Planning • Building

MEMORANDUM

TO:	Laramie County Planning Commission
FROM:	Bryce Hamilton, Associate Planner
DATE:	January 23 rd , 2025
TITLE:	PUBLIC HEARING regarding a Subdivision Permit & Plat for Pee-Wee Ponderosa Subdivision, Located in a Portion of the NW¼ of Section 29, Township 15 North, Range 63 West of the 6 th P.M., Laramie County, WY.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Steil Surveying, on behalf of Mary Lee Sutherland, has submitted a Subdivision Permit and Plat application to plat a portion of this 80-acre property addressed at 1679 Road 143, Hillsdale, WY 82060 and generally located in the NW ¼ of Section 29, Township 15 North, Range 63 West of the 6th P.M., Laramie County, WY. The application proposes to subdivide forty (40) acres of the parcel into four (4) lots, leaving an unplatted 40-acre remainder parcel to the east.

BACKGROUND

The current use of the property is vacant residential land and is situated in the LU - Land UseZone District. The current parcel is accessed from a private access easement coming off of Road 143. Under the proposed plat, Tracts 1 and 2 would access via a shared easement originating from Road 143, and Tracts 3 and 4 would do the same. The existing private access easement would continue to serve the remainder lot to the east as well as the neighbors to the south and east. The plat proposes to dedicate the north 40' of the land where the private easement lies as ROW. In reviews, it has been unclear whether this may occur without the consent of the landowners using the easement.

Pertinent Statutes and Regulations include:

W.S. § 18-5-301 thru 18-5-306. LCLUR Section 2-1-101(a) thru (e), governing criteria for a Subdivision Permit and Plat. LCLUR Section 4-2-112, governing the LU – Land Use Zone District.

DISCUSSION

The subject property is located within the LU – Land Use Zone District. The applicant's intent is to create four (4) residential lots of approximately ten (9.85) acres each. New access easements would serve Tracts 1 and 2 on a shared basis, and Tracts 3 and 4 on a shared basis, both from Road 143. The remainder easetern lot would continue to be served by an existing private access easement. The proposed sewage and water system for the subdivision is individual wells and septic systems constructed to the standards of the Wyoming State Engineer's office and the Cheyenne/Laramie County Environmental Health Department, respectively.

The Laramie County Comprehensive Plan identifies the area as AGR – Ag and Range Land. The Ag and Range Land are outlying areas of the County. These areas are far removed from the providers of public services and have relatively lower levels of road access. Primary uses are agricultural crop and livestock production and associated residential uses. Freestanding residential uses, not associated with agricultural purposes, should be discouraged. Some areas with existing development may be appropriate for expansion, identified as Rural Centers. For example, the Harriman Road area in Southwestern Laramie County may be appropriate for additional residential uses and/or neighborhood services, keeping in mind that access to water may be difficult and expensive. This proposed subdivision is near the unincorporated community of Hillsdale, which does have a limited level of existing community services. The area is not within the range of the PlanCheyenne community plan, and as such has no designation under that plan.

Certified letters were mailed to neighboring property owners, and a legal ad was printed in the Wyoming Tribune Eagle. Staff received one (1) public comment regarding the proposed subdivision, which is from the neighbor to the south and primarily raises concerns with regard to density, the private access easement, and in regard to drainage and the potential need for culverts on Road 143.

Agency reviews are still ongoing as of the date of this report. To date, they have addressed correcting the legal owner of the subdivision, the potential dedication of new ROW along the southern portion of the plat, and concerns with the spacing of access points along Road 143, which has a posted speed limit of 55mph. As currently proposed, the plat violates the required spacing for the posted speed limit and will need to be revised in order to become compliant with the LCLUR rules on spacing. As such, a recommended condition of approval accompanies the motion at the end of this report. Planning also recommends that the southern portion of the plat *not* dedicate new ROW along that portion given the private access easement's location within the land to be dedicated. Rather, the suggestion would be to dedicate 40' of ROW along the *north* portion of the plat, given its location along a Section line and long-range potential for future extension of Road 217.

RECOMMENDATION AND FINDINGS

Based on evidence provided, staff recommends the Planning Commission find that:

- **a.** This application is in conformance with section 4-2-112 governing the LU Land Use zone district.
- **b.** This application meets the criteria for a subdivision permit and plat pursuant to section 2-1-101 (a-e) of the Laramie County Land Use Regulations.
- **c.** The plat is currently noncompliant with access spacing requirements of LCLUR § 3-5-107.
- d. Plats have traditionally dedicated new ROW along section lines.

and that the Planning Commission recommend approval of the Subdivision Permit and Plat for Pee-Wee Ponderosa Subdivision to the Board of County Commissioners with two (2) conditions:

- 1. The plat is revised to make access spacing on Road 143 compliant with the LCLUR.
- 2. The plat is revised to move the ROW dedication to the north border rather than the south.

PROPOSED MOTION

I move to adopt findings of fact a, b, and c of the staff report and to recommend approval of the Subdivision Permit and Plat for Pee-Wee Ponderosa Subdivision with the two conditions outlined in the staff report.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 3: Attachment 4: Attachment 5: Attachment 6:	Project Map Applicant Narrative 1 st Round Agency Review Comments With Applicant Responses Office of State Lands and Investments commentary Pee-Wee Ponderosa Subdivision, revised 12/23/24 Public Comment, Amy Lounsbury Draft Resolution
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October 21, 2024

Laramie County Planning & Development Office 3966 Archer Parkway Cheyenne, WY 82007 (307) 633-4303

InRe: LETTER OF JUSTIFICATION – PEE-WEE PONDEROSA

Steil Surveying Services, agent for the owner, intends to SUBDIVIDE the $W^{1/2}N^{1/2}NW^{1/4}$ of Section 29, T15N, R63W, of the 6th P.M., Laramie County, Wyoming. . A zone change is not required.

The overall density of the subdivision is 40 acres. The proposed subdivision will consist of FOUR (4) tracts of greater than 5.25 acres. The parcel falls within AMEX Zone 2.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Michael J. Harrom

Shane Hansen

Director Planning and Development Steil Surveying Services, LLC <u>shansen@steilsurvey.com</u>

Permit Notes

 Permit Number:
 PZ-24-00106
 Parcel Number:
 15632920000200
 Submitted:
 11/25/2024

 Site Address:
 1679 ROAD 143
 Technically
 11/25/2024

 Applicant:
 HANSEN, MICHEAL SHANE
 Burns, WY 82053
 Approved:

 Owner:
 SUTHERLAND, RONALD G ET UX
 Burns, WY 82053
 Approved:

 Project Description:
 RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION
 SUBMITIAL SUBDIVISION
 Issued:

Begin Date End Date Permit Area Subject Note Type Note Text Created By 12/03/2024 Application PZ-24-00106 GENERAL LCPC 1/23/25, BOCC 2/18/25 **BRYCE.HAMILTON** @LARAMIECOUNT YWY.GOV 12/04/2024 Application PZ-24-00106 GENERAL WAPA has no conflict with this project. ROGERS@LARAMI ECOUNTYWY.GOV 12/04/2024 12/17/2024 Workflow COUNTY DEFICIENCY Dedication should read: Mary Lee Sutherland (sole owner per CINDY.KEMIVES@ ASSESSOR BK 2869 PG 1046, RECP #870116). Parcel boundary data LARAMIECOUNTY corrected appear to be in order. No further comments on plat drawing. REVIEW WY.GOV 12/04/2024 12/17/2024 Workflow COUNTY REAL DEFICIENCY Ronald G Sutherland passed away on January 12, 2024. LAURA.PATE@LA ESTATE OFFICE Mary recorded an affidavit on 02/26/24 book 2869 page 1046 RAMIECOUNTYWY REVIEW putting the land in just her name so please remove Ronald's ...GOV name from the dedication, signature and notary. Mary recorded a Transfer on Death Deed in book 2869 page corrected 1046 in February. I believe she will need to revoke this deed after the plat is recorded as the legal on the TODD will no longer be valid. MATTHEW.BUTLE 12/11/2024 Application PZ-24-00106 GENERAL No comments R@LARAMIECOUN TYWY.GOV 12/11/2024 Workflow PLAN REVIEW GENERAL Premises identification shall be in accordance with 2021 IFC DANIEL.PETERS@ BY BUILDING section 505 and 2021 IRC section 319, and 2021 IBC section LARAMIECOUNTY 502.1. WY.GOV Building permits shall be required for all new building construction. Laramie County has adopted the 2021 I-codes and the 2023 NEC. 12/17/2024 12/17/2024 Application PZ-24-00106 GENERAL **Engineer Review** SCOTT.LARSON@ 1.I agree that a Drainage Study and Traffic Study is not LARAMIECOUNTY warranted for this plat application. WY.GOV 2.Per the LCLUR Section 3-5-107 c.iii.B, accesses need to be 1. ack spaced at a minimum of 550 along Road 143. The individual 2. the lots will access 143 Tracts are only approximately 329 which does not meet the minimum requirement. Therefore, the Tracts will not be able using shared access. that to access directly to Road 143 and will need to access 143 way they meet the lclur. via the 80 access and utility easement. An access roadway

with an easement (or dedicated) within Tracts 2, 3, and 4

Permit Notes

3. ack 4. changed				should be created to allow the Tracts to go south, tie into the existing 80 access easement and then access Road 143. 3.Any and all access utilized to gain access to this subdivision (i.e., like using the existing 80 access easement) shall be paved to the ROW line of Road 143 at a minimum. 4.Just an FYI, the year shown for all approvals and acknowledgements on the plat drawing may need to be changed to 2025 if all signatures are not obtained prior to December 31, 2024.		
 it doesn't ap be question for county. 				Surveyor Review 1.Is the 80 ACCESS AND UTILITY EASEMENT along the south boundary of TRACT 4 (BOOK 1469 PAGE 963) dedicated to the public? 2.Is ROAD 143 an official Laramie County Road created according to statutory requirements? If so, including the PETITION NUMBER for the road on the plat would clarify its status.		
12/18/2024 1. ack 2. corrected	Application	PZ-24-00106	GENERAL	1)If Ronald Sutherland is deceased, we will need some proof that he is deceased for the record. This shouldnt require a new deed.2)The dedication will need only her name on it.	LARAMIECOUNTY ATTORNEY@LARA MIECOUNTYWY.G OV	
12/18/2024 ack	Workflow	PLAN REVIEW BY ENVIRONMENTA L HEALTH	GENERAL	Each lot requires a small wastewater permit. Septic systems must be kept 50 ft from property lines and 50 ft from drainage. Easements are less than property setback requirements so should not cause issues. Signed final plat must be submitted to Environmental Health prior to application for permits.	TIFFANY.GAERTN ER@LARAMIECOU NTYWY.GOV	
12/19/2024 1. ack 2. yes 3. see response to end 4. ack 5. ack	Workflow ngineer	PUBLIC WORKS REVIEW	GENERAL	 All comments from the review engineer and surveyor shall be addressed. It appears the access easement on the south side of this subdivision is within the boundaries of this plat. Should it be? Access for these lots needs to be confirmed as requested by the review engineer. Any publicly dedicated access easements (outside of Road 143) shall be built to the Laramie County Land Use Regulations. Public Works had a resident within close proximity stop by our office to provide feedback and express her concerns. I do not see that in the record yet, but we did encourage her to send an email and make a formal comment. Her concerns were related to drainage . Looking at the aerial picture I can see where there could be a concern on how the water will flow through the properties. There is no designated flood zone, however, I could see value in getting information for the culvert under 143 adjacent to these tracts. Future infrastructure upgrades may be required with this development. This could include but is not limited to access, right-of-way (road construction), re-vegetation and signage. Permit applications through Public Works will be required at the time of development. 	MOLLY.BENNETT @LARAMIECOUNT YWY.GOV	

Permit Notes

12/23/2024	Workflow	PLAN REVIEW G BY PLANNING	GENERAL	Planning review 1:	BRYCE.HAMILTON @LARAMIECOUNT
		AND ZONING		1. Please address all agency comments.	YWY.GOV

WYOMING OFFICE OF STATE LANDS AND INVESTMENTS

122 West 25th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002 Phone: 307-777-7331 Fax: 307-777-2980 slfmail@wyo.gov



MARK GORDON Governor

JASON CROWDER Interim Director

12/9/2024

Laramie County Planning & Development Department Bryce Hamilton 3966 Archer Pkwy Cheyenne, WY 82009

RE: PZ-24-00106

Bryce,

Thank you for contacting the Office of State Lands and Investments (OSLI) regarding **PZ-24-00106 an application for approval of a Subdivision Permit for Pee-Wee Ponderosa Subdivision** located in Laramie County (NW, Section 29, Township 15 North, Range 63 West).

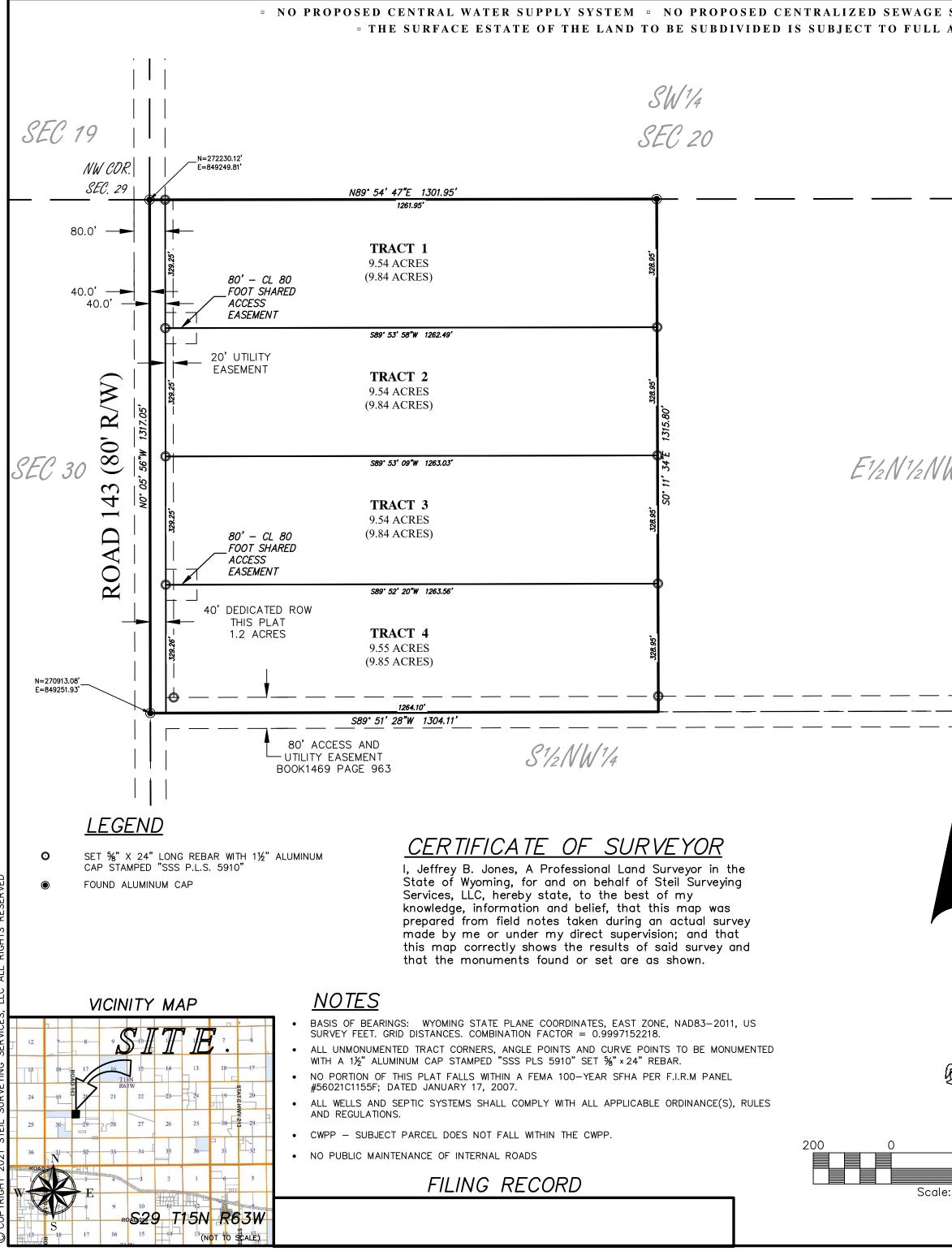
Based on the information provided, Ronald and Mary Lee Sutherland, have submitted an application for approval of a subdivision Permit for Pee-Wee Ponderosa Subdivision in Laramie County, Wyoming. The area of use is adjacent to state-owned lands to the west; however, the subdivision proposed is unlikely to have a negative impact on State Trust Lands. We note any organized activities, access across or work performed on state lands will require prior authorization from the state. Apart from that, we have no further comment as the lands under consideration are not owned by the state.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me with further questions.

Sincerely,

Caley Faulkner Real Estate Analyst 307-777-6630 Caley.Faulkner@wyo.gov

EFFECTIVELY MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES AND FUNDS FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS



SYSTEM - FIRE PROTECTION TO BE P AND EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT OF TH	E MINERAL ESTATE -
	<u>DEDICATION</u>
	KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS THAT: Mary Lee Sutherland, owner in fee simple of: The W½N½NW¼ OF Section 29, Township 15 North, Range 63 West, of the 6th P.M., Laramie
	County, Wyoming. Has caused the same to be surveyed, platted and known as:PEE-WEE PONDEROSA, and does
DISTURBED STONE,	hereby declare the subdivision of said land as it appears on this plat, to be their free act and deed and in accordance with their desires.
NEW FENCE POST AT CAP SET IN 1997, SEE CORNER RECORD.	Mary Lee Sutherland
	OWNER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
	STATE OF WYOMING)) SS COUNTY OF LARAMIE)
	The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this day of, 2025 by Mary Lee Sutherland.
	Notary Public, Laramie County, Wyoming
	My Commission Expires:
	<u>APPROVALS</u>
N 1/4	Approved by the Laramie County Planning Commission this day of, 2025.
	Chairman
	Approved by the Board of Commissioners of Laramie County, Wyoming this day of, 2025.
	Chairman ATTEST: County Clerk
	PEE_W/EE
	Ponderosa
Action of the second seco	A SUBDIVISION OF A THE W½N½NW¼ OF SECTION 29, T15N, R63W, 6TH P.M., LARAMIE COUNTY, WYOMING. PREPARED AUGUST, 2024
200 400 600 .: 1" = 200' REVISED: 12/23/2024 24384 29-15-63.	

Bryce Hamilton

From:	Amy Elle <lounsbury98@gmail.com></lounsbury98@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, December 26, 2024 4:08 PM
To: Subject:	Planning Proposed Plat for Pee Wee Ponderosa PZ-24-00106
Categories:	BRYCE

Attention: This email message is from an external(non-County) email address. Please exercise caution and/or verify authenticity before opening the email/attachments/links from an email you aren't expecting.

TO: Laramie County Planning

From: Amy Lounsbury 1671 CR 143 Hillsdale, Wy 82060 307-631-1427

Date: December 26th, 2024

Re: Concerns regarding proposed Subdivision Permit at 1679 CR 143, Hillsdale, Wy 82060

Greetings. I have been notified via registered letter of the proposal to permit Steil Surveying and/ or Mary Lee Sutherland to divide property adjacent to my property. There are many obvious concerns I have about this ridiculous proposal, but there are many other concerns that may not be as obvious, and I implore the planning department to take a serious look at the following information prior to making a decision.

The property involved is an 80 acre parcel that is rectangular in shape that boarders my property to the north. Our properties are identically sized at 80 acres. We share the responsibility of a shared easement that runs between the property lines from west to east for approximately a half mile, allowing access to only the properties behind us, owned by the Keiter's and the Waufle's. The easement specifies that those are the only properties that must be allowed access. Because of this, for the 20 plus years that we have all shared the easement, which is a private driveway, we have shared the responsibility of maintaining the road. Ron Sutherland assumed responsibility for blading the road for several years to keep the washboarding at bay, and during heavy snows, he plowed it. As he aged, Brad Waufle and I purchased equipment and assumed responsibility for the road maintenance. During bad snow storms, Dave Keiter has a larger tractor, and digs us out to the county road so that we can all get out.

This cooperative effort is not cheap, not for the cost of equipment nor the cost of fuel and the time invested. I bring this to your attention because the proposal of four additional properties at the west end of Sutherland's property introduces access issues to their properties. All of the proposed properties would run lengthwise, west to east with access either from the county road, or from an, as of now non existent, easement on the east end of their properties. Accessing that easement would have to be accomplished from either the north side of tract 1, requiring an easement between tract 1 and the property owned by the Epler's on the north side, or access to the east side easement via our maintained driveway which is my owned easement to the rear of my property to the Keiter's and Waufle's. It is already quite the job to maintain this road with just four property owners using the driveway. We have to be opportunistic after rain or snow to take advantage of the softer pack of the dirt to get the washboards off. This can be difficult during times of drought. Adding four more homeowners to this traffic is unacceptable. Nor am I inclined to grant an easement from my side of the road, which is exactly half, to the new occupants. Which brings us to the next concern.

The surveyor has noted that the proposed properties are not in a flood plain. One only has to be present during one of Wyoming's classic downpours to know that there is a great concern about the flooding that happens on the very properties proposed, particularly tracts 3 and 4 in the proposal. Across from the proposed land on the other side of County Road 143 is state property and property owned by the Eplers. There are high spots on the north and south sides of these properties with a deep gully the runs from west to east and diverts LARGE amounts of water during these storms. Several large culverts divert this water under the county road to the Sutherland's pasture, evidenced by the large trench that has occurred naturally over millions of years. Accessing the proposed properties from the county road would require culverts across the trench to be able to drive across. You don't have to be an engineer to realize that adding more culverts in this area, if it's not done correctly, could possibly squeeze those large amounts of water through culverts, spitting it out at great force on the south end. It would most likely wash out our driveway on the west end. My request at this point would be, if the homeowners are accessing from the county road, that they be required to add culverts that are engineered to handle the proper amount of water, AND that a culvert be installed under our easement/ driveway paid for by the builders of the subdivision to prevent subsequent property damage to my property and the driveway itself.

Finally, along the lines of access, exiting from proposed tract 1 presents a very dangerous action, as traffic traveling as fast as 90 miles an hour (because there is no speed enforcement as a rule here and nobody goes the speed limit) approaches from the north over the top of the hill. Someone is going to get hurt or killed doing that. Truck traffic on CR 143 is still heavy, even as oilfield traffic has dwindled.

Next, of great concern is the prevention of property owners placing cheaply built mobile homes on these parcels. The four of us have spent nearly a quarter century trying to increase the value of our properties by planting trees, building attractive fencing, gating, and housing. Until now, we have been cognizant of how and what we did would affect the other home owners. This sudden money grab has not taken into consideration any of that to the three land owners affected directly by this proposal. If they were proposing dividing the 80 acres into a new 40 acre homesite, we would not be having this discussion. We could handle that. But this is a ridiculous proposal to make tiny, less than 10 acre properties with four new families, pets, children and property. I would request that if this ridiculousness is approved, that the land owners be required to build a stick built home or at the very least, a high quality modular home that matches similarly to what has already been built on the adjacent properties.

Additionally, it really makes no sense to propose such tiny tracts in an area that has such large properties. The four existing 80 acre properties are four of the smallest in the whole area, and in saying that, Im talking about the entire ten square mile area. Why would folks want to come here and live right on top of each other on ten acre tracts? If they are wanting to live in the country and enjoy the peace that comes along with that, what sense does this make? It doesn't. There are proposed subdivisions that will make that possible closer to Cheyenne, that won't affect adjacent property owners as severely as this would. It simply makes zero sense.

For the past several years, Casey Epler and I have worked with the the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Mindy Meade) to protect Lodgepole Creek and the adjacent banks from damage due to livestock and hopefully reintroduce rare and common species of fish, shellfish, crawdads and other species to the creek again. The water level to the creek has continuously dropped significantly every year to the point where I haven't seen it run now for many years. The fish are gone, so are the raccoons, birds, ducks, etc. Casey has fenced off a portion of his land to allow the banks and the water to be undisturbed by his cattle, and I have stopped using the pasture that the creek runs through completely for two years to avoid the horses from running down the banks with their hooves during crossings. The change in natural vegetation has been amazing and when it does start raining regularly again, I have high hopes that the animal life will return. This stewardship takes a lot of sacrifice on the part of landowners. Everyone benefits in the area and in the state. This shows our dedication to our land and the creek. Will added land owners be as cognizant?

Finally, what makes where we live so enjoyable is the privacy. Seeing this proposal is just disappointing. It affects the five adjacent land owners greatly and the Sutherland's can walk away with cash in their pocket and their middle finger in the air. Deal with it, basically is what they are saying. Who cares what you have to deal with as long as we are getting as much money as possible. I'm all for the freedom to do as you want with your land, but this is too much. There are so many other areas where dividing property in this manner makes more sense. If Laramie County really cares about their residents and how stewardship of the land, its surrounding areas and waterways is affected, then why are they even considering this? I believe that I count too and my property and how it's affected by this should be considered with as much weight as anything else.

Please, if Mrs. Sutherland wants to divide her land and sell it, please limit it to a 40 acre tract. It makes so much more sense to all involved. She walks away with her profit and we will welcome a new neighbor. Let us enjoy our land in peace, the way we have for two decades. Let people who want to live right on top of each other do that somewhere else. This is not the place for that.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Amy Lounsbury

,

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A SUBDIVISION PERMIT AND PLAT FOR A PORTION OF THE NW ¼ OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 64 WEST OF THE 6TH P.M., LARAMIE COUNTY, WY, TO BE PLATTED AND KNOWN AS "PEE-WEE PONDEROSA SUBDIVISION."

WHEREAS, Wyoming State Statutes §18-5-201 to 18-5-208; §18-5-301 to 18-5-315 authorize Laramie County, in promoting the public health, safety, morals and general welfare of the county, to regulate the use of land through zoning in unincorporated Laramie County; and

WHEREAS, the Laramie County Board of Commissioners adopted the Laramie County Land Use Regulations (LCLUR); and

WHEREAS, the proposed subdivision and plat is in accordance with section 2-1-101 (a-e) of the Laramie County Land Use Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the application is in conformance with the LU – Land Use zone district; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall constitute the subdivision permit application for Pee-Wee Ponderosa Subdivision.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF LARAMIE COUNTY, WYOMING, as follows:

The Laramie County Board of Commissioners finds that:

- **a.** The application is in conformance with section 2-1-101 (a-e) governing the criteria for a subdivision permit & plat.
- **b.** The application is in conformance with section 4-2-112 governing the LU Land Use Zone District.
- c. The plat is currently noncompliant with access spacing requirements of LCLUR § 3-5-107.
- d. Plats have traditionally dedicated new ROW along section lines.

and that the Board approves the Subdivision Permit and Plat for Pee-Wee Ponderosa Subdivision with two (2) conditions:

- 1. The plat is revised to make access spacing on Road 143 compliant with the LCLUR.
- 2. The plat is revised to move the ROW dedication to the north border rather than the south.

PRESENTED), READ AND A	ADOPTED THIS _	DAY OF	, 2025.
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LARAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chairman

ATTEST:

Debra K. Lee, Laramie County Clerk

Reviewed and approved as to form:

Laramie County Attorney's Office