



April 13, 2026

Cynda Herrick, Planning & Zoning Director
Valley County Planning & Zoning
700 S. Main Street, Cascade, ID 83611
cherrick@valleycountyid.gov

Subject: Work Session - PUD 26-001 Red Ridge Village

Dear Cynda Herrick:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your request for comment. While DEQ does not review every project on a project-specific basis, we attempt to provide the best review of the information provided. DEQ encourages agencies to review and utilize the Idaho Environmental Guide to assist in addressing project-specific conditions that may apply. This guide can be found at: <https://www2.deq.idaho.gov/admin/LEIA/api/document/download/15083>.

The following information does not cover every aspect of this project; however, we have the following general comments to use as appropriate:

1. AIR QUALITY

- Please review IDAPA 58.01.01 for all rules on Air Quality, especially those regarding fugitive dust (58.01.01.651), and trade waste burning (58.01.01.600-617).
- For new development projects, all property owners, developers, and their contractors must ensure that reasonable controls to prevent fugitive dust from becoming airborne are utilized during all phases of construction activities per IDAPA 58.01.01.651.
- DEQ recommends the city/county require the development and submittal of a dust prevention and control plan for all construction projects prior to final plat approval. Dust prevention and control plans incorporate appropriate best management practices to control fugitive dust that may be generated at sites.
- Citizen complaints received by DEQ regarding fugitive dust from development and construction activities approved by cities or counties will be referred to the city/county to address under their ordinances.
- Per IDAPA 58.01.01.600-617, the open burning of any construction waste is prohibited. The property owner, developer, and their contractors are responsible for ensuring no prohibited open burning occurs during construction.
- For questions, contact David Luft, Air Quality Manager, at (208) 373-0550.

2. WASTEWATER AND RECYLED WATER

- DEQ recommends verifying that there is adequate sewer to serve this project prior to approval. Please contact the sewer provider for a capacity statement, declining balance report, and willingness to serve this project.
- IDAPA 58.01.16 and IDAPA 58.01.17 are the sections of Idaho rules regarding wastewater and recycled water. Please review these rules to determine whether this or future projects will require DEQ approval. IDAPA 58.01.03 is the section of Idaho rules regarding subsurface disposal of wastewater. Please review this rule to determine whether this or future projects will require permitting by the local public health district.
- All projects for construction or modification of wastewater systems require preconstruction approval. Recycled water projects and subsurface disposal projects require separate permits as well.
- DEQ recommends that projects be served by existing approved wastewater collection systems or a centralized community wastewater system whenever possible. Please contact DEQ to discuss potential for development of a community treatment system along with best management practices for communities to protect groundwater.
- DEQ recommends that cities and counties develop and use a comprehensive land use management plan, which includes the impacts of present and future wastewater management in this area. Please schedule a meeting with DEQ for further discussion and recommendations for plan development and implementation.
- For questions, contact Valerie Greear, Water Quality Engineering Manager at (208) 373-0459.

3. DRINKING WATER

- DEQ recommends verifying that there is adequate water to serve this project prior to approval. Please contact the water provider for a capacity statement, declining balance report, and willingness to serve this project.
- DEQ recommends verifying if the current and/or proposed drinking water system is a regulated public drinking water system. A drinking water system is a Public Water System (PWS) if it has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves an average of 25 or more people per day for at least 60 days per year (refer to the DEQ website at: <https://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/drinking-water/>). For non-regulated systems, DEQ recommends annual testing for total coliform bacteria, nitrate, and nitrite.
- IDAPA 58.01.08 is the section of Idaho rules regarding public drinking water systems. Please review these rules to determine whether this or future projects will require DEQ approval.
- All projects for construction or modification of public drinking water systems require preconstruction approval.
- If any private wells will be included in this project, we recommend that they be tested for total coliform bacteria, nitrate, and nitrite prior to use and retested annually thereafter.
- DEQ recommends using an existing drinking water system whenever possible or construction of a new community drinking water system. Please contact DEQ to discuss this project and to explore options to both best serve the future residents of this development and provide for protection of groundwater resources.
- DEQ recommends cities and counties develop and use a comprehensive land use management plan which addresses the present and future needs of this area for adequate, safe, and sustainable drinking water. Please schedule a meeting with DEQ for further discussion and recommendations for plan development and implementation.
- For questions, contact Valerie Greear, Water Quality Engineering Manager at (208) 373-0459.

4. SURFACE WATER

- A Construction General Permit from DEQ may be required for projects that meet the eligibility criteria and have an allowable discharge of storm water or authorized non-storm water associated with construction activities. For questions, contact Emily Montague, IPDES Compliance Supervisor, at (208) 813-0872.
- Please contact DEQ to determine whether this project will require an Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) Permit. A Multi-Sector General Permit from DEQ may be required for facilities that have an allowable discharge of storm water or authorized non-storm water associated with the primary industrial activity and co-located industrial activity.
- For questions, contact Emily Montague, IPDES Compliance Supervisor, at (208) 373-0433.
- If this project is near a source of surface water, DEQ requests that projects incorporate construction best management practices (BMPs) to assist in the protection of Idaho's water resources. Additionally, please contact DEQ to identify BMP alternatives and to determine whether this project is in an area with Total Maximum Daily Load stormwater permit conditions.
- The Idaho Stream Channel Protection Act requires a permit for most stream channel alterations. Please contact the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR), Western Regional Office, at 2735 Airport Way, Boise, or call (208) 334-2190 for more information. Information is also available on the IDWR website at:
<https://idwr.idaho.gov/streams/stream-channel-alteration-permits.html>
- The Federal Clean Water Act requires a permit for filling or dredging in waters of the United States. Please contact the US Army Corps of Engineers, Boise Field Office, at 10095 Emerald Street, Boise, or call 208-345-2155 for more information regarding permits.
- For questions, contact Lance Holloway, Surface Water Manager, at (208) 373-0564.

5. SOLID WASTE, HAZARDOUS WASTE AND GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

- **Solid Waste.** No trash or other solid waste shall be buried, burned, or otherwise disposed of at the project site. These disposal methods are regulated by various state regulations including Idaho's Solid Waste Management Regulations and Standards (IDAPA 58.01.06), Rules and Regulations for Hazardous Waste (IDAPA 58.01.05), and Rules and Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution (IDAPA 58.01.01). Inert and other approved materials are also defined in the Solid Waste Management Regulations and Standards.
- **Hazardous Waste.** The types and number of requirements that must be complied with under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Idaho Rules and Standards for Hazardous Waste (IDAPA 58.01.05) are based on the quantity and type of waste generated. Every business in Idaho is required to track the volume of waste generated, determine whether each type of waste is hazardous, and ensure that all wastes are properly disposed of according to federal, state, and local requirements.
- **Water Quality Standards.** Site activities must comply with the Idaho Water Quality Standards (IDAPA 58.01.02) regarding hazardous and deleterious-materials storage, disposal, or accumulation adjacent to or in the immediate vicinity of state waters (IDAPA 58.01.02.800); and the cleanup and reporting of oil-filled electrical equipment (IDAPA 58.01.02.849); hazardous materials (IDAPA 58.01.02.850); and used-oil and petroleum releases (IDAPA 58.01.24.060 and 58.01.24.061). Petroleum releases must be reported to DEQ in accordance with IDAPA 58.01.24.060.01 and 58.01.24.061.04. Hazardous material releases to state waters, or to land such that there is likelihood that it will enter state waters, must be reported to DEQ in accordance with IDAPA 58.01.02.850.

- **Groundwater Contamination.** DEQ requests that this project comply with Idaho's Ground Water Quality Rules (IDAPA 58.01.11), which states that "No person shall cause or allow the release, spilling, leaking, emission, discharge, escape, leaching, or disposal of a contaminant into the environment in a manner that causes a ground water quality standard to be exceeded, injures a beneficial use of ground water, or is not in accordance with a permit, consent order or applicable best management practice, best available method or best practical method."
- For questions, contact Matthew Pabich, Waste & Remediation Manager, at (208) 373-0510.

6. ADDITIONAL NOTES

- If an underground storage tank (UST) or an aboveground storage tank (AST) is identified at the site, additional regulations may apply. If an UST is present, the site should be evaluated to determine whether the UST is regulated by DEQ. If an AST is identified, EPA may have additional requirements. Both UST and AST sites should be assessed to determine whether there is potential soil and ground water contamination. Please call DEQ at (208) 373-0550, or visit the DEQ website <https://www.deq.idaho.gov/waste-management-and-remediation/storage-tanks/leaking-underground-storage-tanks-in-idaho/> for assistance. If applicable to this project, DEQ recommends that BMPs be implemented for any of the following land uses: wash water from cleaning vehicles, fertilizers and pesticides, animal facilities, composted waste, ponds and outdoor gun ranges. Please contact DEQ for more information on any of these conditions.

We look forward to working with you in a proactive manner to address potential environmental impacts that may be within our regulatory authority. If you have any questions, please contact me, or any of our technical staff at (208) 373-0550.

Sincerely,



Troy Smith
Regional Administrator