

Candace Bonner

RE: Public Comment, March 7, 2018 Board of Forestry Meeting. Agenda Item 2,  
Eastern Oregon/Siskiyou Monitoring Streamside Protections

March 7, 2018

State Forester Daugherty, Chairman Imeson, and Members of the Board of Forestry:

I have long been concerned about riparian health, due to the post-harvest changes I observe in the streams crossing the industrial timberlands bordering my own forest land, and have testified on this subject many times before the Board. I apologize that I am not here in person for this important meeting. I volunteered some time ago to help teach children from the Washington School for the Blind to cross country ski on this date.

I urge the Board to act quickly to better protect the streams of the Siskiyou and Eastern Oregon. If the Board chooses option 2, and I hope you do so, I urge you to both set a short timeline for decision making, and to make a commitment to enacting rules which embody the riparian protections which the literature review determines are needed.

The Department of Forestry spent over 10 years on the Ripstream studies, and used this data to inform us that FPA rules were not adequately protecting the waters of the state. Jeremy Groom was able to use the Ripstream data to model what was needed to prevent changes in water temperature such that we could meet the Protecting Cold Water (PCW) standard most of the time for small and medium SSBT streams. The department science staff made it clear that this modeling could be extrapolated to the Siskiyou region, though not to Eastern Oregon. However, when the Board enacted new riparian rules, the Siskiyou region was left out, and the new rules fell far short of the riparian buffers that the modeling told us we needed.

I urge you to act more quickly for the Siskiyou region. And I urge you to enact rules for the Siskiyou region that do not fall short of what the data tells us is needed to adequately protect its streams. I urge you as well not to delay in dealing with the issue of adequate riparian protections in Eastern Oregon.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider this in your deliberations.

Respectfully submitted,

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NWRFPC, public member

Small woodland owner, Corbett, OR