

**From:** George Fulk [mailto:george.fulk@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 29, 2014 11:15 PM  
**To:** Reg-Comment  
**Subject:** buffalo and pigs

Doug Szenher

Arkansas Depart of Environmental Quality

Public Outreach and Assistance Div

5301 Northshore Dr

North Little Rock

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June 29 2014

Dear sir,

I am writing to encourage the establishment of new rules to block further establishment of medium and large confined swine operations in the Buffalo River watershed.

I live in eastern Oklahoma and have been coming to the Buffalo River for canoeing , fishing, and hiking at least twice a year for over 30 years. I have taken many of my friends there and they leave impressed by the beauty of this wonderful river. It is a unique national treasure as its status as a National Scenic River indicates.

In Oklahoma we have another river, the Illinois, which is a good place for similar activities. However, due to a lack of proper conservation the Illinois has lost much of its appeal. The rocks at the bottom of this river are full of unsightly algae and the river is cloudy much of the year. I hope the Buffalo River will not suffer a similar fate.

It is well known that large hog farms produce a huge amount of waste. This waste is confined to settling ponds, where it can leak through the underlying porous soil and leach into the springs that feed the Buffalo River. Furthermore, the ponds can suffer occasional breakage, freeing millions of gallons of waste water into the river at one time.

Why should we take those risks and endanger this unique treasure? Hundreds of people in Arkansas depend on tourism to the Buffalo River for their livelihood. Millions of people go there every year to recreate. Does the profit to a relatively small number of people owning large hog farms outweigh the needs of those who depend on and enjoy the Buffalo River? Our need for pork can be satisfied by small operations or by larger ones located in less environmentally sensitive places.

I would appreciate knowing that you read this letter and considered its content carefully.

George Fulk

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