Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/27/2024 11:43:16 PM First name: Mark Last name: Blickenstaff Organization:

Title:

Comments: In short, the project proposal surrounding Sweetwater Lake is much too large in scale to maintain the environmental tranquility of this beautiful area, as well as the adjacent neighborhoods(increased traffic and dangerous situations with big R.V. rigs, horse trailers, and recreational trailers), and doesn't seem to promote environmental or economical sustainability within the project area and the nearby community. Environmental sustainability would be affected due to the increased number of campsites, recreational vehicles, fishermen(in canoes, inner-tubes, blow-up boats), stand-up paddle boards, etc.., which will likely result in overcrowding as well as water quality degradation. The surrounding land will also suffer due to the exponential use this project will encourage.

Eagle Valley Last Trusts' vision statement which should guide the planning is getting trampled on. The increased number of RV's, equestrian enthusiasts, campers, day visitors, etc., that the current project might bring don't appear to "retain and protect the natural and social characteristics of the area". Nor does the project, in my opinion, honor the historical use of the area. The proposed usage/visitor numbers compared to historical use in terms of number of visitors per day/year/season as well as historical equestrian usage volume appear to bring many more visitors than the historical use.

The scope and scale of the project are simply too grandiose! Scaling back the entire project would help with the aforementioned "sustainable management" .

I can appreciate some aspects of the proposal, such as minimally impacting the shoreline with things like perpendicular paths to the lake, closing wetlands, and efforts to lessen the impact of the cave. However, I still believe that all of these well thought out ideas would be better served if the entire project was significantly downsized.

In my opinion, the benefits of keeping this area a small and cozy place for people to enjoy far outweigh the need for such an expansion, as proposed! Thank you,

Mark