

Form Letter Commenters

Group 1 Form Comments:

Summary: OWRD received 598 emails from 491 members of the public submitting the following comments; some members submitted the same comment multiple times, as noted in the table below:

Dear Oregon Water Resources Department:

Oregon's water resources are critical to our rivers, safe drinking water and state economy, and they deserve our protection.

Drought is projected to become more frequent and more severe in Oregon in the next several decades due to climate change—endangering our wildlife, farms and drinking water. These new rules are a smart, science-based approach to plan for the future and ensure there is enough water for people and nature.

I urge you not to let Oregon run dry. I support new groundwater rules in Oregon that will secure a strong water future for nature and people.

Kind regards,
[Name]
[City], OR

Name	City
Aaron Bott	Prineville
Abigail Garwood	Portland
Adam Zahn	Portland
Alan Bennet	Portland
Alan Scott	Portland
Alessandra Burgos	Portland
Alex Samarin • (2) submissions	Bend
Alice Coyne • (2) submissions	Portland
Alice Elshoff	Bend
Alicia Liang	Portland
Alison Toledo	Portland
Allison Everitt	Salem
Amanda Powell • (2) submissions	Eugene

Amber Johnson	Eugene
Amber Star	Grants Pass
Anastasia Gilliam	Portland
Andrea Pellicani	Coos Bay
Andrew Harvey	Portland
Andrew McIvor	Eugene
Andrew Rorick	Baker City
Ann Chilcote	Lake Oswego
Ann Fujii	Salem
Ann Nowicki • (2) submissions	Eugene
Ann Ruttan	Portland
Anne Ackley	Portland
Anne Clark	Portland
Anne Nelson	Portland
Anne Newins	Medford
Anne-Sophie Houdek • (2) submissions	Portland
Antonia Forster	Portland
Arthur Gardener	Eugene
Arthur Moss • (2) submissions	Portland
Aviram Sofir	Portland
Barb LeBoss	Corvallis
Barbara Wright	Eugene
Becky McGill Johnson	La Pine
Becky Stephenson	Bend
Benton Elliott • (3) submissions	Eugene
Bernard Seeger	Cascade Locks
Betsy Hall	Eugene
Betsy Cramer	Portland
Bill Gilmore	Portland
Billy Helton	Eugene
Bixuan Chen	Salinas
Bret Kimple	Bend
Bruce Hellemn	Portland
Bruce Stock	Salem
Bruce Williams	Bandon
C Simard	Eugene
Cam Wolff	Milwaukie

Carl Braginsky	Portland
Carol Elkins • (4) submissions	Aumsville
Carol Moorehead	Sisters
Carol Sagawa • (2) submissions	Beaverton
Carol Salami-Goswick	Eugene
Carol Skowron	Beaverton
Carol Turtle	Oak Grove
Caroline Natwick	Lake Oswego
Carolyn Hunsaker	Bend
Cathin Yang	Beaverton
Cathy Rowlette	Beaverton
Charlene Erika Howerton	Beaverton
Charles Fraver	Milwaukie
Charlotte Conlin	Eugene
Charmine Rone • (2) submissions	Tigard
Cherine Bauer • (2) submissions	Eugene
Cheryl Braginsky • (3) submissions	Portland
Chris Gonzalez	Portland
Christie Zerfing • (2) submissions	Carlton
Christine Drommond	Portland
Christine Psyk	Hood River
Christine Vernier	Portland
Christopher Gunther • (2) submissions	Portland
Christopher Warren • (2) submissions	Springfield
Claire Stock	Portland
Collette Smith	Portland
Connie Allen Greig	Bend
Corinne Sherton	Salem
Corrie Podolak • (2) submissions	Hood River
Craig Cutting	Corvallis
Craig Kelley	Aurora
Craig Marburger	Portland

Cynthia Clague	Eugene
Cynthia Custer • (2) submissions	Eugene
Dale Derouin • (2) submissions	Dallas
Dale Holzschuh	Portland
Dana Weintraub • (4) submissions	Beaverton
Daniel Armand	Wilsonville
Daniel Kozié • (2) submissions	Sunriver
Danna Azevedo Bonner	Medford
Danny Dyche	Hillsboro
Darlyn Reising	Medford
Darryl Walters	West Linn
David & Ingrid Cook	Joseph
David & Judith Berg • (2) submissions	Eugene
David Bronson	La Grande
David Dronkowski	Happy Valley
David Edwards	Eugene
David Hohler	Corvallis
David Klingensmith • (2) submissions	Eugene
David Sweet • (2) submissions	Portland
Dawn Dauble	Otis
Dawn Nelson	Florence
Deb Buitron • (2) submissions	Port Orford
Deb Merchant	Albany
Debora Chandler	Hillsboro
Debra Nelson	Hillsboro
Debra Poscharscky	Portland
Dennie Carcelli	Portland
Dennis Wolff	Milwaukie
Diana Hinatsu	Portland
Diana Huntington	Eugene
Diane Beaulaurier	Eugene
Diane George	Hillsboro
Dina Hinz	Portland

Donlon McGovern	Portland
Donna Mulvey • (2) submissions	Grants Pass
Dorothy Louis	Albany
Dorothy Wylie	Bend
Douglas Ifft	Canby
Edith Curtis	Tigard
Edward House	Tigard
Eileene Gillson • (2) submissions	Sherwood
Elaine Hamm	Milwaukie
Elaine Henderson • (2) submissions	Portland
Elaine Johnson	Portland
Elaine Rybak	Portland
Elisha Shepard	Eugene
Elizabeth Fujii	Salem
Elizabeth Grant • (2) submissions	Eugene
Ellen Hall-Chave	Banks
Emily Kozie	Sunriver
Emlyn Stenger	Portland
Fay Yee	Milwaukie
Florence Harrod • (2) submissions	Florence
Fran Recht	Depoe Bay
Frances Meyers	Portland
Frances Moore	Portland
Frank Rouse	Colton
Frederick Beal • (2) submissions	Portland
Gail Koepf	The Dalles
Garth Fuller	Bend
Gary Lape	Eugene
Gary Millhollen • (2) submissions	Eugene
Gary Sumrak	Medford
Gayle Chapin	Coos Bay
Gene Stubbs	Portland
George Stevenson	Portland
Gerakd Harris	Portland

Gerard Ridella • (2) submissions	Portland
GiGi DeRoin	Eugene
Gina Lobaco	Tualatin
Gloria & Bob Ziller • (2) submissions	O'Brien
Gloria Jacobs	Tigard
Gordon Jones	Camp Sherman
Gordon Patterson	Portland
Grant Rolette	Portland
Greeley Wells	Jacksonville
Harry Freiberg	Brookings
Heather McMahon Wadia	Beaverton
Heidi Hart-Zorin	Portland
Heidi Lorenz	Newport
Helen Gibbins	Clackamas
Helen Jones	Ashland
Helen McNaughton	Milwaukie
Hollis Fishelson-Holstine • (2) submissions	Philomath
Hope Harbour	Lincoln City
Howard Harrison	Tillamook
Ian Shelley	Portland
Ian Waite	Portland
Ila Fetterly	Ranier
Ira Cohen	Union
Isabella Rosado	Bend
Jack Carter • (2) submissions	Bend
Jacqueline Hauser	Beaverton
Jacquie Begemann • (2) submissions	Canby
James Emerson	Portland
James Strickler	Portland
Jan O'Donnell	Woodburn
Jan Stone	Aloha
Jane Barth	Corvallis
Jane Bartosz • (2) submissions	Salem
Jane Evans	Salem
Jane Roffey Berry	Portland

• (2) submissions	
Janee Nekuda	Aumsville
Jean Butcher	Portland
Jean Rosenbalm	Beaverton
Jean Svadlenka	Wilsonville
Jeff Davis	Salem
Jeffrey Morey	Eugene
Jen Langevin	The Dalles
Jennie Sandler	Beavercreek
Jennifer Will	Bend
• (3) submissions	
Jens Petersen	Portland
Jerry Charlson	Oregon City
Jerry Melton	Corvallis
Jerry Moore	Bend
Jess DePew	Lebanon
Jess Kimball	Portland
Jess Weinberger	Portland
Jill Young	Portland
Jim Adams	Tillamook
Jim Frielink	Sandy
Jim Hemmingsen	Eugene
Jim Holm	Corvallis
Joan Wikler	Portland
Joel Hurd	West Linn
John Andersen	Coburg
John Borland	Williams
• (2) submissions	
John Chen	Portland
John Kaib	Portland
John Katzenstein	Albany
John Pearson	Selma
John Rogers	Mosier
John S	Portland
Joseph Hughes	Silverton
Joyce Hergenrader	Aloha
Joyce Sherman	Portland
• (2) submissions	
Joyce Winslow	Eugene
Judee Pokorny	Culver
• (2) submissions	

Judith Friend	Portland
Judith Johnston	Eugene
Judy Burchell	Portland
Judy Flynn	Portland
Julie Bellman	Portland
Julie Gibson	Corvallis
Julie Olmstead	West Linn
Julie Spilker	Canby
Justin Jones	Enterprise
Kadie Robinson	Beaverton
Kami Ellingson	Corvallis
Karen Buskirk	Sisters
Karen Kay Bircher	Bend
Karen Lawrence	Eugene
Karen Sjogren • (2) submissions	Salem
Karen Smith	Corvallis
Karen Varney	Portland
Karl Keener	Portland
Karon Johnson	Bend
Kat Wolfe	Ashland
Kate Natoli	Portland
Kate O'Neill	Portland
Kathleen Baumhardt	Albany
Kathleen Christenson	Woodburn
Kathleen Hoozeboom-Pot	Hillsboro
Kathleen Johnson	Bend
Kathleen Plaza	Alsea
Kathleen Ruiz • (3) submissions	Seaside
Kathryn Heereme	Eugene
Kathy Morefield	Bend
Kathy Pickle	Portland
Katie Haldeman	Bend
Katt King	Salem
Kay Firor	Cove
KB Mercer	Portland
Kei Quitevis-Smith • (2) submissions	Beaverton
Kelley Tom	Portland
Kelly Wallis	Corbett

Ken Hick	Portland
Kent Sugnet	Portland
Kenya Cruz	Oregon City
Kim Wick	Buxton
Kimberly Rhodes	Portland
Klemke Ken	Bend
Kristin Conrad-Antoville	Portland
KT Morgan	Grants Pass
Larry Francis	Applegate
Larry Narlock • (2) submissions	Grants Pass
Larry Richardson	Milwaukie
Laura Hanks	Milwaukie
Laura Mattheiessen	Milwaukie
Laura Waite	Portland
Laurali Hudgins	Portland
Lauren Tennet • (2) submissions	Portland
Laurinda Mackenzie	Portland
LD B	Sherwood
Leigh Merriman	Lake Oswego
Leslie Oldenburg	Eugene
Leslie O'Neil	Bend
Linda Bolduan	Lake Oswego
Linda Cossey	Florence
Linda Grabe • (2) submissions	Hillsboro
Linda Grove • (3) submissions	Clackamas
Linda Hendrix • (2) submissions	Bend
Linda Lockwood	Salem
Linda MacKown • (2) submissions	Newport
Linda Meng	Portland
Linda Parmer • (2) submissions	Portland
Linda Watts	Florence
Lindsay Klein	Portland
Lisa Bizon-Carroll	Neotsu
Lisa Brice	Wilsonville

Lisa Mitchell	Portland
Lori Bennis	Portland
Lori Hood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) submissions 	Corbett
Lorraine Foster <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (3) submissions 	Portland
Lorraine Vijayakar	Eugene
Lotte Hutchinson	Oregon City
Lucius Caldwell	Hood River
Lyn Gale	Portland
Lynn Cardiff	Salem
Lynne Pelos	Amity
Lynnette Chiotti <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) submissions 	Saint Helens
Madronna Holden <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (3) submissions 	Eugene
Marcos Lopez	Portland
Margie Hanrahan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) submissions 	Gresham
Margie Pratchenko	Medford
Marguerite Eliasson	South Beach
Marilyn Fujiyoshi	Portland
Marion Dresner	Newberg
Marion Hadden <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) submissions 	Jacksonville
Marjorie Nafziger <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) submissions 	Portland
Mark Brocker	Beaverton
Mark Darienzo	Portland
Mark Peabody	Eugene
Mark Potsdam	Bend
Marsha Garry	Cottage Grove
Marsha Hansen	Woodburn
Martha Lussenhop	Sisters
Martha Metcalf	Grants Pass
Martin Robbins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) submissions 	Astoria
Mary Buckley	Portland
Mary Christensen	Portland
Mary Davis	Portland
Mary Foley	Lake Oswego

Mary Neuendorf	Salem
Mary Straub	Portland
Masayo Kaneko	Portland
Matt Lane	Portland
Matt Richmond	Portland
Matthew Higgins	Portland
Matthew Oliphant	Bend
Maurine Canarsky • (2) submissions	Portland
Meaghan Doherty	Bend
Meladee Martin	Portland
Melanie Wood	Hillsboro
Meredith Tufts	Eugene
Michael Dean	North Bend
Michael Noack • (2) submissions	Waldport
Michael Partsch	Myrtle Point
Michael Smolski	Portland
Michaela Edwards	Gresham
Michele Frisella • (3) submissions	Portland
Michelle Stauffer	Corvallis
Micki Selvitella	Portland
Mike Brinkley • (3) submissions	Eugene
Mike Flaningam	Depoe Bay
Miles Merwin	Portland
Morton Smith • (2) submissions	Ashland
Nancy Bovee	Salem
Nancy Carl • (2) submissions	Carlton
Nancy Marshall • (3) submissions	Portland
Nancy Perkinson	Coos Bay
Nancy Wineland • (2) submissions	Beaverton
Ned Knight	Newberg
Neil Malling	Portland
Neysa Zurkammer	Newport
Nicole Fischer	Portland

Nikki Dennis	Portland
Nikki Martin	Silverton
• (2) submissions	
Norman Ploss	Bend
North Sininger	Eugene
Ofer Fuchs	Portland
Olga Kildisheva	Bend
Owen Baughman	Burns
Pam Raby	Albany
Pat Bowman	Portland
Pat Kaczmarek	Portland
Patricia Fields-Modig	Waldport
Patricia Scarci	Springfield
Patricia Selinger	Portland
Paul Borcharding	La Grande
• (3) submissions	
Paul Brandon	Newberg
Paul Katen	Otis
Penny Guinther	Lincoln City
• (3) submissions	
Pete & Jeanie Barkett	Portland
Peter Kokopeli	Portland
Peter Martens	Redmond
Peter Richards	Portland
Philip Randall	Bend
Philip Walters	Portland
Rachel Brake	Portland
Rachel Hyde	Hood River
Rebecca Carney	Aloha
Rebecca Dempsey	Portland
Rebecca Kimsey	Sublimity
• (2) submissions	
Rebecca Lipton	Springfield
Reida & Charles Kimmel	Eugene
Richard Demarest	Portland
Richard Payne	Beaverton
Richard Stoltze	La Pine
Richard Williams	Portland
Rita McKissick	Albany
Robert Mumby	Medford
Robert Satterwhite	Hillsboro

Robert Smith • (2) submissions	Clackamas
Robin Jenkins • (2) submissions	Dallas
Robin Kladke	Roseburg
Rodgers Dennen • (2) submissions	Portland
Roger Sandquist	Portland
Ron Bourke	Portland
Ruba Leech	Portland
Ruby Hill	Portland
Russell Barber • (2) submissions	Portland
Russell Scheinberg	Portland
Ruth Hendrick • (2) submissions	Portland
Ruth Martin • (2) submissions	Bend
Sabin Phelps	Ashland
Sally Keller	Eugene
Sandra Colvard	Gold Beach
Sandra Ericson	Portland
Sandra Farrell • (2) submissions	Portland
Sandra Flaskerud	Sandy
Sandra Joos	Portland
Sandra Lancaster	Beaverton
Sandra Rafalik	Portland
Sandra Romito	Portland
Sara Safdie	Portland
Sarah Borrero	Portland
Sarah Lauer	Eugene
Sarah Long	Portland
Sarah McCarty	Lake Oswego
Sarah Sheridan	Banks
Sarah Wright	Bend
Setsuko Maruki-Fox	Grants Pass
Sharon Jones	Portland
Sharon Lutero	Redmond
Sharon Rub • (2) submissions	Hillsboro

Sheila Ford Richmond	Hood River
Shereen Spector Gurtisen	Troutdale
Sherrie Rasmussen	Sutherlin
Sierra Farris	Ashland
Stefanie Landman	Forest Grove
Stephanie Ritter	Bend
Stephen Bachhuber • (2) submissions	Portland
Stephen Brand	Eugene
Stephen Gerould	Portland
Stephen Johnson • (2) submissions	Portland
Stephen Schapiro	Portland
Steve Besing	Salem
Steve Greening	Bend
Steven Bruckner • (2) submissions	Portland
Steven Schulz	Lake Oswego
Stevyn Llewellyn	Portland
Susan Bexton	Portland
Susan Brodeur	Bend
Susan Brown	Neotsu
Susan Conrad	Bend
Susan Degen	Eugene
Susan Evans	Portland
Susan Harris	Portland
Susan Marsh • (2) submissions	Lake Oswego
Susan Mates	Portland
Susan Naanes	Beaverton
Susan Weatherby	Madras
Susan Witt	Hood River
Susanna Askins • (3) submissions	Bandon
Suzanne Leduc	Elmira
Tammy Causey	Jefferson
Tansy Rhein	Portland
Terry Andrews	Gold Beach
Terry Dalsemer	Portland
Thomas Cable	Eugene
Thomas Holley	Portland

Tiffany Cicchetti	Grants Pass
Tiffany Spahn	Portland
Timothy Ray	Milton Freewater
Todd McLeish	Salem
Tomika Dew	Dallas
Travis Rose	Portland
Valerie Clappison	Portland
Veronica Z	Florence
Vicki Fox	Talent
Vicki Hodges	Klamath Falls
Victoria Eells • (2) submissions	Gold Beach
Victoria Koch • (2) submissions	Eugene
Vina Gardner	Oregon City
Violet Young	Yachats
W. Michael Wolf	Portland
Wayne Potter	Portland
Wayne Stewart	Portland
Wendy Emerson	Portland
Whit Watkins	Oregon City
William Babcock	Portland
William Beard	Lake Oswego
William Muenchau	Leaburg
William Musser	Portland
Yancette Halverson	Portland
Yehudah Alan Winter • (2) submissions	Portland
Yuqing Kou	Portland
Zinnia Dagostino	Portland

Group 2 Form Comments:

Summary: OWRD received seven emails from members of the public submitting the following comments; one of these members of the public provided supplemental comments, as noted in the table below:

I support the OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rule revisions because:

- The new rules will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.
- The new rules will ensure better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams from impacts of over-pumping hydrologically connected groundwater is of the utmost importance.

- Challenges associated with the impacts of climate change make it even more important for the state stop over-issuing groundwater permits.
- Improvement as to how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to the adoption of the proposed rules.

Name	City	Comment Modifications
George, Molly, Maddy, & Connor Hutchinson	Corvallis	Yes
Gerald Brown	N/A	No
Gloria & Bob Ziller	O'Brien	No
Greg McManus	N/A	No
Sean Brady	Portland	No
Sherry Brainerd	Sisters	No
Susan Klof	N/A	No

Group 3 Form Comments:

Summary: OWRD received 610 emails from 601 members of the public submitting the following comments; seven members of the public submitted the same comment multiple times, and 62 members of the public modified their comments, as noted in the table below.

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define reasonably stable groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other

wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,

[Name]

OR [Zip code]

Name	Zip code	Comment Modifications
A Todd	97404-0509	No
Adrian Bergeron	97834-0941	No
Alex Prentiss	97281-0759	Yes
Alex Tucker	97024-3822	No
Alfred Beltram	97321-7405	Yes
Alicia Cohen	97214-5561	No
Alicia Liang	97214-5701	No
Alicia Mehlis	97703-5639	No
Alison Pitale	97003-3139	No
Alita Pearl	97364-0801	No
• (2) submissions		
Allan Peterson	97520-3220	No
Allison Everitt	97301-2198	No

Amber Haven	97132-6927	No
Amber Star	97527-8638	No
Amy Bright	97203-4029	No
Amy Rossman	97330-2214	No
Andrea Vargo	97212-4053	No
Andrew Scott	97709-1421	No
Andrew Simrin	97404-2841	Yes
Angelita Gates	97351-1437	No
Angie Heide	97214-3794	No
Anita Gimre	97106-0277	No
Ann Hollyfield	97394-0999	No
Ann Nowicki	97408-5915	No
Anna Cowen	97045-8505	No
Anna Wessinger	97231-1517	No
Anne Kollender	97222-5649	No
Annitta Bowman	97914-4526	No
April Atwood • (2) submissions	97202-5442	No
Arthur Gardener	97401-2090	No
Ashlea Lindsey	97303-8000	No
Austin Koontz	97401-1738	Yes
Barbara Jansen	97321-1855	No
Barbara Leicht	97355-1883	No
Barbara Pikus	97222-3423	Yes
Barbara Rizzo	97376-9537	No
Barry Marshall	97130-0026	No
Bea Dames	97219-4311	No
Becky Rose	97005-1212	Yes
Becky Stephenson	97703-1768	No
Belinda Colley	97410-0152	No
Benton Elliot	97401-3986	No
Bert Jarnagin	97526-9385	Yes
Beth Doran	97302-9769	No
Beth Flake	97031-9732	No
Beth Levin	97213-2415	No
Beth Marshall	97502-1867	No
Betsy Herbert	97330-9788	No
Betty Shelley	97330-2475	No
Beverly Minn	97411-9589	Yes
Beverly Tiemann	97034-6107	No
Blythe Clark-McKitrick	97214-2586	No

Bob Clark	97527-6390	No
Bobbie Cade	97301-4152	Yes
Bonnie Shaffer	97520-1912	No
Bowdie Jaime	97016-2237	No
Brenda Carey	97501-9664	No
Brenda Kluhsman	97424	No
Brent Rocks	97201-6132	No
Brett Baumann	97034-1657	No
Bridget Wyatt	97213-2319	No
Brooke BrandSmith	97216-1070	No
Bruce Pellegrini	97013-0682	No
Bruce Raffety	97814-2243	No
Bruce Stowell	97527-4100	No
Candace Bagley	97219-2446	No
Carla Pacheco	97219-4997	No
Carla Williams	97424-1909	No
Carol Nugent	97124-4044	No
Carol Van Strum	97390-9632	No
Carole Hamilton	97338-1057	No
Carole Miles	97080-9522	No
Carole Russelle	97229-3340	No
Caroline Miller	97232-6402	No
Carolyn Giles	97330-4735	No
Carolyn Latierra	97212-3637	No
Carolyn Saliia	97439-7627	No
Carolyn Wise	97206-8710	No
Carrie Gibbons	97202-4334	No
Cassandria Lemmon	97424-9409	No
Cathie Batavia	97229-8084	No
Cathy Bledsoe	97225-6947	No
Cecile Valastro	97140-6222	No
Charles Hung	97403-4900	No
Charlie Graham	97124-2330	No
Chelsea Stewart-Fusek	97219-4438	No
Cherine Bauer	97404-1704	No
Cheryl Harstad	97223-1837	No
Cheryl Lewis	97267	No
Chris Cooper	97214-4910	No
Christine Psyk	97031-2918	No
Christine Rosa	97430-9731	No
Christopher Pond	97496-5570	No

Cierra Buer	97753-1730	No
Cindy Enlow	97321-1176	No
Ciry Null	97624-7799	No
Claudia Beausoleil	97544-9686	No
Clyde Williams	97267-4307	No
Colleen Murray	97212-2092	No
Conny Shadle	97520-3651	No
Conor Driscoll	97203-1309	No
Constance Newman	97402-4929	No
Corinne Sherton	97306-1007	No
Cory Pinckard	97224-3651	No
Coyote Marten	97330-9428	No
Craig Cline	97302-9476	No
Craig Emerick	97330-6128	No
Cristy Murray	97045-8705	No
Cynthia Muscat	97453-9616	No
Cynthia Salazar	97008-7405	No
D Stirpe	97214-1633	No
Dale Holzschuh	97214-2805	No
Dan & Janet Blair	97846-0330	Yes
Dan Jaffee	97211-5011	Yes
Dana Bleckinger	97498-0904	No
Dana Brenner	97439-7724	No
Dana Petre-Miller	97303-3534	No
Dana Robinson	97206-4708	No
Dana Sewall	97030-6653	No
Danae Michael	97015-9157	No
Daniel Johnson	97231-2106	No
Daniel Kozie	97707-1864	Yes
Danielle Stutheit	97365-9643	No
Dave Potter	97603-7729	No
Dave Ruud	97231-1429	No
David & Judith Berg	97405-2037	Yes
David D. Markwardt	97760-7833	No
David Ellenberger	97211-3461	No
David Goldman	97219-4458	No
David Jaffe	97225-4009	No
David Kelley	97080-9737	No
David Kennedy	97439-8538	No
David Klingensmith	97401-1532	No

David Konkol	97206-3824	No
David Labby	97211-6735	Yes
David Nichols	97213-3021	No
David Saul	97405-4808	No
Dawn Griffin	97213-2129	No
Debbie Kreuser	97007-6432	No
Deborah Field	97213-1840	No
Debra Culwell	97030-4148	No
Debra Rehn	97202-4557	No
Debra Smith	97267-2955	No
Dena Turner	97215-2805	No
Denine Heinemann	97217-2339	No
Dennis Hoerner	97403-1517	No
Diana Pace	97470-3733	No
Diane Black	97317-9195	No
Diane Daiute	97386-1303	No
Diane Goransonmiller	97341-9781	No
Dianne Ensign	97219-7655	Yes
DJ Wilson	97520-8796	No
Dolores Matthys	97138-7387	No
Don Jacobson	97201-6304	No
Dona Ward	97402-1457	No
Donna Bonetti	97459-2020	No
Donna Grubbs	97058-1522	No
Donna Harris	97707-2728	Yes
Donna Prinzmetal	97239-1121	No
Donna Sharp	97487-9688	No
Dorothy Louis	97322-7186	Yes
Douglas Ifft	97013-2380	No
Dvora Robinson	97206-7340	No
E Sherry	97304	No
Ed Conyers	97465-0003	No
Edith Davis	97210-2823	Yes
Edith Montgomery	97520-7312	No
Eileene Gillson	97140-7110	No
Elaine McFarlane	97333-9537	No
Elizabeth Menetrey	97103-2424	No
Ellen Hall-Chave	97106-8421	No
Ellen Pfander	97426-9708	No
Emily Platt	97202-2221	No
Emlyn Stenger	97202-4081	No

Emma Tresemer	97031-1461	No
Erik Ross	97386-9615	No
Erin Cockley	97206-1157	No
Erin McDonald	97216-2725	No
Esther Friedman	97302-6173	No
Evelyn Pietrowski-Ciullo	97301-7862	No
Fabiola Delgado	N/A	No
Fauna-June Fauth	97112-9493	No
Fern Walker	97230-4486	No
Fiona Day-Cofer	97415-9245	No
Frances Dunham	97520-3220	Yes
Francisco Gadea	97212-2356	No
Frank Rouse	97017-9776	No
Gabrielle Ujhelyi	97404-2940	No
Gay Kramer-Dodd	97404-1605	Yes
Gayle Agee	97396-2827	No
George Hug	97489-9658	No
Georgeann Courts	97202-6134	No
Gina Norman	97213-5826	No
Gitanjali Hursh	97206-7816	No
Glen Comuntzis	97223-2876	No
Glenn Fain	97209-1953	No
Gloria Junkermann	97520-9117	No
Gracie Campbell	97206-8257	No
Grant Fujii	97203-5116	No
Gus Glaser	97404-2934	Yes
Harry Freiberg	97415-9686	No
Heather Dale	97070-7792	No
Heather Davis	97003-2575	No
Heather Marsh	97035-1138	No
Heather Morijah	97348-9673	Yes
Heidi Hartman	97701-5032	No
Heidi Hart-Zorin	97214-1859	No
Helen Jones	97520-1506	No
Helena Moissant • (3) submissions	97502-1379	No
Helia Rasti	97219-7550	No
Hillary Tiefer	97219-3369	No
Isabel Ortiz	97229-3264	No
J Heasley	97210-1033	No
Jack Fay	97520-3014	No

Jacqueline Glyde	97220-1696	No
Jacqueline Jenkins	97303-5931	No
Jacqueline Tay	97203	No
Jaime Ramirez	97330-5963	No
James Greer	97759-1219	No
James Rankin	97330-6070	No
Jamie Shields	97229	No
Jan Stone	97007-4732	No
Jana Castanares	97041-7842	No
Jane Burch-Pesses	97123-7863	Yes
Janet H	97459-9493	No
Janet Lowther	97301-2819	No
Janet Sleath	97703-8580	Yes
Janette Wells	97702-2935	No
Janice VrMeer	97520-1781	No
Janie Thomas	97402-9037	No
Janna Piper	97293-5072	No
Jay Humphrey	97023-9417	No
Jay Richards	97701-8279	No
Jaylen Schmitt	97211-6443	No
Jean Svadlenka	97070-8761	Yes
Jean Wyman	97213-5766	No
Jeanette Entwisle	97630-9215	Yes
Jeanne Brooks	97759-9738	No
Jeanne Crowley	97103-4715	No
Jeffrey Davies	97203-2301	Yes
Jeffrey Smith	97408-6038	No
Jennifer Loomis	97266-5731	No
Jennifer McDaid	97857-6442	No
Jennifer Phelps	97049-8800	No
Jennifer Will	97701-9541	No
Jennifer Wolfson	97005-4515	No
Jerald Chittenden	97212-1413	No
Jeri Iversen	97103-4045	No
Jerry Melton	97330-6025	No
Jess Tyler	97206-5875	No
Jessalynn Jones	97520-2746	No
Jessica Stainbrook	97405-9694	No
Jim Destaebler	97203-3448	No
Jim Gear	97504-6377	No
Jim Van Osdell	97753-1523	Yes

Jim Wells	97501-7808	No
Jo Forkish	97405-3406	No
Joahna Kuiper	97201-2247	No
Joan Davis	97023-9702	No
Joan Maiers	97034-0067	No
Joe Frascone	97338-1603	No
Joel Kay	97222-4362	No
JoEllen Mayer	97005-1134	No
John Bartels	97266-4945	No
John Duggan	97530-9790	Yes
John Easterday	97229-2436	No
John Ferguson	97089-6009	No
John Hathaway	97756-9283	No
John Herberg	97405-2578	No
John Howard	97415-9698	No
John Livingston	97306-1432	Yes
John Plummer	97210-2323	No
John Reynolds	97222-7938	No
Jon Duncan	97401-7083	No
Jon Mohr	97203-4444	No
Jon Williams	97402-9446	No
Jonah Freeman	97215-3915	No
Joshua Horner	97086-2186	No
Jovy Jergens	97008-4045	No
Joy Grate	97004-9768	Yes
Juanita Rinas	97402-4256	No
Jud Schlacter	97440-2532	No
Judee Pokorny	97734-9611	No
Judith Kinsman	97439-9606	No
Judith Lienhard	97225-2567	No
Judith Mercer	97471-1834	No
Judy Wilcox	97060-1552	No
Julaine Morley	97498-9381	No
Julia de Castro	97759-1589	Yes
Julie Longanecker	97525-9760	No
Julie Richards	97015-8418	No
Julie Sherman	97217-4224	No
Julie Thomas	97362-0774	No
Justus Peacock-Broyles	97211-7648	No
Kaitlyn Wright	97438-9756	No
Karen Deora	97212-3202	No

Karen Hooper	97216-3135	No
Karen Horton	97351-9800	No
Karen Oakes	97392	No
Karen Varney	97219-6254	No
Karina Olch	97440-0128	Yes
Katarina Lang	85018-2407	No
Kathleen Ruiz	97138-6808	No
Kathleen Van Sandt	97459-0816	No
Kathryn Fox	97317-9344	Yes
Kathy Archibald	97225-6950	No
Kathy Robinson	97027-4219	No
Kati Wilson	97333-9526	No
Katie Haldeman	97701-7070	No
Kendra Madden	97404-2177	No
Kendra Tester	97141-8369	No
Kerri Smith	97378-9754	No
Kevin Aungle	97068-2375	No
Kim Beeler	97034-6708	No
Kim Davis	97306-8802	No
Kim Norris	97210-3355	No
Kim Wick • (3) submissions	97109-9507	No
Kimm Carter	97402-9409	No
Kris Ebbe	97333-1853	No
Kristine Metzner	97113-6529	No
Kristine Riccardi	97007-8866	No
Kristopher Holland	97330-3007	No
Kristy Giles	97015-9347	No
Kyle T-B	97048-2607	No
La Dory	97402-1677	No
Larry Morningstar	97540-7005	No
Larry Narlock	97526-3856	No
Laura Coleman Waite	97211-4865	No
Laura Dorneman	97217-5923	No
Laura Fleming	97524-7993	No
Laura Hanks	97222-2325	No
Laura Stice	97402-3511	No
Laureen Felton	97068-9424	No
Lawrence Gimbel	97045-6859	No
Leland Peterman	97374-9737	No
Len Greenwood	97538-0195	No

Leone Lewis	97303-9466	No
Leslie Harper	97459-3040	No
Lida Stevenson	97333-1453	No
Lilith Gist	97420-8408	No
Linda Bolduan	97034-6447	No
Linda Grove	97015-1844	No
Linda Hansen	97218-2586	No
Linda Hendrix	97702-2491	No
Linda Knox	97702-2640	No
Linda McGavin	97222-3113	No
Linda Neely	97702-8902	No
Linda Skonberg	97479-8817	No
Linda Zigich	97504-5242	No
Linore Blackstone	97213-2025	Yes
Lisa Almanza	97322	No
Lisa Brice	97070-9737	No
Lisa Graham	97741-1639	No
Lisa Matthews	97502-8650	No
Lisa Zure	97215-3717	Yes
Lise Hull	97411-9651	No
• (2) submissions		
Lois Feuerle	97214-4035	Yes
Loreli Fister	97330-2211	Yes
Lori Carter	97304-2546	No
Lori Koon	97370-9270	Yes
Lorraine Foster	97202-6533	No
Lucia Durand	97330-4447	No
Lyle Funderbunk	97266-5100	No
Lynn Zurcher-Law	97045-8574	No
M G	97211	No
Marc Anderson	97062-8373	No
Marcele Daeges	97298-0481	No
Margaret Braestrup	97211-3039	No
Margaret Linn	97222-6336	No
Margaret O'Rourke	97341-9647	Yes
Margaret Quentin	97213-4416	No
Margaret Urban	97333-2901	No
Margie Pratchenko	97504-9366	No
Marguerite Eliasson	97366-6907	No
Maria Kelly	97520-9427	No
Maria Nazzaro	97211-3330	No

Marian Carter	97436-9630	No
Marianne McClure	97202-8902	No
Marie Morel-Seytoux	97068-4327	No
Marie Wakefield	97365-9519	No
Marilee Corey	97302-9795	No
Marina Soto	97202-6834	No
Marion Hadden	97530-9303	No
Marissa Wolfheart	97206-3662	No
Marjorie Ackerman	97365-2839	No
Mark Wheeler	97215-1826	No
Marna Herrington	97210-5580	No
Marney Reed	97439-8885	No
Marsha Sleeth	97209-1637	No
Martha Lussenhop	97759-9611	No
Martha Vest	97222-7468	No
Mary Ann Pogany	97754-9744	Yes
Mary Beth Davenport	97439-8497	No
Mary Buckley	97211-7235	No
Mary Callison	97701-7057	No
Mary Elias	97128-6788	No
Mary Lynn Willis Parodi	97223-3329	No
Mary Wall	97405-2135	No
Masayo Kaneko	97215-1452	No
Matt Laubach	97405-3612	No
Matthew Barmann	97031-1211	No
Matthew Gray	97330-2033	No
Matthew Higgins	97215-2528	No
Maureen McLaughlin	97530-9284	No
Maureen O'Neal	97223-8981	No
Maxine Sheets-Johnstone	97498-9702	Yes
McKenna Fisher	97206-2338	No
Meadow Goldman	97211-4952	No
Meaghan Doherty	97703-1247	No
Melanie Lee	97404-1544	No
Melissa Hathaway	97230-5751	No
Melissa Seitsworth	97023-8425	No
Melody McGee	97301-5876	No
Merrill Ahrens	97232-3342	No
Miaya Sustaita	97404-3211	No
Michael Burmester	97086-6074	No
Michael Carter	97206-4477	No

Michael Dean	97459-2143	No
Michael Flaningam	97341-8901	No
Michael Gross	97345-9747	Yes
Michael Halloran	97305-2161	No
Michael Hoover	97008-9703	No
Michael Noack	97394-0923	No
Michael Renfrow	97213-3805	No
Michael Ryan	97205-5872	No
Michael Stock	97223-1640	No
Michael Wherley	97402-4931	Yes
Michael Williams	97477-1405	No
Michalle Gleason	97233-4931	No
Michele Dickson	97221-1031	No
Michelle Casey	97211-8043	No
Michelle Graas	97217-1308	No
Michelle Hofmann	97203-4708	No
Michelle Unger	97209-2093	No
Mick Alderman	97103-1205	No
Mike Andrewjeski	97501-9624	No
Mira Wiegmann	97225-3509	No
Miranda Daviduk	N/A	No
Monica Gilman	97023-9417	No
Nancy Carl	97111-9606	No
Nancy Cushing	97229-1564	No
Nancy Fleming	97034-4601	No
Nancy Marshall	97213-4738	No
Nancy Perkinson	97420-4470	No
Nettie Morrison	97708-5114	No
Niall Carroll	97103-2439	No
Nikki Breitbarth	97223-1696	No
Nikki Dennis	97201-5360	No
Nina French	97220-5566	No
Nora Polk	97206-6605	No
Norm Ploss	97701-9541	No
Oakley Taylor	97702-8825	Yes
P Bryer	97405-1741	No
Pam Fletcher	97405-1145	No
Pam Rensch	97051-2933	No
Pamela Doran	97394-9779	No
Pamela Rosenthal	97330-4239	No
Patricia Bowman	97229-6820	No

Patsy Shuler	97401-5937	No
Paul Borcharding	97850-0543	No
Paul Howard	97333-1606	No
Paul Swain	97211-7623	No
Pavla Zakova-Laney	97322-7299	No
Peg Reagan	97444-9577	No
Peggy Leviton	97530-0878	No
Penney Reed	97828-3075	No
Penny Guinther	97367-1356	No
Peter Gonzalves	97524-9444	No
Philip Kavan	97214-1458	No
Philip Ratcliff	97302-3533	No
Philip Traynor	97302-4836	No
Phoenix Oaks	97217-2360	Yes
Phyllis Jaskowskiak	97036-0803	No
Ramona Ponessa	97411-2047	No
Randi Brinkley	97013-2521	No
Randy Harrison	97402-8725	No
Randy Smith	97212-2038	No
Reb Babcock	97759-5027	No
Rebecca Baker	97366-9757	No
Rebecca Clark	97203-4418	No
Rebecca Humble	97405-3430	No
Rebecca Kimsey	97385-9682	Yes
Rebecca Picton	97330-1919	No
Rheama Koonce	97341-9529	No
Rhett Lawrence	97217-2024	Yes
Rhonda Lindsten	97404-3210	Yes
Richard Curtis	97080-9776	No
Richard Dunn	97212-4254	No
Richard McCombs	97366-1043	No
Rick Beam	97068-2274	No
Rick Moon	97405-4406	No
Ricky Moreno	97035-1427	No
Rik Arndt	97498	No
Robert Bresky	97045-7221	No
Robert Gibson	97520-2920	No
Robert Sturtzman	97209-1163	No
Robert Thornhill	97015-7703	No
Roberta Leach	97408-9514	No
Robin Kacos	97504-6637	No

Robin Kladke	97471-9510	No
Robin Magdahlen	97223-2890	No
Robin Vesey	97219-4661	Yes
Rolf Friis	97086-8670	No
Roman Weis	97308-0574	No
Ronald Varekamp	97201-2265	No
Rose Estes	97394-9303	No
Rosemary Richter Embry	97701-6454	No
Roy Wessbecher	97415-9530	No
Rozlyn Reynolds	97366-9749	Yes
Ruba Leech	97211-4339	No
Russell Graham	97304-9787	Yes
Ruth Schellbach	97302-3046	No
Ryan Beam	97218-2655	No
S Cook	97236-1085	No
Sally Keller	97405-4613	No
Sally Maish • (2) submissions	97471-9716	No
Sally Needham	97224-7540	Yes
Sally Stevens	97216-2643	No
Sandra Ericson	97202-7129	Yes
Sandra Joos	97239-7202	No
Sandra Romito	97201-4835	No
Sandy Miller	97215-2252	No
Sara Pritt	97401-3983	No
Sarah Welte	97007-5623	No
Satomi Honda	97008	No
Satya Vayu	97215-1618	No
Scott Crockett	97439-0033	No
Scott Kacek	97216-3376	No
Scott Maclowry	97703-1469	Yes
Scott Rowe	97431-9741	No
Seamus Brindley	97202-7245	No
Sean Leslie	97703-8336	No
Setsuko Maruki-Fox	97527-4551	No
Sheryl Reed	97038-8545	No
Sridhar Balakrishnan	97224-6122	No
Stacy Alaimo • (2) submissions	97404-2438	No
Stan Schmokel	97202-6215	No
Stanley Taylor	97405-1846	No

Stefanie Landman	97116-2085	No
Steph Spencer	97709-2333	No
Stephanie Christensen	97219-3030	No
Stephanie Houston	97520-2372	No
Stephanie Strakbein	97756-7761	No
Stephen Johnson	97225-2939	Yes
Steve Prince	97405-2621	No
Steve Walsh	97030-5524	No
Steven Edmonds	97443-0480	No
Steven Schafer	97225-4404	No
Stu Lip	97402-3510	No
Su Neuhauser	97402-6607	No
Sue Leonetti	97487	Yes
Sue Lundquist	97520-3005	No
Summer Holland	97707-0033	No
Sunny Tabino	97876-8148	No
Susan Croissan	97424-2071	No
Susan Delles	97537-9771	No
Susan Haywood	97210-3526	Yes
Susan McDonald	97403-1709	No
Susan Wechsler	97330-9207	No
Susanna Askins	97411-9709	No
Suzanna Mast	97330-2006	No
Suzanne Baker	97293-0315	No
Suzanne Fernstrom	97402-9184	No
Suzanne Kindland	97110-0654	No
Suzanne Schiffman	97538-9767	No
Tammy Causey	97352-9518	No
Tanya Gilula	97222-8717	No
Teara Tyler	97321-3030	No
Teresa Coble	97478-5456	No
Teresa DeLorenzo	97103-8469	No
Teresa Himelhoch	97128-9431	No
Theodore Bayer	97703-7552	No
Theresa Israel	97760-7630	No
Tiffany Spahn	97202-5020	No
Tina Bonadiman	97914-3152	No
Tom Coffee	97035-1818	No
Tosh Myers	97054-9528	No
Tracy Richards	97015-8418	No
Tram Ngo	97209-1163	No

Tung Vu	97302-4389	No
Usha Honeyman	97333-2010	No
Valerie Adell	97213-6819	No
Valerie Hagen	97220-4157	No
Valerie Marak	97467-1068	No
Veronica Engler	97219-2156	No
Veroune Chittim	97538-0297	No
Vicki Hodges	97601-2421	No
Vicki Williams	97520-1424	Yes
Victoria Eells	97444	No
Victoria Gantz	97215-3025	No
Virginia Lindekugel-Thurman	97355-3755	No
Wally Sykes	97846-0733	No
Wendy Gere	97504-9422	No
Wendy McGowan	97404-1718	No
Wendy Tsien	97405-9535	Yes
William Barnett	97103-4618	Yes
William Obrien	98685-2979	No
Windra Mosher	97045-7363	Yes
Wyatt Gibson	97624-8690	No
Yancette Halverson	97266-5800	No
Zed Langston	97402-9717	No

Group 4 Form Comments:

Summary: OWRD received 177 emails from 133 members of the public submitting the following comments; 37 members of the public submitted the same comment multiple times, and 11 members of the public modified their comments, as noted in the table below.

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

Thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. These changes are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

[Street Address]

[City] OR, [Zip code]

Name	City	Comment Modifications
Aaron Davis	Lebanon	No
Aimee Travis	Portland	No
Alan Lawrence	Portland	No
Alice West	Portland	No
Allison Everitt • (2) submissions	Salem	No
Allison Hart	Portland	Yes
Amy Carlson	Portland	No
Amy Roberts	Albany	No
Andrew Oldham	Portland	No
Andrew Simrin • (2) submissions	Eugene	No
Ann Hollyfield	Waldport	No
Audrey Collins	Chiloquin	No
B.C. Shelby • (2) submissions	Portland	No
Bob Hannigan	Corvallis	No
Brad Keller	Tillamook	No
Brent Rocks	Portland	No
Carol Wagner	Albany	No
Carrie Tilton-Jones	Portland	No
Cassandra Pierson • (2) submissions	Portland	Yes
Celeste Wolf	Hillsboro	No
Christina Dijulio • (2) submissions	Ashland	No
Christine Drommond	Portland	No
Colleen Hackett	Eugene	No
Dana Petre-Miller • (2) submissions	Keizer	No
Dana Weintraub • (3) submissions	Beaverton	No
David Edwards • (2) submissions	Eugene	Yes

David Klingensmith • (2) submissions	Eugene	No
David Saul	Eugene	No
Debra Spies • (3) submissions	Eugene	No
Debra Westom	Portland	No
Dennis West • (2) submissions	Yachats	Yes
Diane Black	Salem	No
Diane Daiute	Sweet Home	No
Diane Luck • (2) submissions	Portland	No
Dinah Vardon	North Plains	No
Donna Harris • (2) submissions	Bend	No
Elaine Bauer	Ashland	No
Ellen Hall-chave	Banks	No
Erika Brooke	Tillamook	No
Evelyn Pietrowski-Ciullo • (2) submissions	Salem	No
Frank Rouse	Colton	No
G O'Hara	Portland	No
Gail Woodside	Independence	No
Glenn Battin	Ashland	No
Grant Fujii • (2) submissions	Portland	No
Greeley Wells • (3) submissions	Jacksonville	No
Harry Freiberg • (2) submissions	Brookings	No
Heather Ireland	Gold Beach	No
Holly Fraser	Salem	Yes
Ian Shelley	Portland	No
Iris Moore	Portland	Yes
Jan Stone	Aloha	No
Jennifer Sprague	Salem	No
Jeri Iversen • (3) submissions	Astoria	No
Jess DePew	Lebanon	No
Jessica Kinnard	Brookings	No
Joel Kay	Milwaukie	No

John Borland	Williams	No
John Rose • (2) submissions	La Grande	No
John S	Portland	No
Jud Schlacter	Eugene	No
Judith Beck • (2) submissions	Portland	No
Karen Morrow • (2) submissions	Lake Oswego	No
Karl Thompson • (2) submissions	Portland	No
Karol Dietrich	Corbett	No
Kathleen Holloway	Portland	No
Kathy Kushman	Beaverton	No
Katie Griesar	Portland	No
Kerri Y	Sheridan	No
Larry Jordan	Portland	No
Larry Morningstar	Talent	No
Laura Hanks • (3) submissions	Portland	No
Leah Yamaguchi	Fairview	No
Lilith Gist	Coos Bay	No
Linda Engels	Portland	No
Linda Fuhriman	Roseburg	No
Linda Hendrix	Bend	No
Linda Medeiros	Medford	No
Linda Pace	Grants Pass	Yes
Linda Sussman	Ashland	No
Lisa Brice • (2) submissions	Wilsonville	No
Lisa Caine	Portland	No
Lorraine Foster • (2) submissions	Portland	No
Lynn Terry	Bend	No
Maille Daley	Albany	No
Marcele Daeges	Portland	No
Maria Nazzaro	Portland	No
Marilyn Costamagna	Medford	No
Marissa Thompson	Portland	No
Marjory Bryan • (2) submissions	Portland	No

Marvin Hull	Bandon	No
Mary Jo Mann • (2) submissions	Portland	Yes
Mary McMurray	Portland	No
Mason Hall	Tigard	No
Maureen O'Neal	Portland	No
Maurine Canarsky	Portland	No
Melba Dlugonski	Portland	No
Melissa Hathaway	Portland	No
Michael Cooper	Sisters	No
Michael Golden	Grants Pass	No
Michelle Jordan • (2) submissions	Seaside	Yes
Mike Flaningam	Depoe Bay	No
Mira Wiegmann • (2) submissions	Portland	Yes
Nicholas Selby	Portland	No
Nikki Dennis	Portland	No
P Bryer	Eugene	No
Pascal Matheis	Portland	No
Pat Bognar	Portland	No
Pat Lando	Portland	Yes
Patience Bingham	Portland	No
Peter Sergienko	Portland	No
Philip Colvard	Medford	No
Philip Ratcliff	Salem	No
Phyllis Grove • (2) submissions	Bend	No
Phyllis Jaskowskiak	Marylhurst	No
Rebecca Savage	Portland	No
Robert Smith • (2) submissions	Clackamas	No
Robin Jenkins	Dallas	No
Sandra Romito	Portland	No
Satya Vayu • (2) submissions	Portland	No
Scott Kennedy • (2) submissions	Salem	No
Shannon Lucas	Gresham	No
Stephen Cutler	Yachats	No
Susan Cooper	Bend	No

T Mueller	Eugene	No
Teara Tyler	Albany	No
Thomas Budd • (2) submissions	Eugene	No
Thomas Keys • (2) submissions	Gresham	No
Timothy Coughlin	Ashland	No
Tung Vu	Salem	No
Ute Saito	Portland	No
Virginia Rosenkranz	Portland	No
Winston Anderson	Portland	No

Group 5 Form Comments:

Summary: OWRD received five emails from members of the public submitting the following comments; each comment was modified, as noted in the table below:

Dear Oregon Water,

Please adopt the Oregon Water Resources Department's new rules to help protect groundwater from overuse.

Accelerating climate change and over-allocation of water resources has led to unsustainable decreases in water supply. This has led to dry wells, higher pumping costs, instability for existing users, and lower water quality. The proposed rules are science-based, data-driven, and consistent with the original intentions of the 1955 Groundwater Management Act.

Sustainable management of the state's groundwater is going to become increasingly critical as the climate continues to change. Please adopt these rules to help protect this essential resource for Oregonians for generations to come.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[City], [State]

Name	City	Comment Modifications
Amanda Duncan	Beaverton	Yes
Christoph Zurcher	Beaverton	Yes
Elisabeth Hardy	Beaverton	Yes
Matthew Vollrath	Los Angeles, CA	No
Joyce Hyne	Portland	Yes

Group 6 Form Comments:

Summary: OWRD received 18 emails from members of the public submitting the following comments; 10 members of the public modified their comments, as noted in the table below.

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

I am concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce my ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin I live in, even if that basin is not currently experiencing a serious water level decline. The new rules also create an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

I ask that the Water Resources Commission do not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

- 1) Prioritize the basins and sub-basins that have the greatest need for further studying of groundwater, i.e. areas with serious groundwater declines, frequent shortages, and measurable connectivity to over-allocated surface waters and request funding from the legislature to increase OWRD's groundwater data;
- 2) Require unperfected groundwater rights to demonstrate their beneficial use under water short conditions, limiting the development of existing uses to known quantities;
- 3) Use the existing authority within OWRD, including:
 - Reclassifying groundwater uses,
 - Enforcing OWRD's existing authority to shut off groundwater rights when certain conditions are met, and
 - use "Serious Water Management Problem Area Authority" to designate and focus on priority areas,

and

- 4) Implement processes for limiting pending groundwater applications and setting conditions where the department knows there is over-allocation

As a farmer, I agree that we need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Street Address]
 [City], OR [Zip code]
 [E-mail address]

Name	City	Comment Modifications
Chelcie Cargill	Canyon City	No
Donald Wirth	Tangent	Yes
Elizabeth Brooks	Monroe	Yes
Heidi Geschwill	Woodburn	Yes
Janice Flegel	Prineville	Yes
Jerry Domes	Rickreall	No
John Beitel	Stayton	No
Kevin Loe	Silverton	No
Kevin Westfall	Broadbent	Yes
Larry Bailey	Gresham	Yes
Lucien Gunderman	McMinnville	No
Matthew Brady	Azalea	No
Megan Cozart	Dayton	No
Melissa pfleiger	Salem	Yes
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Yturri	Fields	Yes
Rita Rattray	Condon	Yes
Sharon Waterman	Bandon	Yes
Zach Christensen	McMinnville	No

Group 7 Form Comments:

Summary: OWRD received 29 emails from members of the public submitting the following comments; two members of the public modified their comments, as noted in the table below.

Oregon Water Resource Department Commissioners State of Oregon,

I write today to encourage your efforts to protect our public trust waters with reasonable and just water allocation rules to protect our dwindling groundwater resources. The groundwater rulemaking process must do more to address our growing water allocation crisis.

I call upon you to:

Implement strong groundwater rules needed to:

- Curb excessive use/waste, by the agricultural industry, which accounts for 78% of all water that humans use in Oregon;
- Protect Oregon's rapidly depleting aquifers AND interconnected surface waters from permanent damage; and

- Plan for climate change-driven drought and less reliable water supplies.

Acknowledge hydrologic connections in the water cycle – between groundwater and streams – and use the Public Trust Doctrine to stop draining our aquifers. The Public Trust Doctrine requires you to hold water in trust for the future. Use it!

Implement minimum stream flow requirements as required by the Endangered Species Act and the Public Trust Doctrine, which, respectively, protect fish and humans. Oregon used to have minimum stream flows, but in 1987 they were replaced by an Orwellian process that gives ecosystems junior water rights to their own water! Now, in the summer when minimum stream flows are most needed, senior irrigation water right holders trump those junior in-stream rights and over-pump our streams. Instream flows must be treated as reserved water rights that are not subject to diversion.

Protect water for critical human needs including domestic uses, Tribal fishing practices, small-scale local food production, and municipalities from rampant non-beneficial uses of water by industrial agriculture, which accounts for the majority of Oregon's water use. 80% of all agricultural products in Oregon are exported out of state – that's a lot of our water leaving the state – some of it permanently! The idea that whoever got in line first could use water for personal gain at the expense of the greater public interest is an inequitable and unjust vestige of the Wild West that harms ecosystems and river-dependent communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I hope you take my concerns seriously and begin doing more to uphold and enforce the laws that are designed to protect our environment, public trust waters, and our descendants.

[Name]

[E-mail address]

[City], Oregon [Zip code]

Name	City	Comment Modifications
Abi Snow	Eugene	No
Allison Everitt	Salem	No
Ann Nowicki	Eugene	No
BC Shelby	Portland	No
Carol Wagner	Albany	No
Cassie Gallagher	Klamath Falls	No
Crystal McMahon	Chiloquin	No
David Ruud	Portland	No
DJ Wilson	Ashland	No
Donna Bonetti	North Bend	No
Helen Moissant	Central Point	No

Janna Piper	Portland	No
Kristy Overton	Portland	Yes
Larry Narlock	Grants Pass	No
Marie Knight	Portland	Yes
Marie Wakefield	Newport	No
Mark Wheeler	Portland	No
Maureen O'Neal	Portland	No
Meaghan Doherty	Bend	No
Michalle Gleason	Portland	No
Nancy Carl	Carlton	No
Rhett Lawrence	Portland	No
Robert Clark	Grant Pass	No
Sailee Shadley	Chiloquin	No
Sandra Joos	Portland	No
Susan Health	Albany	No
Valeria Goodness	Corvallis	No
Veena Schnitzel	Eugene	No
Virginia Feldman	Portland	No

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: George Hutchinson <gbhutch@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 7:57 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Support letter for revised groundwater allocation rules

Some people who received this message don't often get email from gbhutch@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Water Resources Department decision makers:

The new rules will result in more sustainable management of Oregon's groundwater. The new rules will ensure better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to Oregon rivers and streams from the impacts of over-pumping hydraulically-connected groundwater. Challenges associated with the impacts of climate change make it even more important for the state to stop over-issuing groundwater permits. The new rules will end the practice of "defaulting to yes" to new groundwater rights when the state lacks data to determine whether it has already over-appropriated groundwater in a particular area, and whether a proposed new use is within the capacity of a water resource. The method by which Oregon issues new groundwater permits has long been in need of an overhaul, and we look forward to the adoption of the proposed rules.

George (76), Molly (40), Maddy (14) and Connor (22) Hutchinson
305 SE Park Avenue
Corvallis, OR 97333

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: alex@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alex Prentiss
<alex@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 3:04 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Ground Water Must Be Protected! Approve sustainable groundwater rules.

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from alex@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I am a native Oregonian and grew up in a rural area of the state that depended on reliable groundwater supplies. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's over-allocated groundwater systems.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Alex Prentiss
OR 97281-0759

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: rabeltram@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alfred Beltram
<rabeltram@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 10:44 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from rabeltram@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I grew up in Central Oregon in an age of flood irrigation and little or no ground water mining. There was also no apparent concern that water resources needed much management. Water loss through flood irrigation and inefficient overhead sprinkling and water guns was everywhere. The population in urban areas was small, there was no widespread use of expansive pivots and other pumping stations. Now there is a large population in urban areas and outlying areas, pivots growing hay in many formerly dry areas drawing water for home and agricultural uses. I see little examples of any state efforts to either monitor water levels or control permitting. How stupid.

Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could

also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Alfred Beltram
OR 97321-7405

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: marioman3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrew Simrin <marioman3@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 7:45 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from marioman3@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I'm a lifelong Oregonian and water is one of our most sacred resources.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Andrew Simrin
OR 97404-2841

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: austinkoontz11@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Austin Koontz <austinkoontz11@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 9:27 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from austinkoontz11@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I am reaching out to indicate my support of the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes updating the allocation of Oregon's groundwater resources. Because the existing rules for issuing groundwater permits have (along with environmental factors) lead to a general reduction of groundwater levels, the proposed rules are a viable first step towards starting to reverse that trend.

By defining "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and preventing new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable, these rules help to establish a baseline that provides a usable framework for future decisions. The proposed rules also provide clarification on the type of data required for determining whether groundwater levels are stable, and they protect senior surface-water rights. Overall, these proposed rules will make it easier for all parties to interpret and respect the allocation of groundwater resources.

Adopting these proposed rules is a valuable first step that can be taken to improve sustainable groundwater management for Oregon's residents and its wildlife. Thank you for your service and thorough consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,
Austin Koontz
OR 97401-1738

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: bapa.pk@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Barbara Pikus
<bapa.pk@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 11:22 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from bapa.pk@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I want to see Oregon's water preserved as the precious resource it is for the future, not used as a commodity for any business, farm or developer who claims they have a right. The permit rules are too lax. It's time to get tough!

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Barbara Pikus
OR 97222-3423

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: beckyinthemountains@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Becky Rose
<beckyinthemountains@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 6:20 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from beckyinthemountains@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Water is life. We are water. We have polluted and incorrectly used the amazing water system of our planet. Let's stop doing that - and do the right things for all beings.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Becky Rose
OR 97005-1212

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: bertnchops@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bert Jarnagin
<bertnchops@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 12:25 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from bertnchops@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Water is our most precious resource! Oregon's Groundwater Management rules updating is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change(not to mention the use of the river by un-homed residents). I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's over-allocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including in-stream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

I also think that the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's over-allocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules need to go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department needs to adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its property owners and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Bert Jarnagin
OR 97526-9385

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: bevandkent@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Beverly Minn
<bevandkent@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:45 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from bevandkent@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

In addition to the following comments, as a fisherman, I would like to see that clean , cold water in the states rivers remains a priority for in river fish and not be subject to fluctuations caused by over allocating groundwater nor susceptible to pollution from ground water pumping.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Beverly Minn
OR 97411-9589

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: robertaanne1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bobbie Cade <robertaanne1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:24 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from robertaanne1@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

It is critical that Oregon's Groundwater Management rules are treated with utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Bobbie Cade
OR 97301-4152

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: jandanbee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dan and Janet Blair
<jandanbee@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 2:34 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Sustainable groundwater rules to protect Oregon wildlife are critical

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from jandanbee@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

As two concerned Oregonians, we believe that Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. We support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

In recent months we've read in the Oregon Capital Chronicle of groundwater contamination, and contamination of private wells, in Morrow and Umatilla counties, because of violations at the Port of Morrow. So far these violations have resulted in citations and fines, but no immediate correction of the infrastructure problems at the Port. There may be other situations such as this of which we're not aware. This certainly adds to the problems with Oregon's groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that

are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

We trust that you'll give our concerns, and those of thousands of other Oregon citizens, your most serious and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,
Dan and Janet Blair
OR 97846-0330

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: dsjaffee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dan Jaffee
<dsjaffee@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 7:23 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Please approve groundwater rules that protect Oregon ecosystems and wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from dsjaffee@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I am writing to urge you to approve much more stringent groundwater rules that recognize the crisis of increasing groundwater scarcity and are maximally protective of ecosystems and environments.

Our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's over-allocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's over-allocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Our groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is essential, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Dan Jaffee
OR 97211-5011

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: wseapol16@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Daniel Kozie <wseapol16@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 6:20 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from wseapol16@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I live in the Deschutes River basin, where ground water levels are falling yearly. We are in a drought and cannot afford to ignore this issue any longer.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

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Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Daniel Koze
OR 97707-1864

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: david_berg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of David and Judith Berg
<david_berg@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 12:08 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from david_berg@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Oregon's current rules have caused major groundwater declines across the state, harming rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely on groundwater inputs. Those declines hurt ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them, including Oregon spotted frogs, western snowy plovers, and young bull trout, salmon, and steelhead. Declining groundwater has also harmed domestic well owners who need that water for drinking and household use.

The important changes Oregon is poised to make are only the bare minimum — the state must do more to reverse the damage to groundwater and better protect ecosystems and wildlife.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
David and Judith Berg
OR 97405-2037

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: labby.oregon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of David Labby
<labby.oregon@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 8:55 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

As a fifth generation Oregonian I am acutely aware of how we are impacting the natural resources of this State both through our direct actions and indirectly through climate change.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
David Labby
OR 97211-6735

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: roughskinnednewt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dianne Ensign
<roughskinnednewt@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 8:51 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Please approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from roughskinnednewt@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

As a lifelong environmentalist, and as a homeowner whose drinking water source is groundwater from a well, I believe that improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate chaos. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Dianne Ensign
OR 97219-7655

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Kermit.donna@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Donna Harris
<Kermit.donna@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:46 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from kermit.donna@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

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A report on our aquifers in Central Or. showed declines of 3-5 ft. Since 1993. Along with groundwater monitoring there needs to be incentives for the public to conserve water, such as that which is going on in Bend with a \$3000 incentive for residents to replace lawns with native plants and xeriscaping their landscape.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Donna Harris
OR 97707-2728

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: dlouis264@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dorothy Louis <dlouis264@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 7:41 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from dlouis264@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I have been an Oregon resident for over 50 years and think that Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Louis
OR 97322-7186

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: mnbe.davis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Edith Davis
<mnbe.davis@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 6:24 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: We have a farm in Yamhill County. Last year a neighbor used so much ground water that he his well was going dry. His well? Ground water is a community asset and drawing so much water has a grave impact on everybody's supply, not just his.

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from mnbe.davis@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

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bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Edith Davis
OR 97210-2823

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: francesdunham@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Frances Dunham
<francesdunham@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 11:58 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Oregon wildlife needs sustainable groundwater protection

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from francesdunham@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change.

I am glad the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

We must not squander this precious resource.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Frances Dunham
OR 97520-3220

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: gaykramerdodd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gay Kramer-Dodd
<gaykramerdodd@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 6:41 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from gaykramerdodd@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I don't want our beautiful state to end up as happened to California two years ago, with severely vanishing groundwater. So, improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Gay Kramer-Dodd
OR 97404-1605

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: ggwaterart@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gus Glaser
<ggwaterart@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:35 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: We need better groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from ggwaterart@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Groundwater hydrogeology is complex, but knowable. Let's use our understandings of groundwater connections to surface water, recharge areas and in stream flows to create an Oregon where all people and all species thrive. we can do it!!

Gus Glaser

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could

also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Gus Glaser
OR 97404-2934

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: beachbettyhl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Heather Morijah
<beachbettyhl@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2024 2:36 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from beachbettyhl@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance to my family and me, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. *We support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes* which provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Our state's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits: this has caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species which live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also negatively impacted existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the Department's proposed rules will put Oregon on an improved, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability:

- First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable.
- Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available.
- Third and finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights-- including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife--by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules *don't go far enough* to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around our state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline--nor do they address issues with current permits or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules *must go further* to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the Department must adopt rules that consider *groundwater's connectivity* to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater, the levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how our state issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration of this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Heather Morijah
OR 97348-9673

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: janebeepee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jane Burch-Pesses
<janebeepee@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 9, 2024 1:13 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: We need sustainable groundwater rules that protect our Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change.

I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them.

Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. This is critical. any rational person can see the wisdom of this.

Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. No data, no permit.

Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams. This full accounting is essential.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Where groundwater levels are falling, there can be no grandfathering in of water use. We cannot use the water of our children and grandchildren. After it is unsustainably used, we will not get it back.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must

adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue (very long overdue), and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system.

Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Jane Burch-Pesses
OR 97123-7863

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: janetsleath@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Janet Sleath
<janetsleath@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 6:21 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

As a resident of central Oregon and a member of a community that is dependent on well water, I am deeply concerned about the current rules regarding the use of ground water.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Janet Sleath
OR 97703-8580

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: storm33@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jean Svadlenka <storm33@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:56 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

As a resident of Oregon, I am writing to express my support to update groundwater-pumping rules, and to include protections for water-reliant ecosystems in the update.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change.

I am looking forward to the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's over-allocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Jean Svadlenka
OR 97070-8761

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: bickett.mark@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jeanette Entwisle
<bickett.mark@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 7:13 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from bickett.mark@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I live in Eastern OR and have seen Goose Lake greatly diminished and homeowners wells run dry from ranchers continuing to pump water onto their hay fields even when the ground is already wet from winter snows. The aquifer is continuing to drop and noone is overseeing how much water these ranchers use. Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Jeanette Entwisle
OR 97630-9215

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: info@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jeffrey Davies
<info@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 11:04 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Davies
OR 97203-2301

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: malamute01@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jim Van Osdell <malamute01@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 1:44 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

PERSONAL MESSAGE-

As a long time Oregonian and even longer time PNWer I have observed personally the decline of our water supply across the region. As the climate continues to change, for whatever reasons, and our population foolishly grows, we will experience less and less clean water availability.

Oregon's water rights laws are antiquated and based, like many, on undeliverable promises made in the 1800s. Times have changed and populations have grown, significantly with associated demands placed on our finite clean water supply.

It is far past time to take on the politically fraught yet undeniably necessary task of updating Oregon's water rights laws.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Jim Van Osdell
OR 97753-1523

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: shanachie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of John Duggan
<shanachie@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:47 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Water is a universal necessity for all life. It should be protected from the headwaters to the ocean, regulated but never privatized.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
John Duggan
OR 97530-9790

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: livingstonjohn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of John Livingston
<livingstonjohn@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:07 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from livingstonjohn@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

As a resident of Salem, I believe that improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

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Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
John Livingston
OR 97306-1432

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: joyonfire746@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joy Grate <joyonfire746@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:48 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from joyonfire746@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

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Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Please support common sense solutions to protect the environment rather than garnering the support of industrialized destruction.

Sincerely,
Joy Grate
OR 97004-9768

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: imbida@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Julia de Castro
<imbida@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 6:41 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Please approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Protecting Oregon's groundwater and wildlife is crucial for future generations and our own lifetime. I'm passionate about improving our state's groundwater management rules, especially with the growing demand and the impacts of climate change. I wholeheartedly support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes as a significant step toward safeguarding Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

The current situation, with an excess of groundwater permits and declining levels, is concerning. It's affecting not just our rivers, lakes, and springs but also the ecosystems and species relying on them. The proposed rules, defining stable groundwater levels and ensuring data-backed permit decisions, are vital steps forward. They also protect senior surface-water rights, crucial for our wildlife and domestic use.

However, we must go further. Many areas still face unsustainable declines in groundwater levels. While the proposed rules prevent further worsening, they don't address existing issues or pending permits. We need comprehensive rules considering all impacts on groundwater-dependent ecosystems, not just those directly connected to streams.

It's time for Oregon's groundwater rules to align with sustainability needs. We can't delay implementing these changes to prevent further harm to our water sources and wildlife. Let's ensure a better future for Oregon's residents and the precious ecosystems they rely on.

Sincerely,
Julia de Castro
OR 97759-1589

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: reverence4raptors@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of karina olch
<reverence4raptors@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 11:06 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from reverence4raptors@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Our water in Oregon is such a precious resource. In fact, it's why I moved here 25 years ago because of the abundance of water!

Since I've lived here, protecting this precious resource has been one of my passions.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

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Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
karina olch
OR 97440-0128

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: knfox2004@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kathryn Fox <knfox2004@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 6:35 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I get my water from a well which has been reliable for 50 yrs. Why there aren't more protections put into place, I don't understand. When I questioned our Soil & Water dept., they said there were no rules in place for how many people could draw from my

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

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Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Fox
OR 97317-9344

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: llblackstone@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Linore Blackstone
<llblackstone@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 10:44 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Well, it's evident that you continue to practice target management. When did it happen that our public agencies stopped respecting other life and acting to protect? What is your purpose and ethic exactly?

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants

that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Linore Blackstone
OR 97213-2025

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: creative7purpose@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lisa A Zure
<creative7purpose@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 6:08 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Enough with the green!washing

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Lisa A Zure
OR 97215-3717

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: feuerle@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lois Feuerle
<feuerle@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 7:13 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Protect Oregon wildlife by approving sustainable groundwater rules

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Impending climate change makes it more necessary than ever for Oregon to tighten Groundwater Management rules, especially regional demand for groundwater is growing.

I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules re: new groundwater permits have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands & springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater.

In turn, this harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems & freshwater species inhabiting them as well as existing surface-water rights, including the instream water rights for fish & other wildlife, not to mention domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability.

- (1) the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable.
- (2) the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available.
- (3) the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish & other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Although these changes are necessary, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. Groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates in many areas in Oregon,. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they also don't do anything to slow or stop the current rate of decline & they don't address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Lois Feuerle
OR 97214-4035

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: loreli.fister@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Loreli Fister
<loreli.fister@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:33 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

As a long-term resident of Oregon, I see improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm ranching family's house wells, rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including indigineous peoples, century ranching families, instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Loreli Fister
OR 97330-2211

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: loriekoon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lori Koon
<loriekoon@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 12:48 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

We must prepare for what's to come now.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Lori Koon
OR 97370-9270

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: oroconliz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Margaret ORourke
<oroconliz@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 3:31 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Protect Oregon wildlife by approving sustainable groundwater rules

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

IWith accelerating climate change we must do more to protect Oregon's wildlife. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

The over-issuance of groundwater permits due to existing rules has contributed to major groundwater-level declines across the state harming rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Margaret ORourke
OR 97341-9647

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: mapogany@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mary Ann Pogany
<mapogany@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 8:05 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife and homeowners are needed.

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from mapogany@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Several volunteers are working hard to improve ground water. We are just a small group and need your help. Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Mary Ann Pogany
OR 97754-9744

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: msj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of maxine sheets-johnstone
<msj@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 12:26 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: PROTECT AND PRESERVE AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL, ITS WILDLIFE, AND ITS
GROUNDWATER!inable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from msj@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the

bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
maxine sheets-johnstone
OR 97498-9702

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: aquiwebe@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael Gross
<aquiwebe@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 7:59 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Please approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

We all know that improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Michael Gross
OR 97345-9747

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: mfwherley@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael Wherley
<mfwherley@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 11:08 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from mfwherley@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

However, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes are important and should be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules should be considered as only the start of what Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Michael Wherley
OR 97402-4931

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: naturegirl2415@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Oakley Taylor <naturegirl2415@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2024 7:26 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from naturegirl2415@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

This is important. Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Sincerely,
Oakley Taylor
OR 97702-8825

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: peaceloveandart89@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Phoenix Oaks
<peaceloveandart89@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 7:12 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Enact sustainable groundwater rules for Oregon that protect our ecosystems and wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

At this time of global extinction crisis, I urge you to do all in your power to protect native wildlife in Oregon. They face threats not only from logging and climate change, but also from unnecessary, unsustainable water pumping. Groundwater declines negatively impact wildlife such as salmon and birds in our wetlands, streams, lakes, springs, and rivers.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change such as more intense droughts. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Phoenix Oaks
OR 97217-2360

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: rkimsey68@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rebecca Kimsey <rkimsey68@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 10:19 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from rkimsey68@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

We know the problems that California has with its ground-water. Let's not follow their example. We can do better!

Sincerely,
Rebecca Kimsey
OR 97385-9682

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: rhettlawrence@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rhett Lawrence
<rhettlawrence@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 5:00 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Sustainable groundwater rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from rhettlawrence@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I am an Oregon resident with a great interest in protecting our state's groundwater. Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Rhett Lawrence
OR 97217-2024

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: malakailover@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rhonda Lindsten
<malakailover@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 8:16 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from malakailover@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Precious water is our planet's life blood, as well as all living things. The trees are our lungs. Please take action to protect our water!!! The trees, the animals and the people need this protection!

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Rhonda Lindsten
OR 97404-3210

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: vesey1912@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Robin Vesey <vesey1912@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 7:15 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

As a supporter of wildlife and 30-year environmental restoration volunteer, I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation and loss of Oregon's groundwater systems.

Our existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in losses to our public drinking water systems and a horrible loss to our rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands.

The proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's over-allocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates.

We must enact rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Please enact rules, now, to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

We must do more to reverse the damage to groundwater and better protect ecosystems and wildlife.

Sincerely,
Robin Vesey
OR 97219-4661

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: rozlyn.reynolds@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rozlyn Reynolds
<rozlyn.reynolds@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 1:45 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from rozlyn.reynolds@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Thank you in advance for all that you intend to do to continue to have the best water resources and protect not only drinking water but all water. It's what Oregon is known for.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Rozlyn Reynolds
OR 97366-9749

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: eldergrahams@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Russell Graham
<eldergrahams@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:24 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from eldergrahams@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

We are particularly concerned as our spring that has served us for over 50 years is showing indications of reduced flow this year!

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

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Sincerely,
Russell Graham
OR 97304-9787

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: sneedham@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of SALLY NEEDHAM
<sneedham@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2024 11:58 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from sneedham@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

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Sincerely,
SALLY NEEDHAM
OR 97224-7540

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: sfericson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sandra Ericson
<sfericson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 7:00 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from sfericson@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

The reason we moved to Oregon in 2015 is because the ground water was becoming depleted in Calif. People know that when the water goes so must they. Oregon will suffer unexpected social consequences if ground water is not protected!

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

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Sincerely,
Sandra Ericson
OR 97202-7129

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: ssmaclowry@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Scott Maclowry
<ssmaclowry@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 8:00 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from ssmaclowry@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

It's high time these regulations are updated. It's true that for years WRD has given out permits like candy and created a real mess. Because of that, we have been stealing from our grandchildren, it's shameful.

Our aquifers are declining at an alarming rate, our lakes exported as alfalfa and potatoes while cattle raze our grasslands and toxify the watershed with nitrogen from their feces.

Municipalities must do more with less, utilizing all conservation methods.

Agriculture must shift to more profitable, less water intensive crops and use the most water efficient practices.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

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Sincerely,
Scott Maclowry
OR 97703-1469

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: seasaj777@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stephen a Johnson <seasaj777@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 8:31 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from seasaj777@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system.

Sincerely,
Stephen a Johnson
OR 97225-2939

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: tleonetti3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sue Leonetti <tleonetti3@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 9, 2024 1:00 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from tleonetti3@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I wholeheartedly approve of these initial steps to protect water users as well as environmental ecosystems. My household is dependent on well water. Water is a precious resource and must not be taken for granted.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

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Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Thank you and I hope Oregon will continue to improve this process using scientific data for the benefit of people and nature.

Sincerely,
Sue Leonetti
OR 97487

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: susansaphone2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Susan Haywood <susansaphone2@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 2:57 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from susansaphone2@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

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Let's go beyond the bare minimum and plan for the future. Let's protect our groundwater for all life in Oregon.

Sincerely,
Susan Haywood
OR 97210-3526

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: tsrehar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of vicki williams
<tsrehar@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:18 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

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Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

please help keep Oregon, Oregon, Thanks ! Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

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Sincerely,
vicki williams
OR 97520-1424

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: wglobetsien@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Wendy Tsien
<wglobetsien@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 7:49 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: We must have sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from wglobetsien@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

This letter speaks for me. We absolutely need clean groundwater for ourselves and for all of nature, without which we'll all be dead. I'm in my 80's and for decades have written letters, made phone calls, made donations, all to protect ourselves and the environment from the greed and overuse which is killing us and our world. Apparently humankind is too dumb and greedy to do what must be done, but I keep trying, hence this letter. Before it is too late, please do now what should have been done long, long ago.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

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Sincerely,
Wendy Tsien
OR 97405-9535

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: willbarnett1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of William Barnett <willbarnett1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 8:48 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from willbarnett1@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

I have always thought that Oregon has been one of the most environmentally aware & responsive of all the US states. This assessment of existing water rules is embarrassing & counter to my vision for this state. How did we manage to slip behind in so many areas of quality of life? Forestry management (stream buffer zones), school funding, homelessness, drug abuse, & on & on. Oregon can & should do better than we are doing now. Big Agriculture (including the timber industry) is way out of line (nitrate dumping on fields?). I will be making this issue much better known to the people of my community here in Clatsop County.

Improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules is of utmost importance, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants

that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
William Barnett
OR 97103-4618

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: WindraWolf@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Windra Mosher
<WindraWolf@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 12:46 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Approve sustainable groundwater rules that protect Oregon wildlife

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from windrawolf@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Policy Analyst Laura Hartt,

As an Oregon resident, I support improving Oregon's Groundwater Management rules, particularly as our region faces an ever-increasing demand for groundwater and the intensifying effects of climate change. I support the Oregon Water Resources Department's proposed rule changes that provide an important, positive step toward preventing further degradation of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems.

Oregon's existing rules for issuing new groundwater permits have resulted in an over-issuance of those permits and have caused major groundwater-level declines across the state, which harm rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and springs that rely upon inputs of cold, clean groundwater. This, in turn, harms groundwater-dependent ecosystems and the many freshwater species who live in them. Declining groundwater levels have also harmed existing surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, and domestic well owners who rely on groundwater for drinking and household use.

There are several important ways that the department's proposed rules will put Oregon on a better, more responsible path to groundwater sustainability. First, the proposed rules define "reasonably stable" groundwater levels and prevent new groundwater permits from being issued when groundwater levels aren't reasonably stable. Second, the proposed rules establish the amount and type of data needed to determine whether groundwater levels are reasonably stable, and they require denial of a permit application if that data isn't available. Finally, the proposed rules protect senior surface-water rights, including instream water rights for fish and other wildlife, by requiring a full accounting of the impacts of proposed pumping on hydraulically connected rivers and streams.

Despite these changes being necessary, however, the proposed rules don't go far enough to address the current issues of Oregon's overallocated groundwater systems. In many areas around the state, groundwater levels are falling at unsustainable rates. While the proposed rules prevent that rate of decline from worsening, they do nothing to slow or stop the current rate of decline, nor do they address issues with permits currently in existence or permit applications in process prior to the rules' adoption.

Oregon's groundwater rules must go further to protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems and wildlife. In addition to considering whether groundwater sources are hydrologically connected to streams and rivers, the department must adopt rules that consider groundwater's connectivity to other water features like springs, wetlands and fens that could also be affected by pumping. These ecosystems provide important habitat for an amazing array of wildlife and plants that are increasingly at risk due to their interdependent connection to groundwater — levels of which have been declining statewide for decades due to outdated permitting rules.

Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and these proposed rule changes must be implemented promptly to prevent further worsening of a severely damaged system. Adopting the proposed rules is the bare minimum that Oregon should do to improve sustainable groundwater management for its residents and wildlife who depend on these important water sources.

Sincerely,
Windra Mosher
OR 97045-7363

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: allison=summernaftnoon.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Allison Hart
<allison@summernaftnoon.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 9:39 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

Some people who received this message don't often get email from allison@summernaftnoon.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams, an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Allison Hart
111 NW Maywood Drive
Portland OR, 97210-3329

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: ardnasac13@mac.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Cassandra Pierson
<ardnasac13@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 10:38 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

You don't often get email from ardnasac13@mac.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

As a new transplant from California to Oregon, i want to thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. Please avoid the huge mistakes of states like Arizona and Nevada who are rapidly decimating underground reservoirs. These changes are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Keep in mind that once the water is gone, it's not coming back. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Cassandra Pierson
6312 SW Capitol Hwy #136
Portland OR, 97239-1938

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: david=riverbird.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of David Edwards
<david@riverbird.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 11:24 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

Some people who received this message don't often get email from david@riverbird.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

This expresses my feelings exactly!

Thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. These changes are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

David Edwards
291 Limerick Ave
Eugene OR, 97404-1292

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: 2016denpat@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Dennis West
<2016denpat@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 10:36 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

You don't often get email from 2016denpat@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

POLLUTED WATER + POLLUTED AIR=
"END OF LIFE ON EARTH!"

Thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. These changes are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Dennis West
284 Lemwick Lane
Yachats OR, 97498-8431

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: hfraser.transfer@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Holly Fraser
<hfraser.transfer@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 4:02 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

Some people who received this message don't often get email from hfraser.transfer@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

Thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I wholeheartedly support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

I believe that these more sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. These changes are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Thank you for your valuable time and attention to this issue.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Holly Fraser
6969 Osprey Ct SE
Salem OR, 97306-5907

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: mirismme@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Iris Moore
<mirismme@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 3:35 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mirismme@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

I live in Portland. I appreciate the need for sustainable practices to protect the safety, availability and equitable use of Oregon's water resources. There are good reasons why some of the oldest legal systems in human history concern water rights, and I consider protection of this essential resource to be one of the primary reasons for the existence of government.

Thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. Without careful management working with natural processes we can cause devastating damage to our ecosystem. These proposed rules are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Iris Moore
5805 N Harvard St
Portland OR, 97203-5621

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: voteforwatersheds@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Linda Pace
<voteforwatersheds@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 10:20 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

You don't often get email from voteforwatersheds@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

Thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. These changes are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Nothing could be more important in these times of climate change and with Oregon facing the possibility of large numbers of "climate refugees" from Arizona, New Mexico and California. We can't waste water growing alfalfa; we need human food, that is fruits, vegetables, and sustainably raised animal protein. We need clean drinking water.

I have a well that I tend and give thanks for as some of my neighbors in Southern Oregon lose their wells.

I venture to say that you folks have the most important job in the State of Oregon.

Thank you for listening.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Linda Pace
1616 Apple Ln
Grants Pass OR, 97527-4712

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: maryjomannpdx@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Mary Jo Mann
<maryjomannpdx@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 18, 2024 10:30 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

Some people who received this message don't often get email from maryjomannpdx@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

Thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. These changes are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Water is our most precious resource. We must protect it to sustain all life on our planet. Please continue to do all you can to protect it.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Mann
2036 Se Lincoln St
Portland OR, 97214-5432

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: michellej2=charter.net@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Michelle Jordan <michellej2@charter.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 2:42 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

You don't often get email from michellej2@charter.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

Thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater. When my husband and I lived in Ashland, our community well nearly ran dry on multiple occasions, and at least once water had to be trucked in. I would not wish that to happen on a larger scale in the future.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. These changes are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Michelle Jordan
720 Avenue G, Unit D
Seaside OR, 97138-6624

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: mira.wiegmann@cune.org@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Mira Wiegmann
<mira.wiegmann@cune.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 4:01 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

From the 1970s to 2001 I raised my family in a small town in Nebraska where I had to distill our drinking water because of nitrates in our drinking water. I know first hand the effects of not regulating agricultural ground water pollution. Thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. These changes are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Mira Wiegmann
2750 SW 89th Ave
Portland OR, 97225-3509

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: pat=recodenow.org@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Pat Lando
<pat@recodenow.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 6:04 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: I support sustainable groundwater management!

Some people who received this message don't often get email from pat@recodenow.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

Recode supports OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

Improving new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Pat Lando
6607 SE Scott Drive
Portland OR, 97215-2019

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Amanda Duncan <ajwduncan@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2024 6:31 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Adopt the proposed groundwater rules

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ajwduncan@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi,

I strongly support the Oregon Water Resources Department's new rules to help protect groundwater from overuse. Over-allocation of water resources, combined with accelerating climate change, has led to unsustainable decreases in water supply. This has resulted in dry wells, higher pumping costs, instability for existing users, and lower water quality. Although the proposed rules do not fix the problems that have already been created by over-allocation, they are essential to avoid making the situation worse. The proposed rules are thoughtful, science-based, and consistent with the original intentions of the 1955 Groundwater Management Act. The proposal will help protect our groundwater and the surface water that depends on it while also including an appropriate level of flexibility and location-specific considerations. Sustainable management of the state's groundwater is going to become increasingly important as the climate continues to change. Please adopt these rules to help protect this critical resource for Oregonians for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Amanda Duncan

Beaverton, Oregon

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Christoph Zurcher <swissstoph@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 2:42 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Please adopt the OWRD's new groundwater rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from swissstoph@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Oregon Water,

I'm a parent who is angry about the lack of action on climate.

Please adopt the Oregon Water Resources Department's new rules to help protect groundwater from overuse.

Accelerating climate change and over-allocation of water resources has led to unsustainable decreases in water supply. This has led to dry wells, higher pumping costs, instability for existing users, and lower water quality. The proposed rules are science-based, data-driven, and consistent with the original intentions of the 1955 Groundwater Management Act.

Sustainable management of the state's groundwater is going to become increasingly critical as the climate continues to change. Please adopt these rules to help protect this essential resource for Oregonians for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Christoph Zurcher

Beaverton, Oregon

Sent from my iPhone

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Elisabeth Hardy <elisabethhardy6@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 7:19 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Please adopt the OWRD's new groundwater rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from elisabethhardy6@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Oregon Water,

I'm a mother who fears for my family in a warming world.

Please adopt the Oregon Water Resources Department's new rules to help protect groundwater from overuse.

Accelerating climate change and over-allocation of water resources has led to unsustainable decreases in water supply. This has led to dry wells, higher pumping costs, instability for existing users, and lower water quality. The proposed rules are science-based, data-driven, and consistent with the original intentions of the 1955 Groundwater Management Act.

Sustainable management of the state's groundwater is going to become increasingly critical as the climate continues to change. Please adopt these rules to help protect this essential resource for Oregonians for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Hardy

Beaverton, Oregon

Sent from my iPhone

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Joyce Hyne <hynejoyce75@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 12:11 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Please adopt the OWRD's new groundwater rules

Some people who received this message don't often get email from hynejoyce75@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Water,

I'm a grandmother who fears for my family in a warming and increasingly toxic world.

Please adopt the Oregon Water Resources Department's new rules to help protect groundwater from overuse.

Accelerating climate change and over-allocation of water resources has led to unsustainable decreases in water supply. This has led to dry wells, higher pumping costs, instability for existing users, and lower water quality. The proposed rules are science-based, data-driven, and consistent with the original intentions of the 1955 Groundwater Management Act.

Sustainable management of the state's groundwater is going to become increasingly critical as the climate continues to change. Please adopt these rules to help protect this essential resource for Oregonians for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Joyce Hyne

Portland, Oregon

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: mvollrath@climateactionnow.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 2:42 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Please adopt the OWRD's new groundwater rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from mvollrath@climateactionnow.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Oregon Water,

Please adopt the Oregon Water Resources Department's new rules to help protect groundwater from overuse.

Accelerating climate change and over-allocation of water resources has led to unsustainable decreases in water supply. This has led to dry wells, higher pumping costs, instability for existing users, and lower water quality. The proposed rules are science-based, data-driven, and consistent with the original intentions of the 1955 Groundwater Management Act.

Sustainable management of the state's groundwater is going to become increasingly critical as the climate continues to change. Please adopt these rules to help protect this essential resource for Oregonians for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Matthew Vollrath

Los Angeles, California

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Donald Wirth <seed@saddlebutte.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2024 8:02 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Do Not Adopt Proposed Groundwater Rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from seed@saddlebutte.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

Our well has been logged 4 times year since the mid 50's. It always recharges even on low rainfall years. We need to make sure that one shoe does not fit all.

I am concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce my ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin I live in, even if that basins that is not currently experiencing a serious water level declines. The new rules also creates an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

I ask that the Water Resources Commission do not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

1. Prioritize the basins and sub-basins that have the greatest need for further studying of groundwater, i.e. areas with serious groundwater declines, frequent shortages, and measurable connectivity to over-allocated surface waters and request funding from the legislature to increase OWRD's groundwater data;
2. Require unperfected groundwater rights to demonstrate their beneficial use under water short conditions, limiting the development of existing uses to known quantities;
3. Use the existing authority within OWRD, including: Reclassifying groundwater uses, Enforcing OWRD's existing authority to shut off groundwater rights when certain conditions are met, and use "Serious Water Management Problem Area Authority" to designate and focus on priority areas, and
4. Implement processes for limiting pending groundwater applications and setting conditions where the department knows there is over-allocation

As a farmer, I agree that we need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

Donald Wirth
31226 Wirth Rd
Tangent, OR 97389
seed@saddlebutte.com

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Elizabeth Brooks <brooksl@peak.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 1:46 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Do Not Adopt Proposed Groundwater Rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from brooksl@peak.org. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

We are a 5 generation family farm in the Willamette Valley and do not support additional rules for our water use.

I am concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce my ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin I live in, even if that basins that is not currently experiencing a serious water level declines. The new rules also creates an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

I ask that the Water Resources Commission do not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

1. Prioritize the basins and sub-basins that have the greatest need for further studying of groundwater, i.e. areas with serious groundwater declines, frequent shortages, and measurable connectivity to over-allocated surface waters and request funding from the legislature to increase OWRD's groundwater data;
2. Require unperfected groundwater rights to demonstrate their beneficial use under water short conditions, limiting the development of existing uses to known quantities;
3. Use the existing authority within OWRD, including: Reclassifying groundwater uses, Enforcing OWRD's existing authority to shut off groundwater rights when certain conditions are met, and use "Serious Water Management Problem Area Authority" to designate and focus on priority areas, and
4. Implement processes for limiting pending groundwater applications and setting conditions where the department knows there is over-allocation

As a farmer, I agree that we need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Brooks
26845 McFarland Rd
Monroe, OR 97456
brooksl@peak.org

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Heidi Geschwill <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 7:45 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Do Not Adopt Proposed Groundwater Rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from user@votervoice.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

We are a third-generation farm near Woodburn. These new rules sound concerning from the standpoint that if we need a new source of water for any reason, we might be out of luck. And that might put us out of business also. Please don't add more layers of burden to Oregon's farms and businesses.

I am concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce my ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin I live in, even if that basins that is not currently experiencing a serious water level declines. The new rules also creates an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

I ask that the Water Resources Commission do not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

1. Prioritize the basins and sub-basins that have the greatest need for further studying of groundwater, i.e. areas with serious groundwater declines, frequent shortages, and measurable connectivity to over-allocated surface waters and request funding from the legislature to increase OWRD's groundwater data;
2. Require unperfected groundwater rights to demonstrate their beneficial use under water short conditions, limiting the development of existing uses to known quantities;
3. Use the existing authority within OWRD, including: Reclassifying groundwater uses, Enforcing OWRD's existing authority to shut off groundwater rights when certain conditions are met, and use "Serious Water Management Problem Area Authority" to designate and focus on priority areas, and
4. Implement processes for limiting pending groundwater applications and setting conditions where the department knows there is over-allocation

As a farmer, I agree that we need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

Heidi Geschwill
13610 NE Boones Ferry Rd
Woodburn, OR 97071
hidawg@icloud.com

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Janice Flegel <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 10:37 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Do Not Adopt Proposed Groundwater Rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from user@votervoice.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

My family farms and has cattle. We need water for our livestock as well as crops. As a family farm we need to be able to access ground water for livestock watering. The proposed groundwater rules could jeopardize our ability to have a dependable water supply for our animals.

I am concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce my ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin I live in, even if that basins that is not currently experiencing a serious water level declines. The new rules also creates an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

I ask that the Water Resources Commission do not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

1. Prioritize the basins and sub-basins that have the greatest need for further studying of groundwater, i.e. areas with serious groundwater declines, frequent shortages, and measurable connectivity to over-allocated surface waters and request funding from the legislature to increase OWRD's groundwater data;
2. Require unperfected groundwater rights to demonstrate their beneficial use under water short conditions, limiting the development of existing uses to known quantities;
3. Use the existing authority within OWRD, including: Reclassifying groundwater uses, Enforcing OWRD's existing authority to shut off groundwater rights when certain conditions are met, and use "Serious Water Management Problem Area Authority" to designate and focus on priority areas, and
4. Implement processes for limiting pending groundwater applications and setting conditions where the department knows there is over-allocation

As a farmer, I agree that we need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

Janice Flegel
9271 NW McCabe Rd
Prineville, OR 97754
janice.flegel@gmail.com

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Kevin Westfall <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2024 6:57 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Do Not Adopt Proposed Groundwater Rules

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

Water is essential to life and prosperity in Oregon. This is a defacto moratorium.

I am concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce my ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin I live in, even if that basins that is not currently experiencing a serious water level declines. The new rules also creates an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

I ask that the Water Resources Commission do not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

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4. Implement processes for limiting pending groundwater applications and setting conditions where the department knows there is over-allocation

As a farmer, I agree that we need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

Kevin Westfall
94482 Sinatra Ln
Broadbent, OR 97414
kevinwestfall@netscape.net

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Larry Bailey <larry@vernajeannursery.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2024 8:07 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Do Not Adopt Proposed Groundwater Rules

[You don't often get email from larry@vernajeannursery.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

Groundwater is an extremely important resource for my family farm (tree nursery). Even though we are a small operation, we have spent quite literally hundreds of thousands of dollars establishing and developing our as-yet unperfected water right. I view this as a long-term investment in the viability of my family business and know that others feel the same way. I ask that you carefully consider both the intended and unintended consequences of changes to Oregon's water availability rules as they relate to all farming operations in the state, and especially to small farms.

I am concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce my ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin I live in, even if that basin is not currently experiencing serious water level declines. The new rules also create an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

I ask that the Water Resources Commission not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

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4. Implement processes for limiting pending groundwater applications and setting conditions where the department knows there is over-allocation

As a farmer, I agree that we need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

Larry Bailey
8325 SE Altman Rd
Gresham, OR 97080

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Melissa pfleiger <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 7:50 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Do Not Adopt Proposed Groundwater Rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from user@votervoice.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

Please be very aware of the implications if this rule before you vote. We already have farmers that can't get water don't make it worse please

I am concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce my ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin I live in, even if that basins that is not currently experiencing a serious water level declines. The new rules also creates an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

I ask that the Water Resources Commission do not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

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As a farmer, I agree that we need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

Melissa pfleiger
4883 Oak Park Dr NE
Salem, OR 97305
rnmelissa@hotmail.com

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Mr. & Mrs. Richard Yturriondobeitia <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 12:21 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Do Not Adopt Proposed Groundwater Rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from user@votervoice.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

I am a rancher in SE OR.

I am concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce my ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin I live in, even if that basins that is not currently experiencing a serious water level declines. The new rules also creates an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

I ask that the Water Resources Commission do not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

1. Prioritize the basins and sub-basins that have the greatest need for further studying of groundwater, i.e. areas with serious groundwater declines, frequent shortages, and measurable connectivity to over-allocated surface waters and request funding from the legislature to increase OWRD's groundwater data;
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4. Implement processes for limiting pending groundwater applications and setting conditions where the department knows there is over-allocation

As a farmer, I agree that we need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

Richard Yturriondobeitia
57751 Whitehorse Ranch Ln
Fields, OR 97710
ayarsytu2riondobeitia@gmail.com

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Rita Rattray <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 9:33 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Do Not Adopt Proposed Groundwater Rules

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from user@votervoice.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

Please consider that Oregon's groundwater is made up of unique landscapes and water basins. "One-size meets all" does not meet the needs of our area.

I am concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce my ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin I live in, even if that basins that is not currently experiencing a serious water level declines. The new rules also creates an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

I ask that the Water Resources Commission do not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

1. Prioritize the basins and sub-basins that have the greatest need for further studying of groundwater, i.e. areas with serious groundwater declines, frequent shortages, and measurable connectivity to over-allocated surface waters and request funding from the legislature to increase OWRD's groundwater data;
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4. Implement processes for limiting pending groundwater applications and setting conditions where the department knows there is over-allocation

As a farmer, I agree that we need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

Rita Rattray
53461 Armstrong Rd
Condon, OR 97823
ritarattray@gmail.com

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Sharon Waterman <watermanranch@frontier.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 9:01 AM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Do Not Adopt Proposed Groundwater Rules

[You don't often get email from watermanranch@frontier.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Rules Coordinator Hartt,

We are coastal ranch owners and are concerned that the new groundwater rules as proposed by the department will significantly reduce our ability to obtain a new groundwater permit, regardless of which water basin we live, even if that basin is not currently experiencing serious water level declines. The new rules also creates an unfair advantage to those who can pay for their own data in basins where there is not access to adequate data, creating inequitable access to water.

We request the Water Resources Commission not adopt the new groundwater rules as proposed and instead use existing OWRD authorities that are site-specific and recognize that each watershed and aquifer in Oregon has unique attributes. OWRD already has the power to:

1. Prioritize the basins and sub-basins that have the greatest need for further studying of groundwater, i.e. areas with serious groundwater declines, frequent shortages, and measurable connectivity to over-allocated surface waters and request funding from the legislature to increase OWRD's groundwater data;
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4. Implement processes for limiting pending groundwater applications and setting conditions where the department knows there is over-allocation

We need to protect Oregon's groundwater from over allocation, however, this proposed rule from OWRD will act as a de facto moratorium on Oregon's groundwater and is a one-size fits all solution that will not meet the needs of Oregon's diverse landscapes and water basins.

Sincerely,

Sharon Waterman
87518 Davis Creek Ln
Bandon, OR 97411
watermanranch@frontier.com

From: Kristy Overton <asdf@perfectlyvalidemail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 7:10 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Groundwater Rulemaking Revisions

You don't often get email from asdf@perfectlyvalidemail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Oregon Water Resource Department Commissioners State of Oregon,

Hello,

I'm writing to express my support for the strongest possible protections for our groundwater resources. The groundwater rulemaking process must do more to address our growing water allocation crisis.

Ok, obviously, I'm using a pre-filled form here, with the encouragement to talk about why I personally care. This is a somewhat baffling instruction. I'm a human being. I live in Oregon. I won't last long without water! And as the climate becomes less stable, we've got to think proactively and systemically about how we can maintain the water resources we have.

That said, I call upon you to:

Implement strong groundwater rules!

- Hold the agriculture industry to account as, apparently, that's where over 3/4 of our water usage goes. That water belongs to ALL Oregonians; if they're wasting it, we all suffer.
- Protect Oregon's rapidly depleting aquifers AND interconnected surface waters from permanent damage.
- Plan for climate change-driven drought and less reliable water supplies.

Acknowledge hydrologic connections in the water cycle – between groundwater and streams – and use the Public Trust Doctrine to stop draining our aquifers. The Public Trust Doctrine requires you to hold water in trust for the future. Use it!

Implement minimum stream flow requirements as required by the Endangered Species Act and the Public Trust Doctrine, which, respectively, protect fish and humans. Oregon used to have minimum stream flows, but in 1987 they were replaced by an Orwellian process that

gives ecosystems junior water rights to their own water! Now, in the summer when minimum stream flows are most needed, senior irrigation water right holders trump those junior in-stream rights and over-pump our streams. Instream flows must be treated as reserved water rights that are not subject to diversion.

Protect water for critical human needs including domestic uses, Tribal fishing practices, small-scale local food production, and municipalities from rampant non-beneficial uses of water by industrial agriculture, which accounts for the majority of Oregon's water use. 80% of all agricultural products in Oregon are exported out of state – that's a lot of our water leaving the state – some of it permanently! The idea that whoever got in line first could use water for personal gain at the expense of the greater public interest is an inequitable and unjust vestige of the Wild West that harms ecosystems and river-dependent communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I hope you take my concerns seriously and begin doing more to uphold and enforce the laws that are designed to protect our environment, public trust waters, and our descendants.

Kristy Overton
asdf@perfectlyvalidemail.com

Portland, Oregon 97209

From: Marie Knight <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2024 3:13 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Groundwater Rulemaking Revisions

Oregon Water Resource Department Commissioners State of Oregon,

I write today to encourage your efforts to protect our public trust waters with reasonable and just water allocation rules to protect our dwindling groundwater resources. The groundwater rulemaking process must do more to address our growing water allocation crisis.

I call upon you to: remember that all life begins and ends with water. It is a human right that be reserved for all life to access and not for few to gain profit or benefit. We can all thrive with sustainable practices and resources that ensure clean water access for everyone.

Implement strong groundwater rules is needed to: a) Curb excessive use/waste, by the agricultural industry, which accounts for 78% of all water that humans use in Oregon; b) Protect Oregon's rapidly depleting aquifers AND interconnected surface waters from permanent damage; and c) Plan for climate change-driven drought and less reliable water supplies.

Acknowledge hydrologic connections in the water cycle – between groundwater and streams – and use the Public Trust Doctrine to stop draining our aquifers. The Public Trust Doctrine requires you to hold water in trust for the future. Use it!

Implement minimum stream flow requirements as required by the Endangered Species Act and the Public Trust Doctrine, which, respectively, protect fish and humans. Oregon used to have minimum stream flows, but in 1987 they were replaced by an Orwellian process that gives ecosystems junior water rights to their own water! Now, in the summer when minimum stream flows are most needed, senior irrigation water right holders trump those junior in-stream rights and over-pump our streams. Instream flows must be treated as reserved water rights that are not subject to diversion.

Protect water for critical human needs including domestic uses, Tribal fishing practices, small-

scale local food production, and municipalities from rampant non-beneficial uses of water by industrial agriculture, which accounts for the majority of Oregon's water use. 80% of all agricultural products in Oregon are exported out of state – that's a lot of our water leaving the state – some of it permanently! The idea that whoever got in line first could use water for personal gain at the expense of the greater public interest is an inequitable and unjust vestige of the Wild West that harms ecosystems and river-dependent communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I hope you take my concerns seriously and begin doing more to uphold and enforce the laws that are designed to protect our environment, public trust waters, and our descendants.

Marie Knight
weaving3wonders@gmail.com

Portland, Oregon 97230