

## Brooke Clark

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**From:** Shaun Pigott <spigott@teleport.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 12:13 PM  
**To:** Angie Brewer  
**Subject:** Thornburgh Comments  
**Attachments:** Thornburgh Resort Proposal - TU Deschutes Redbands Chapter Comments 1-3-22.pdf

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Please find attached, comments from the Deschutes Redbands Chapter of Trout Unlimited regarding the Thornburgh Resort proposal.

Thanks

Shaun Pigott



Deschutes County  
1300 NW Wall Street  
Bend, OR 97703

January 3, 2022  
- emailed to Angie.Brewer@deschutes.org-

**SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON THORNBURGH DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:  
247-21-000637-TP and 247-21-000537-SP**

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of the Deschutes Redbands Chapter of Trout Unlimited (Chapter), its board of directors and our 720 members, we are writing this letter to express our grave concerns regarding the latest attempt to seek the County's approval of the Thornburgh Destination Resort development proposal. Our Chapter is focused on conservation of the cold-water fisheries throughout the Deschutes Basin. This proposed development's impacts, particularly on the water availability and fisheries in Whychus Creek and the Deschutes River, are unacceptable. Their proposal identifies potential water use of up to 6,000,000 gallons per day, the equivalent of 11 cubic feet per second (cfs) of river flow. It also relies on the withdrawal of this water from our shared aquifer directly affecting water availability for Whychus Creek and the Deschutes, which already suffer from inadequate instream flows.

Based on their proposed use of groundwater, Thornburgh has a legal obligation to comply with the 2008 Wildlife Management Plan (WLP) which requires full mitigation of its adverse impacts on fish and wildlife. At the same time, the state water permit for groundwater withdrawals (the basis for the 2008 WLP) has expired. Further, the resort's original proposal identified stream flows from Deep Canyon Creek as a source of mitigation water. As we know, this water is no longer available.

This current proposal leaves a great deal of doubt as to whether the resort has met its obligation to specifically identify **viable** sources of water to offset its negative impacts on our region's fish and wildlife.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments into the record.

Sincerely,

Shaun Pigott, President  
Deschutes Redbands Chapter – TU  
16 NW Kansas Ave.  
Bend, OR 97703