

**Cortney Ingle**

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**From:** Michele Hinatsu <m.r.hinatsu@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2019 9:34 AM  
**To:** Cortney Ingle  
**Cc:** Andy Hover  
**Subject:** Public Comment

Dear Okanogan County Regional Planning Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on the Comprehensive Plan for Okanogan County.

As I understand, the comprehensive plan does not fully address protecting water quality, supply and use. It is important to me that the growth of the county address the water supply. Water availability for senior water rights holders, current and future land owners, recreation, fish and wildlife is vital. Following the in-stream flow rule in land use planning would be a starting point for developing a sensible plan that will allow growth that will take into account the predicted water supply for all users.

Much of the county residents live in the wild-land urban interface. Wildfires will continue to threaten homes, so the comprehensive plan should address protecting people, buildings, infrastructure and habitat. Building codes including materials and road development, plus programs to retrofit existing homes, buildings and roads needs to be included.

The county is diverse in many ways, including but no limited to habitat, wildlife, public and private lands, employment, education, recreation and tourism. Because of this, it may be helpful to have sub-planning areas guided by local the community. These groups will recognize the unique qualities of specific regions and will have insight into the will and wishes of the area.

I also highly recommend the county consider hiring a qualified and experienced professional to assist in drafting and developing a coherent comprehensive plan and environmental impact statement. It is also important to me that the plan take into account current public comment and past neighborhood group process from 2007 onward. I envision this professional will incorporate the public comments and guide the county in developing a comprehensive plan that meet the basic standards of the law, will be organized to be easily understood and administered, and meet the needs and wishes of the county residents.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,  
Michele Hinatsu  
6 Mazama Springs Way  
Mazama, WA