Trout Lake Community Council Candidate Interest Statement

Name: Tom Binder

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How Long have you been a resident and a registered voter in the Trout Lake School District? Six years resident and six years registered voter.

Please briefly describe why you are interested in becoming a member of the Trout Lake Community Council and what you can contribute to it:

I lived in Trout Lake from 1975 to 1985, and retired here in 2016. During my first stay I did most of the types of work available, including working on fire crews, reforestation, working on a farm, and setting chokers and chasing landing under a high lead. This all gave me perspective on the Trout Lake lifestyles.

The years from 1985-2016 were spent as a Clinical Nutritionist, feeding sick people. I supervised the Clinical Staff at the Seattle and Tacoma VA hospitals, and spent 13 years teaching part time at the college level. I continue to teach as a substitute at Trout Lake, Glenwood, and White Salmon.

I believe I came back in 2016 to a better place than I left. Family farms, forests and wildlife are all thriving. There are pressures, though, some of which the Community Council can help channel in productive directions. As the area gets better known, people are going to move here, and businesses will grow; that isn't going to stop. Items of importance include fire safety, land use issues, and affordable housing, and the health of the watersheds. The goal of the Council should be to help maintain the character of this town I love, and I think I can help to do that.

Thomas G. Binder 10/2/22