

## Belle Wood

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**From:** evan wilhelm <evanawilhelm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 31, 2023 1:17 PM  
**To:** BCPUD  
**Subject:** Support for limited water permit for emergency housing at Tacherra Ranch

I am writing to share my support for the BCPUD granting the BCLT's request for a limited water use permit for the temporary housing at the Tacherra Ranch.

The situation at this property has been ignored for too long, no one complained about water use at the property until there was a request to create impactful changes for the more than 50 community members living on the land. The residents of the ranch deserve dignity in their homes. They are our friends, neighbors and irreplaceable members of our shared community. What they have endured out of necessity is beyond acceptable and its time to create a change.

The water use of the Tacherra Ranch is not new, as the residents aren't new! The amount of water being used there has been factored into town wide supplies year after year. By granting a limited water use meter and creating actual oversight through the BCLT, the water use only has the opportunity to improve, is this correct?

This is the biggest moment our community has had to create equity, to put our values and community centric culture into action. We have the chance to do something so beautiful and virtuous by showing up to do what's right for the people who live here, create histories here, work and grow here.

To turn away from this opportunity out of fear of scarcity would be a complete embarrassment, a shame we won't be able to forget.

If we are worried about water equity and scarcity, then we should be rallying around limiting water for ornamental gardens and other wasteful extravagances currently allowed, rather than creating road blocks for the health and safety for some 50 men, women and children who are long time members of our community.

With respect and gratitude,

Evan Wilhelm