RECEIVED
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5:06 pm
BY:

Big Payette Lake Water Quality Council
POB 3108
McCall, ID. 83638

Re: Red Ridge Development comments to commissioners Email: cherrick@valleycountyid.gov

Dear Ms. Herrick and Planning and Zoning Commissioners of Valley County, Idaho,

The water quality council appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Red Ridge Village PUD application. Our council is a 501c.3 non-profit that advocates to protect and improve the water quality in Payette Lake and its watershed through education, scientific study, community engagement and conservation activities.

Our council (in conjunction with the Idaho Dept. of Environmental Quality) is currently sponsoring a near-shore water quality study. It is primarily funded by the City of McCall, and conducted by volunteers from the Master Naturalists program. Its primary objectives are to assess concentrations of plant nutrients that may contribute to undesirable algae and aquatic plant growth in the near-shore areas of the lake.

Eurasian Water Milfoil is an invasive aquatic plant that likely was introduced by boats into Payette Lake in the 1990s. It forms dense mats of nuisance plant growth in near-shore areas and has now infested large areas of the Lake. Increased concentrations of the plant nutrients nitrogen and phosphorus in near-shore waters promote its growth, and it spreads primarily by fragmentation caused by wave action.

It was treated with a chemical herbicide this summer by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, under a 5-year adaptive management plan. Members of our Council assisted in developing the plan. A parallel program, alongside the treatment plan aims to educate and bring awareness to the root causes of milfoil. We have no boat cleaning stations yet in Valley County but there are plans for this. We are a small county working together towards solutions. It's almost a step backwards to think of yet, even more, pressure put on Payette Lake with a development the size of Red Ridge.

We urge the P & Z commissioners to consider the potentially massive impact on the lake, with the increase in population and likely increase in boating and other activities that this development will bring. McCall depends on this vital body of water, Payette Lake. Your thoughtful and necessary attention to preserving the water is needed at this time.

Respectfully,
Deb Fereday, President

EXHIBIT 4
PUD 26-001
PZ 11.19.2026