ECOSYSTEMS NORTH WEST

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October 18, 2023

**MEMO: Verification of wetland boundaries**

On October 17, 2023, Professional Wetland Scientists (PWS) Dennis Beich of Ecosystems North West and Suzanne Tomassi of Avia Environmental visited specific sites within the property owned by Mission Ridge in Section 9 of Township 21N, Range 20E in Chelan County. Both ecologists had visited the same area previously to document and delineate two small wetlands. The wetlands were described and rated in the Mission Ridge Wetland Delineation Report submitted to Mission Ridge and dated September 2017. Findings of the October 17th visit are described in this document.

Both of the previously delineated wetlands, referred to as Wetlands 1 and 2 in the 2017 report, were located and plants, soils, and hydrology were observed. In both wetlands, vegetative communities were consistent with those observed and reported in 2017. Soil chroma varied between the inner areas of the wetlands and in the wetland margins, but were again found to show wetland characteristics, including those of low chroma and value (mainly black (10YR 2/1)). Wetland hydrologic indicators were present in both wetlands; these include ponding marks and the presence of oxidized rhizospheres along living roots.

Flags from the 2017 delineation were no longer present, and GPS or survey points of the boundaries were not available, as they had not been collected at the time of the 2017 study. As a result, existing wetland boundaries could not be directly compared to the previously delineation. However, no indicators that the wetland boundaries have shifted measurably were noted. As well, wetland edges most often show a gradient as the features transition to upland, particularly in soil characteristics. Such transitional zones were observed in both Wetland 1 and Wetland 2 in both 2017 and during the recent site visit.

The conclusion of the October 17, 2023 site investigation is that Wetlands 1 and 2 are not substantially different presently in location, size, configuration, structure, or quality from the conditions and characteristics noted and reported in September 2017.

Dennis Beich  PWS emeritus