

**Submitted through Board of Forestry Website:**  
<https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Board/Pages/CommentsBoard.aspx>

**Email Campaign Message: We Need Stronger Siskiyou Stream Protections**

Dear Chair Imeson and Members of the Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns for the coldwater streams of southern Oregon that provide critical habitat for the region's iconic salmon, steelhead, trout and lamprey. These important fish populations are threatened by insufficient stream buffers, which fail to provide the streamside habitat that creates shade to support coldwater conditions required for the populations to remain viable now and into the future.

Science has demonstrated that removing trees and vegetation near streams results in warmer stream temperatures. It is well documented that the unique and diverse habitats in the Siskiyou Region already experience conditions that tend to be warmer and drier than other parts of western Oregon, and state fish managers have identified stream temperature as a limiting factor for fish populations in the area affecting productivity. This is concerning because of all the factors that affect salmon and trout biology, water temperature is probably the most important environmental influence, as it impacts nearly every phase of their life, including metabolism, migration, spawning, rearing, swimming speed, and gives them competitive advantage over other predators.

Consequently, the streams in southern Oregon need stronger protections from the known negative impacts of logging on private forest lands near fish bearing streams, not less protections. It is clear that the requirement for Protecting Coldwater Criterion is not being met under the current forest practice requirements. I urge you to move forward with a rule-making process to improve stream buffer protections for the Siskiyou Region.

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## **Additional Information Submitted with Campaign Message:**

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I moved here 15 years ago because of the beauty and ideals I believe this state holds. I am learning some of them are not as true as I would have believed. Other states have enacted stricter rules to protect PEOPLE as well as wildlife with out bring the timber industry to it's knees. Oregon can as well. Let's be an example to "sustainable" (nothing really is) forest use, not a horrible warning.

Gregory Sweeney, Bay City OR 97107, greginct@yahoo.com

Years ago, while hunting in the coast range I saw a coho stream feel the effects of logging. We had over the years watched as these fish spawned. Once the logging operation occurred, and done legally, the coho did not return in the next six years we hunted the area. It is hard to protect a stream from the effects of logging when the slope and all riparian protections are in a vertical dimension. I called ODFW who examined the site. I was told all regulations were followed.

Ruel Brumitt, Eugene OR 97401, rcbrumitt@comcast.net

Wild salmon need our protection. Cutting trees too close to streams increases the water temperature. I urge you to move forward with a rule-making process to improve stream buffer protections for the Siskiyou Region. Thank you

David Kruse, Gladstone OR 97027, dbkruse@comcast.net

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns for the coldwater streams of southern Oregon that provide critical habitat for the region's iconic salmon, steelhead, trout and lamprey. As a coastal community member and business owner I am appalled at Oregon's weak forestry laws and lack of habitat protections. Excluding the Siskiyou from the last streamside buffers (which aren't enough anyway and well below Washington's standards) was a huge mistake. These important fish populations are threatened by insufficient stream buffers, which fail to provide the streamside habitat that creates shade to support coldwater conditions required for the populations to remain viable now and into the future.

Kate CRUMP, Rockaway Beach OR 97136, [kalamityk8@gmail.com](mailto:kalamityk8@gmail.com)

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