon.

Peterson's submitted this well log data in an attempt to show that the Residents in the proposed lupine meadow area on Tide Creek Road have plenty of water. Because the well log data came from McMullens I am sure it is very legit. However since the data was collected as far out as 52 years ago it is mostly not current and obsolete.

Peterson also claimed on this well log sheet that OWRD states that half a gallon a minute can establish a well. He does not tell you the whole story . That is only if you instal a very expensive big storage tank system that the water can trickle into to build up over time when you are not using it. And a huge water supply. Just normal common sense clearly dictates that you cannot run a household on one half gallon a minute. You can have 5 gpm water but run out of water with 30-40 minutes of steady running. Most all of us have had extensive well work done and a large percentage are on storage tanks. Storage tanks are a last ditch effort and you are limited with them when it comes to garden watering and pressure washing etc.

Startcard # (if listed)	Well Log #	Date	Tax Lot No.		Yield (gal/min)	
1028595	COLU 55121	10/26/2015	6225-00-00400	1	10.0Petersons new	
	COLU 1704	7/13/1976	6225-00-00900	2	37.0 duplicate	
	COLU 1706	8/7/1971	6225-00-00700	3	-10.0- 3 gpm	
83956	COLU 50307	10/30/1995	6225-00-01009	4	25.0 out of area	
83964	COLU 50308	10/26/1995	6225-00-01006	`5	12.0 3 gpm	
126399	COLU 52001	2/6/2002	6225-00-00900	6	10.0 2002	
148019	COLU 52165	12/31/2002	6225-00-01007	7	20:0 2 gpm	
1043597	COLU 55494	7/15/2019	6236-00-00300	8	60.0 out of area	

# WELL LOG DATA

Submitted with this application as Attachment 8 are copies of the above well

logs. This data establishes a yield for wells in the area ranging from 10 to 60 gallons

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per minute.

The OWRD well logs clearly establish adequate potential for water for the

proposed lots.

- 1 This is Petersons new deep water well
- 2 This is a duplicate on Jim McFarland property. (#2 and # 6 above) He lost 150' of well and dropped to 10 gpm 2002. He is not sure what it does now . 2 people in house. Lite use.
- 3 John Parsons. Several reworks on well. Sulpher smell.Runs out of water often.Cannot drill again
- 4 Out of area well
- 5 Tim Rose installed large storage tanks due to low water. 3gpm
- 6 Jim Mcfarland. Had 37 gpm. Major well rework .Dropped 150' off of well. 2002 10 gpm
- 7 Mary Wells. Had to put in new well at the same time as Jim Mcfarland. Was 14 gpm now down to 2 gpm
- 8 Out of area well

#### Page 21 of 23 -- Petersen Application for M49 Subdivision; Lupine Meadow Subdivision Township 6N. Range 2W Section 25 Tay Lot 400



# by Roger M. Waller

#### INCREASED PUMPING IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA

Another reason that wells "go dry" is the lowering of the water table by increased pumpage in the immediate area. Housing developments with small lots and individual wells have been built in many rural areas. If the aquifer is low yielding so that pumping causes a large drawdown, a cone of depression will develop around each well. Thus, several domestic wells close together can create a steady lowering of the water table if pumpage exceeds the natural recharge to the system (unless municipal, industrial, or agricultural purposes adjacent to residental areas. The increased withdrawals may cause large widespread cones of depression that intersect one another and cause general water-level declines that affect nearby domestic wells.



What can happen when a Hydric Soil area water level rises again.

Effect of concentrated housing on ground-water level.

#### WATER-LEVEL RISES

The opposite problem, namely a rising water table, has developed in some parts of the country. Rising water tables occur in areas where pumpage is been curtailed after years of large ground-water withdrawais, such as for mine dewatering or municipal water supply, which kept the water table below its natural levels. The curtailment of pumping allows the water table to rise to the previous natural level, which may flood underground structures that were built when the water table was lowered.

In many parts of the country, water levels in shallow aquifers have been lowered artificially over large areas. If houses are constructed in dewatered areas and if the water table then recovers to its natural (higher) level, basement flooding or foundation failures may occur, especially where the natural water level is with a 10 feet of the land surface. Many basements that were built in a dry unconsolidated material and that had remained dry for decades have now become permanently wit. The public's first reaction may be that unusually heavy precipitation in the past few months has raised the water table or created a temporary perched-water system, when in fact the situation is much more serious and will remain a problem unless pumping is resumed to maintain a lower water table.

Where water levels are closely monitored, water-level records can indicate whether such high water levels are related solely to climatic events or whether water levels are recovering after nearby pumping has ceased. An increasing number of local areas are being dewatered for mining or industrial uses, which could cause serious problems in the future when such pumpage is decreased or ended.

Similar situations have occurred where housing developments were built during a period of extended drought when the water table was low. Even if basements were the "daylight" or raised type because the natural water table was shallow, the eventual return of a wet period caused the water table to rise a few feet and flood basements.