

Feb. 26, 2014

Joelle Gore, Acting Chief,
Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3),
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
National Ocean Service, NOAA
1305 East-West Highway,
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
via email: joelle.gore@noaa.gov

Re: EPA/NOAA Proposed Disapproval of Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Pollution
Control Program under CZARA

Dear Ms. Gore:

We are property owner in the Yachats River watershed and are concerned about the coastal rivers. We are writing to support EPA and NOAA's proposed disapproval of Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program because we believe that Oregon does not have a program in place to control nonpoint source pollution in its coastal watersheds that is sufficient to carry out the CZARA management measures and the additional management measures the law requires to achieve and maintain Oregon's water quality standards and protect Oregon's designated uses.

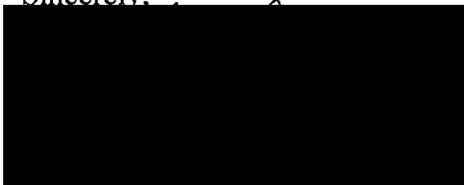
We believe that Oregon is failing to sufficiently protect water quality standards in coastal watersheds. The protection issues that Oregon is failing are native fish stocks, wildlife and drinking water. We are dependent upon water from springs that could be polluted if strict regulation is not followed.

My basis for believing that Oregon does not have a program in place to protect these uses and water quality standards is Oregon's many years of failure to control run-off pollution from timber harvesting and the erosion of hillsides.. The north fork and main stem of the Yachats river have both been polluted from timber harvests in the past and this could happen again. We need strict enforcement such as required by CZARA. We had severe clear cutting around our private forest and this caused substantial loss of river quality. Our efforts to plant trees along our property and otherwise assist the fish migration can be disrupted by additional tree harvests, road constructions or other potentially harmful operations.

While many private land owners have been making this effort, the state does not have in place an adequate program to protect and restore riparian areas, wetland and coastal areas. There has been minimal efforts to monitor water quality or the voluntary efforts by private owners such as us.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your response to Oregon. We urge you to continue your valuable efforts to identify pollution in coast watersheds and to help maintain high quality standards.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the sender.