

BETTINARDI Nicole * OWEB

From: oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 8:27 AM
To: BETTINARDI Nicole * OWEB
Cc: REPPLINGER Linda * OWEB
Subject: Public Comment

First and Last Name	Tony Newbill
Phone Number	928-231-2478
Email Address	n3ranchlife@gmail.com
I wish to provide (select one):	written comment
If you are providing VERBAL comment, how do you plan to attend the meeting (select one):	
I want to provide comment at (select one):	OWEB Board Water and Climate committee
Agenda Topic / Item Letter	USDA Water Specialist Ron Abramovich wants Oregon to Consider Idaho States Cloud Seeding Program to help mitigate Climate Change
Type Comment Here (comments)	Dear OWEB Water and Climate Committee , I wanted to reach out about the Water issue we are facing in Central Oregon , and most of the state . https://www.newsfromthestates.com/article/oregon-water-officials-say-permitting-must-change-keep-tens-thousands-wells-going-dry I'm Tony Newbill , a Rancher in Powell Butte , and in the COID

may also be uploaded below):

irrigation District . I was Born in Redmond in 1961 , raised in Madras and Grizzly on irrigated in Madras and dryland Wheat farming cattle in Grizzly . I have a 3 great grand pa and ma buried in the Grizzly cemetery in 1874 and 1906 . Being in Dryland farming with my Dad and Grandpa from the 30s through the 1990s I can Confirm through the ASCS Office We had average rain fall between 12-14 inches and snowfall 130-160 inch base from 1930s up till late 1990s . Since the end of the 1990s we have averaged half these levels !!! You can Remember the Cascade Mountain Passes always had to be Snow Blower Open !!! Even OWRD 2021 report confirms this by their timeframe on When the Aquifers started to drop in 1990s , see here ;
https://www.opb.org/pdf/OWRDMemo_DeschutesGroundwaterLevelDeclines_2021-09-01_FINAL_1657754829743.pdf We are steadily getting drier like Berkeley Laboratory is warning that the Cascades will be SNOWLESS in the Near Future ,
<https://www.opb.org/article/2021/11/03/snowpack-cascades-climate-change/> As you know OWRD is considering water restrictions in the face of our on-going Climate Change Drought , and Senator Findley said OWRD were the ones who stopped his Bill to Study Cloud Seeding said they didn't have time , but we are Running out of water ,
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB0058/Introduced> Idaho has been very successful with their cloud seeding program . Madras Farm Fair Hosted Idaho State Cloud Seeding Rep Kala Golden to give a Presentation on Idaho's Program and They are increasing winter snow pack levels that are adding an additional 6 Wickiup Reservoirs of Extra Water into the Snake River Drainage from the Tetons . <https://idwr.idaho.gov/iwrb/programs/cloud-seeding-program/> <https://www.ktvb.com/article/news/local/208/idaho-hosts-cloud-seeding-workshop-help-educate-policymakers-resource-managers/277-e743d797-1222-4f8e-8258-cdc28c3514fd> https://www.capitalpress.com/state/idaho/leading-the-way-idaho-coaxes-more-snow-from-the-sky-using-cloud-seeding/article_141cf6ba-a41c-11ed-8e10-bfa7cb23f208.html OWRD should reconsider this because even if we were to stop fossil fuel use , no study has told us how long it would take for average snow levels from Pre 2000s would return . And they could be Working with this Reno Nevada Institute to Study how Clouding Seeding could be used ;
<https://www.dri.edu/cloud-seeding-program/current-cloud-seeding-operations/> And at least OWRD could have this Idaho USDA Water Specialist come and talk to them about what he has said here about Idaho's Cloud Seeding Program , https://magicvalley.com/opinion/columnists/reader-comment-cloud-seeding-can-aid-other-collaborative-efforts-to-restore-idaho-s-salmon-runs/article_8267aec5-ddc5-524a-b60b-66f3c8897430.html 7 States including California are using this to help with their water shortage and I this we should at least study its potential .
<https://www.idahopower.com/energy-environment/energy/energy-sources/hydroelectric/cloud-seeding/frequently-asked-questions/> <https://columbiainsight.org/idaho-is-going-all-in-on-cloud-seeding-heres-why/> <https://www.cnbc.com/2022/12/17/how-cloud-seeding-can-help-replenish-reservoirs-in-the-west.html> Even Santa Barbara California is doing Cloud Seeding as a Rain Enhancement , <https://www.countyofsb.org/2548/Cloud-Seeding-Precipitation-Enhancement> DENVER (AP) — The Southern Nevada Water Authority on Thursday voted to accept a \$2.4 million grant from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to fund cloud seeding in other Western states whose rivers feed the parched desert region. <https://azcapitoltimes.com/news/2023/03/17/feds-spend-2-4-million-on-cloud-seeding-for-colorado-river/> I think the OWRD needs to Consider what all our Neighboring States are doing as a Proactive mitigating tool to try and reverse some of the effects this climate change drought is having on our area as well as most of Oregon before we see a aquifer decline that reaches a unreachable depth . Thank you for your time and service . Tony Newbill N 3 Ranch Powell Butte , Oregon 928-231-2478

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