ZONING CHANGE COMMENT

My name is Scott MacGregor and I live with my wife Tracy on a small farm a couple miles downriver from the proposed zoning change. On this farm we grow a lot of our own food and care for chickens, turkeys, ducks, dogs, a herd of milk goats and a couple useless donkeys. Also a cat, also useless.

We border the Columbia River and we're shielded from the winds that travel through the river's valley by a long stand of cottonwood trees that dominate the small islands between us and the deep channel. An inlet in front of our house exhibits a tidal rise and fall of several feet twice each day.

We share this bit of paradise with many birds—including the majestic Eagle, the stately Heron, the glorious White Egret—we share it with the beasts of the ground—including Deer and Coyote (with whom we sometimes share our poultry)--and we share this bit of paradise with those of the water—including Frog, and the holy Salmon.

Over the last 200 years the quality of this watershed has degraded. This proposed zoning change, rather than do anything to restore or rehabilitate the ecosystem would only further degrade it.

The parcel in question is less than 1000 acres but every industrial encroachment melts away a bit more of that beautiful, wild, and precious gem you hold in your hands.

Will you learn, too late, that it can melt like ice in August and leave you nothing but asphalt and concrete to show your grandchildren?