

temperatures and increased sedimentation which is harmful to sensitive fish habitat. Many streams that flow into the Rogue are already too warm, threatening the health of salmon and other native fish. Or Haven't you noticed how green it's getting? Or that the weather is reaching new extremes? I urge you to move forward with a rulemaking process to improve stream buffer protections for southern Oregon streams under the Oregon Forest Practices Act. Please don't leave southern Oregon streams to be destroyed.

Wendy Gale, 184 Tomoe Ct Merlin OR 97532-9788, merlin.wendy@yahoo.com

Stream side forests in southern Oregon may be clear-cut as close as 20 feet from streams that support salmon and steelhead. The science is clear that removing trees near streams results in warmer stream temperatures and increased sedimentation which is harmful to sensitive fish habitat. Many streams that flow into the Rogue are already too warm, threatening the health of salmon and other native fish. Please, I sincerely urge you to move forward with a rulemaking process to improve stream buffer protections for southern Oregon streams under the Oregon Forest Practices Act. Please don't leave southern Oregon streams behind. They need your help! Thank you for your time.

Mrs Kristen Zumeta, 2440 Elk Valley Cross Rd Crescent City CA 95531-8460, DividedSky1984@gmail.com

With all my heart and pray that we awaken to our deep need to caretake our waterways. Our rivers and streams are what provide us the high quality of life we have here in the Rogue Valley and what makes this place special.

Miss Maryclair Highfield, PO Box 84 Williams OR 97544-0084, poet.artist.mc@gmail.com

I have helped survey streams for Salmon and seen the results of too much sediment from clear cutting. Salmon can't lay their eggs in this environment. Also sediment depletes the oxygen in the water and the lack of shade from trees causes water to warm depleting the oxygen even more. A little wider buffer zone would also bring back grants from organizations who have currently pulled funds from Oregon because the buffer zones are not sufficient.

Deborah Rudd, 93753 Coos Sumner Ln Coos Bay OR 97420-7451, runreadbake@gmail.com

Southern Oregon streams and rivers deserve protection just as much as elsewhere in the state, if not more so! Our geology and soils are diverse, our trees tend to grow more slowly than elsewhere in the state, and our sensitive fish habitat can still be protected. What do we need? We need wider stream buffers, including on private land, so that logging does not impact the areas immediately adjacent to streams, creeks, and rivers. Wider buffers will shade streams, keeping water temperatures lower, and keeping sediment out of the water. Not to mention habitat connectivity for all the wildlife that makes use of riparian areas. I urge you to move forward with a rulemaking process to improve stream buffer protections for southern Oregon streams under the Oregon Forest Practices Act. Remember the magnificent forests and streams of southern Oregon, including the Siskiyou and Rogue River watershed.

Aiyana Green, 2740 Tyler Creek Rd Ashland OR 97520-9755, aiyanaoutside@gmail.com

I pray that we will realize that we are our rivers, streams, and forests. I hope we can offer respect to the natural resources that provide us life by managing them mindfully. It is painful to live in a time when I feel I cannot bring children into the world because they may not have the most basic needs like clean air and water. There are currently 1,000,000 species on the brink of extinction primarily due to land use practices and secondly due to climate change, we know that clear cuts greatly contribute to both habitat destruction and climate change, let's wise up and be leaders in the miraculous restoration of our planet, or at least live with some dignity intact. I'm very concerned that Oregon's current stream buffer rules don't protect southern Oregon streams from the impacts of logging on private forestlands. I urge the Board to move forward with a rule making process to strengthen stream buffer standards for our waterways.

Maryclair Highfield, 1333 Cedar Flat Rd Williams OR 97544-9657, poet.artist.mc@gmail.com
