

**Cortney Ingle**

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**From:** Kristen Kirkby <kristen.kirkby@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2019 10:39 AM  
**To:** Cortney Ingle  
**Subject:** Comprehensive plan comments

I'm writing to submit comments on the draft comprehensive plan for Okanogan County. I'm concerned that the current plan is insufficient and doesn't address a number of issues of importance for our county. I'd like to see the county hire a qualified professional to work on a speedier, more thorough drafting of the final Plan and an adequate Final Environmental Impact Statement.

I am concerned that the Plan as written is insufficient to protect water quantity for fish and wildlife, agriculture, and recreation, and seems to be at odds with state and county instream flow rules. The plan also does not include a Land Use Element to plan zoning and permitting.

I am supportive of the proposed fourth alternative. I believe growth should be concentrated in our towns and that agriculture and open areas should be protected. I believe that Okanogan County should rely on the best available science to adapt to a changing climate and a growing community and adopt policies to maintain the diversity and integrity of the natural ecosystems that support our communities. A thoughtful commitment to water conservation and planning will be critical. Sub-area planning would allow for more community input for locally appropriate and supported planning. I also support the Methow Valley More Completely Planned Area being inclusive of the entire Methow basin.

Thank you very much for your time,

Kristen Kirkby  
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