

HOOD RIVER NEWS
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
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Protect the Springs

Now that Crystal Springs has delineated its water source with a map certified by the State Health Department, it should be evident that the proposed destination resort zoning around Cooper Spur Development exclude this watershed and protect it from development of any kind. The zoning ordinance should also add a section delineating Crystal Springs watershed and protecting it once and for all. There is no negotiating this physical land feature. It exists as it is, in its entirety, for no human to change.

There have been many comparisons between Hood River and Bend and in adopting Bend's destination resort ordinance. It should be noted that the City of Bend is quite proud of its water and the fact that it is recognized as some of the highest quality water in the nation. That water is protected and managed in a cooperative effort between the City and Forest Service. The high water quality is such that it does not require a water treatment plant, only disinfecting. Hood River would do well to mirror this attitude in their land use planning.

If this development is allowed at the Cooper Spur site and over the watershed, there is the grave danger that water will be lost to existing users in the valley below. How will this fare economically for Hood River?

This zoning process needs to be halted, scientifically examined and given the time and conscientious effort necessary for a proper decision.

Susan McKenzie
Hood River