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## **Fwd: I support disapproving Oregon's program for controlling forestry pollution**

1 message

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**Joelle Gore - NOAA Federal** <joelle.gore@noaa.gov>

Mon, Mar 10, 2014 at 3:16 PM

To: Allison Castellan - NOAA Federal <allison.castellan@noaa.gov>, Lisa Warr - NOAA Federal <lisa.s.warr@noaa.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

[REDACTED]

Date: Mon, Mar 10, 2014 at 3:07 PM

Subject: I support disapproving Oregon's program for controlling forestry pollution

To: [joelle.gore@noaa.gov](mailto:joelle.gore@noaa.gov)

I strongly urge you to move ahead with your plans to disapprove Oregon's current program to address polluted runoff from forestlands along the Oregon coast. These measures have not demonstrated their effectiveness. Pollution from forest lands in coastal watersheds is not being effectively controlled. Loss of federal funding may be the only effective method of forcing action in this state. As recently as last week, Oregon state officials have been claiming that their current programs are effective.

I have been a resident of Florence, Oregon for nearly 10 years and a resident of Oregon for over 35 years. I am a retired employee of the USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service, with 28 years of experience in Oregon. The opinions stated in my comments are strictly my own and do not reflect the views of any other organization. However, my comments are certainly partially informed by my recent service for 5 years on the Florence Planning Commission and by my current service as a member of the Siuslaw Watershed Council.

It appears to me that a majority of coastal residents would prefer a more balanced, sustainable management approach that benefits all of our watershed resources. This action is needed to prevent pollutant trespass into public waters, which are public property. Federal and state governments have the responsibility to manage these waters as trustees of a public water trust. This fiduciary responsibility requires management of trust assets in a manner that provides maximum long term benefits for current and future generations. This is not being done.

This pollutant trespass includes all TMDL criteria that are lowering water quality and degrading ecosystem and watershed functionality. Examples include high water temperatures, excess

nutrients, and high sediment loads.

The State of Oregon has had many years to develop effective pollution programs on coastal lands and has failed to accomplish that task. It appears to me that many states have much more successful non-point pollution control programs on coastal forest lands. The Oregon Forest Practices Act is frequently judged as the weakest on the west coast. It is time to require more effective programs in Oregon.

Sincerely,



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Joelle Gore  
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