

# **The Northwest Guides and Anglers Association**

*To protect, enhance, and promote healthy sportfisheries and the ecosystems they depend on in the Pacific Northwest.*

Oregon Department of Forestry  
Salem Headquarters  
2600 State Street  
Salem, Oregon 97310

July 23, 2015

Re: Cold Water Standard

Dear Chair Imeson and Members of the Board:

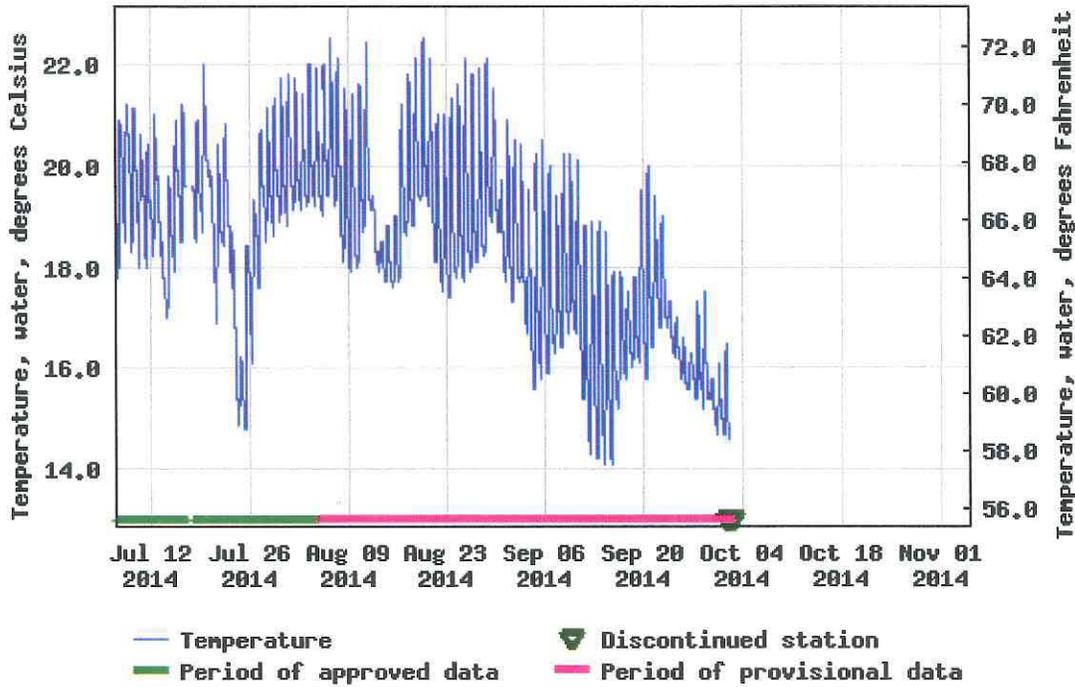
The NW Guides and Anglers Association is made up of over 30 guides and charters also representing thousands of sport anglers that participate in NW sportfishing. Our mission is to protect, enhance and promote healthy sportfisheries and the ecosystems they depend on in the Pacific Northwest. It is for this reason that we urge the Board to adopt the strongest possible protections for stream buffers on private forest lands.

The Forest Practices Act was a historic strategy when it was first implemented decades ago but is in dire need of updating with new science that is emerging on the effects of logging on stream temperatures. As our guides and anglers sit idle due to warm water restrictions implemented by ODF&W to protect stressed salmon, steelhead and trout, we call on all industries to do their part in protecting this species for future generations of Oregonians. Our industry is losing thousands of dollars a day in forgone revenue, to reduce mortalities in the lethal temperatures our region is currently experiencing with no relief in sight. It is the responsibility of all forest users to reduce the negative impacts on the resource and other industries while taking part in extractive activities. That decision now lies in the hands of this board and we hope you'll recognize wild salmon and steelhead as a forest product that supports thousands of jobs in rural Oregon.

Sincerely,

Chris Vertopoulos, Board member  
Northwest Guides and Anglers Association

USGS 14301500 WILSON RIVER NEAR TILLAMOOK, OR



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