

Kevin Jensen
May 9, 2022
Comment # 1000

From: Kevin Jensen <riverbendbranchwa@gmail.com>
Sent: Mon 5/9/2022 8:34 AM
To: Marisa Whisman <marisa.whisman@co.thurston.wa.us

Name: Kevin Jensen

Email: riverbendbranchwa@gmail.com

To whom it may concern,

I am submitting written **support** for the George open space application.

I am the manager of a fifth generation diversified cattle ranch in Thurston County. I think anyone can look around and see the hundreds of acres being gobbled up every year of open space, and then covered in concrete or asphalt.

In my opinion the county is not doing enough, and frankly not much, to protect the limited supply of open space. The land stewards of open space prairies and timberlands such as my family, are the only way to protect wildlife including federally endangered species. We are the only true conservationists because we have skin in the game. We live off of the land, have to care for the land to keep food on the table for our families and the other local families our operations support.

The George property should move forward into the county's open space program, ensuring a chance to put more productive agriculture back into our county, helping with local food systems and prairie preservation.

Thank you for considering my comments,

Kevin Jensen

Riverbend Ranch

From: Marisa Whisman <marisa.whisman@co.thurston.wa.us>
Sent: Mon 5/9/2022 9:55 AM
To: Kevin Jensen riverbendbranchwa@gmail.com

Hi Kevin,

Thank you, we have received your comments and they will be considered as part of the record as we move forward processing the George Open Space Tax Program application and in the coming May 18, 2022 Public Hearing. We also thank you and your family for your legacy of good land stewardship and

farming practices which benefit our local community.

Sincerely,

Marisa Whisman
Associate Planner/Biologist
Community Planning & Economic Development Department (CPED)
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW
Olympia, WA 98502

I am currently teleworking on Mondays and Tuesdays, and am most effectively reached by email or by my work cell listed below. I work a 4/10 schedule, Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

(360)972-5184 Work Cell

(360)867-2104 ext. 2104 Desk phone

marisa.whisman@co.thurston.wa.us