



Fwd: comment for CZARA

1 message

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

Fri, Mar 21, 2014 at 8:34 AM

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

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

[REDACTED]
Date: Thu, Mar 20, 2014 at 11:44 PM

Subject: comment for CZARA

To: joelle.gore@noaa.gov

I am a member of the [REDACTED]

As

you know these waterways flow to the Oregon coast and into the Pacific Ocean. We were appointed through a USDA process and met 16 times between November 2001 and June 2003 to write a plan to conform with the nonpoint source portion of the Clean Water Act.

We have met annually since then with our state and local officials, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the Department of Environmental Quality(DEQ), and East Lane (county) Soil and Water Conservation District to be advised on the current status of the management plan. I am a farmer and forest land owner in Lane County and a land owner and former resident of Port Orford, Oregon, a coastal fishing town adjacent to the popular salmon bearing Elk River.

The committee was instructed that our plan would be complaint driven, and compliance voluntary. I have been informed that three fines have been imposed over the last 11 years. We were also told we were not allowed to consider pesticides as a pollutant. The state still does not consider pesticides as pollutants, but considers streamside plantings to be sufficient to filter anything including pesticides. I am told they do not test the water for pesticides.

I understand that the EPA & NOAA have found that Oregon forests have adequate stream buffers for pesticides on salmon bearing streams. How was this determined? Seasonal and non-fish bearing streams have not been considered. Isn't this the water that feeds the fish-bearing streams and rivers? Stream buffers and logging practices in this state are a joke-a sad joke. Observation, including photos of streamside vegetation are evidence that Oregon is out of compliance; often with its own inadequate forest practices act. How did EPA find otherwise?

I have not been provided any assurance or evidence from state and local officials that they intend to meet the requirements regarding

credible management practices for determining and enforcing required water quality standards. Indeed I have only encountered obfuscation.



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