Dear Ms. Gore,

I am writing to say that I agree with the proposal by NOAA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to disapprove the current State of Oregon’s coastal nonpoint pollution control program. Oregon needs a strong coastal nonpoint pollution control program to protect water quality critical to aquatic species and public water supplies. NOAA and EPA have found that Oregon’s program falls short in key areas.

Please continue to work to get the improvements needed in the Oregon program for controlling impacts from timber harvesting, including measures for protecting small and medium sized streams; measures to protect landslide prone areas; and measures to address runoff from forest roads built prior to modern construction and drainage requirements. Oregon also needs to ensure that septic systems are inspected and properly maintained and that sediment runoff from new development does not enter rivers and streams. Finally, nonpoint source impacts from agricultural activities must be addressed as well.

Thank you for your attention,