

Submitted: June 1, 2019

Email Subject: Southern Oregon streams deserve the same riparian protection

Dear Board of Forestry Chair Imeson,

Oregon's current stream buffer rules don't protect southern Oregon streams from the impacts of logging on private forestlands. Please take action at the June 5 board meeting. Increase stream buffer standards for our rivers, and streams in southern Oregon.

I grew up in southern Oregon and consider the waters of this region and the fish they support to be the greatest asset of the southern Oregon citizens and visitors. Private forestry and landowners have continually shown that stewardship of the forest resource does not include appropriate buffers to streams unless they are legally required. The science is clear. Climate change is happening and the most sensitive of species to climate change will include our cold water anadromous fish including salmon and steelhead. In order to reduce sedimentation and temperature increases within these streams the board must act and move forward with protecting southern Oregon stream buffers as it already has in other regions of the state.

The Oregon Forest Practices Act should have consistent standards for riparian buffers across the state!

Sincerely,

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