


Return Address: Melissa Kaselitz
10481 Cook Underwood Rd
Underwood, WA
98651

Skamania County, WA
Total: \$308.50
ADMIN
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2026-000487
04/01/2026 03:44 PM
Request of: MELISSA KASELITZ

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Skamania County
Community Development Department

Building/Fire Marshal • Environmental Health • Planning

Skamania County Courthouse Annex

Post Office Box 1009

Stevenson, Washington 98648

Phone: 509-427-3900 Inspection Line: 509-427-3922

ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION

APPLICANT: Melissa Kaselitz
FILE NO.: NSA-25-26
DESCRIPTION: After the fact application for the following: Removal of a manufactured home. Installation of 2-man doors to existing structures. Installation of a 10'x5' window. Installation of an underground propane tank. Proposed construction: Three retaining walls – 4'x200', 4'x300', and 4'x20' Converting the existing use from two detached garages to a winery and wine tasting room. Approval of a winery and wine tasting room. 3.5'x2 Sign. 10 car parking area.
LOCATION: 10481 Cook Underwood
PARCEL: 03-10-20-0-0-1100-00
ZONING: GMA – Residential 5 (R-5)
DECISION: Based upon the record and the Staff Report, the applicant's proposal, described above, is found to be consistent with SCC Title 22 and is hereby **APPROVED** subject to the conditions set forth below.

Although the proposed development is approved, it may not be buildable due to inadequate soils for septic and/or lack of potable water. These issues are under the jurisdiction of Skamania County's Building Division and the Skamania County Environmental Health Division. Approval of this request

does not exempt the applicant or successors in interest from compliance with all other applicable local, state, and federal laws.

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL:

The following conditions are required to ensure that the subject request is consistent with Skamania County Code Title 22. **THIS DOCUMENT, OUTLINING THE CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL, MUST BE RECORDED BY THE APPLICANT IN THE DEED RECORDS OF THE SKAMANIA COUNTY AUDITOR** in order to ensure notice of the conditions of approval to successors in interest. SCC §22.06.120(C)(2).

1. As per SCC §22.06.120(C)(2), this Administrative Decision **SHALL BE RECORDED** by the applicant in the County deed records prior to commencement of the approved project.
2. This approval does not establish residential development rights on the parcel. Any future change in use or structural expansion shall require review and approval pursuant to Title 22.
3. All development shall be consistent with the approved site plan on file with Skamania County Community Development, unless modified by the following conditions of approval. If modified, the site plan shall be consistent with the conditions of approval.
4. The setbacks in Section 22.10.070(B), FRONT YARD: fifty (50) feet from the centerline of the street or road or twenty (20) feet from the front property line, whichever is greater. SIDE YARD: twenty (20) feet. REAR YARD: twenty (20) feet.
5. No wine tasting activities shall take place within the wine production area.
6. Commercial events are not authorized under this approval.
7. No outside patio areas shall be utilized for wine tasting activities.
8. Wine processed on the subject property shall predominantly use grapes grown on the subject property or on vineyards located within the area.
9. The applicant shall ensure proper maintenance and survival of all required planted vegetation.
10. Installation of landscaping sufficient to screen the parking area and road frontage from Cook-Underwood Road. All required plantings shall be installed prior to project completion, sized to achieve effective screening within five years, and maintained for the life of the development. Any vegetation that does not survive shall be replaced in kind.
11. The wine sales/tasting room shall be accessory to an existing on-site winery. The wine sales/tasting room shall not be established until after the on-site winery is established. No exterior wine tasting, sales, organized events, or commercial services are approved in this application.

12. The exterior of all structures shall be dark earth-tones in color. The exterior includes, but is not limited to, sides, doors, garage doors, decks, gutters, roofs, and trim. The following colors submitted by the applicant are consistent with this condition and are hereby approved:

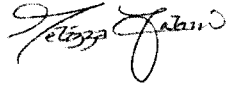
Siding: ForgeWood – Coal (Appear black)
Trim: Western States Metal – Rustic Rawhide
Roof: Taylor metal Products – Dark Bronze
Doors: Aluminum – Black
Windows: Anderson – Black Vinyl

Any proposed changes to these colors shall be submitted for review and approval by the Community Development Department for acceptably dark earth-tones before their application. Community development staff shall inspect the buildings for acceptably dark-earth colors before issuing final approval for this project. Additional coats of color may be required to achieve acceptable dark-earth tones before final NSA approval is issued.

13. Only that grading which is necessary for site development (building pads, utilities, etc.) is permitted. Grading activities shall be limited to the maximum extent practicable. All graded areas and disturbed ground left bare shall be re-seeded with native vegetation promptly and before final inspection by the Community Development Department.
14. The applicant shall meet all conditions of approval enacted to achieve visual subordination before final inspection by the Community Development Department. The applicant is to coordinate all inspections with the Building Division and Community Development. A final inspection approval will not be issued until compliance with all conditions of approval, including visual subordination criteria has been verified.
15. The retention of existing tree cover to the extent practicable, except where removal is necessary for approved site development or safety purposes.
16. At least one-half of all trees planted for screening purposes shall be native species appropriate to the setting, and at least one-half shall be coniferous to provide winter screening.
17. All required vegetation be maintained for the life of the development and replaced in kind if it does not survive.
18. All exterior lighting shall be hooded or shielded at a 90° angle. Hoods/shields should be made of non-reflective, opaque material which does not allow light to pass through
19. An Inadvertent Discovery Plan embodying the provisions of SCC 22.22.060 and SCC 22.22.070 shall be prepared and posted in a conspicuous place at the development site and shall remain posted until all project activities are concluded.
20. The following procedures shall be effected when cultural resources are discovered during construction activities:

- a. **Halt Construction.** All construction activities within 100 feet of the discovered cultural resource shall cease. The cultural resources shall remain as found; further disturbance is prohibited.
 - b. **Notification.** The project applicant shall notify the Administrator and the Gorge Commission within twenty-four (24) hours of the discovery. If the cultural resources are prehistoric or otherwise associated with Native Americans, the project applicant shall also notify the Indian tribal governments within twenty-four (24) hours.
 - c. **Survey and Evaluations.** The Gorge Commission shall survey the cultural resources after obtaining written permission from the landowner and appropriate permits from the DAHP (See Revised Code of Washington 27.53). It shall gather enough information to evaluate the significance of the cultural resources. The survey and evaluation shall be documented in a report that generally follows the provisions in Section 22.22.030 of this Chapter. Based upon the survey and evaluation report and any written comments, the Administrator shall make a final decision on whether the resources are significant. Construction activities may recommence if the cultural resources are not significant.
 - d. **Mitigation Plan.** Mitigation plans shall be prepared according to the information, consultation and report provisions contained in Section 22.22.050 of this Chapter. Construction activities may recommence when conditions in the mitigation plan have been executed.
21. The following procedures shall be effected when human remains are discovered during a cultural resource survey or during construction. Human remains means articulated or disarticulated human skeletal remains, bones or teeth, with or without attendant burial artifacts.
- a. **Halt of Activities.** All survey, excavation and construction activities shall cease.
 - b. **Notification.** Local law enforcement officials, the Administrator, the Gorge Commission, and the Indian tribal governments shall be contacted immediately.
 - c. **Inspection.** The county coroner, or appropriate official, shall inspect the remains at the project site and determine if they are prehistoric/ historic or modern. Representatives of the Indian tribal governments shall be contacted immediately and have an opportunity to monitor the inspection.
 - d. **Jurisdiction.** If the remains are modern, the appropriate law enforcement official shall assume jurisdiction and the cultural resource protection process may conclude.
 - e. **Treatment.** The procedures set out in RCW 27.44 and 68.05 shall generally be implemented if the remains are prehistoric/ historic. If human remains will be reinterred or preserved in their original position, a mitigation plan shall be prepared in accordance with the consultation and report requirements set out in Section 22.22.050 of this Chapter. The mitigation plan shall accommodate the cultural and religious concerns of Native Americans. The cultural resource protection process may conclude when conditions set forth in Section 22.22.050(C) of this Chapter are met and the mitigation plan is executed.

Dated and signed this 25th day of February 2026, at Stevenson, Washington.



Melissa Fahrni, Planner I
Skamania County Community Development

Unofficial
Copy

NOTE:

Any new development not included in the approved site plan on file with the Skamania County Community Development department will require a new application and review.

EXPIRATION:

As per SCC §22.06.150(A), this Administrative Decision approving a proposed development action shall become void in two years if the development is not commenced within that period, or once development has commenced the development action is discontinued for any reason for one continuous year or more.

If the development does not include a structure the permit shall expire two years after the date the land use approval was granted unless the use or development was established according to all specifications and conditions of approval in the approval. For land divisions, "established" means the final deed or plat has been recorded with the county auditor.

If the development includes a **structure** the permit shall expire when construction has not commenced within two (2) years of the date the land use approval was granted; or once the structure has been started and if the structure has not been completed within two (2) years of the date of commencement of construction the permit shall expire. Completion of the structure for this purpose means the completion of the exterior surface(s) of the structure, and compliance with all conditions of approval in the land use approval, including, but not limited to, painting of the exterior of the structure.

APPEALS:

The Director reserves the right to provide additional comments and findings of fact regarding this decision if appealed.

This Administrative Decision shall be final unless reversed or modified on appeal. A written Notice of Appeal form must be filed by an interested person within 20 days from the date hereof. Appeals are to be made to the Skamania County Hearing Examiner, P.O. Box 1009, Stevenson, WA 98648. Notice of Appeal forms and mailing lists are available at the Community Development Department and must be accompanied by a \$3,450.00 nonrefundable filing fee and a Certificate of Mailing.

The final determination of the Environmental Threshold Determination related to this underlying government action can be appealed to a court of competent jurisdiction, along with the underlying government action, only by the parties with standing to the Environmental Threshold Determination. If the underlying government action was exempt from SEPA review, this section does not apply.

A copy of this Decision, including the Staff Report, was sent to the following:

Persons submitting written comments in a timely manner
Yakama Indian Nation
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation
Nez Perce Tribe
Cowlitz Tribe
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Columbia River Gorge Commission
U.S. Forest Service –NSA Office
Board of County Commissioners
State of Washington Department of Commerce – Paul Johnson
Department of Fish and Wildlife