

-----Original Message-----

From: Kirk D Wasson [mailto:wildernist@centurylink.net]

Sent: Saturday, May 31, 2014 10:21 AM

To: Reg-Comment

Cc: Robert Cross; Alice Andrews

Subject: Reg 5 and 6 Changes

To:

Theresa Marks,

Doug Szenher

Please accept the attached comments and ones below concerning protection of Arkansas water sources.

I have also mailed the original of the copy attached. Please see that all decision makers receive a copy.

I strongly support changes to the Pollution Control and Ecology Commission Regulations 5 and 6 to ban new medium and large confined hog growing operations in the Buffalo National River watershed. This will be a great start in protecting one of the nation's true public resources. More monitoring and regulations need to be in place on many of Arkansas' streams.

Please keep me updated on the progress of this important change.

Thanks,

Kirk Wasson

15 Meadow Crest Drive

Sherwood, AR 72120

wildernist@centurylink.net

Cell 501.681.3867

---

Doug Szenher  
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality  
Public Outreach and Assistance Division  
5301 Northshore Drive  
North Little Rock, AR 72118

Dear Mr. Szenher,

Thanks for allowing me (and public) to comment on this very important matter.

Please afford the maximum protection possible for the Buffalo River.

Sound science should be used to determine feasibility and risks involved in allowing any animal production facilities in the watershed of the Buffalo. Civil engineering studies must be done to determine risks of spreading manure and holding pond failures and overflows.

Environmental impact studies must be performed with the involvement of local land owners as well as conservationists, public land managers and other state and federal government agencies. **Non-biased** research must be used in determining the possibility of impact on the land owners and resource users surrounding and below the production facilities. All federal and state environmental laws must be researched and adhered to.

These science based conclusions should also be used going forward in development of the Arkansas water use plan.

ADEQ should not give in to farming and agricultural representative organizations or groups. They have mostly economic interests in mind before caring about the long term impact on the folks down stream.

Not just the Buffalo but all streams should be free of environmental damage caused by runoff or the potential of runoff.

I live in an area where cattle farmers try to maximize the profitability of their land. They must to survive. On these warm humid mornings the smell of cow droppings permeates the air. No one complains. All the grass is cut or eaten to the ground allowing for large runoffs during moderate rains. No one knows the amount of E-Coli in Bridge Creek near my house or the other creeks in the area. No one would dare let their kids swim in these water bodies. Fish are none existent. For my creek and 1000s of streams and rivers across the state that have been **sacrificed** for the "progress of man", there should be some flowing streams that should get extra special protection and monitoring. The Buffalo River is the prime example but there are many more.

While we should respect private property rights, those rights do not include the possibility of polluting others property and leaving behind Superfund sites.

---

Here in the last of May 2014, there are already reports of swimming areas **closed** because of water born bacteria. These are just a few examples of the many other water sources that are probably polluted. It will only get worse through the summer. How can any parent let their child swim in any body of water in Arkansas with that **threat** hanging over their head?

Please afford the maximum regulation and protection for the Buffalo River.

Please see that my comments are distributed to those making the decisions on the quality of our environment. Please feel free to contact me for future discussion on is important topic.

Please add me to any mail lists concerning wilderness or protection of our public lands.

Thanks,



Kirk Wasson

Conservationist – Wilderness protection advocate

15 Meadow Crest Drive

Sherwood, AR 72120

Home 501.983.1611

Cell 501.681.3867

Email [Wildernist@centurylink.net](mailto:Wildernist@centurylink.net)