

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

From: Stewart J & P [mailto:jampack1@mac.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 9:58 PM

To: Reg-Comment

Subject: Comment on Rulemaking to change Reg 5 and Reg 6

I support the proposal to ban medium and large factory style hog operations in the Buffalo River watershed through revisions of Reg 5 and Reg 6

The major problem with placing Confined Animal Feeding Operations within the watershed of the Buffalo National River relates to the resulting concentration of animal wastes. Under traditional farming practices natural systems are usually able to adequately handle manure provided that the farmer follows accepted procedures. In CAFO style factory operations the concentration of wastes overwhelms the ability of soils, vegetation, bacteria and other natural processes to treat the waste. Under these conditions pollution occurs. CAFOs and Karst can not coexist.

On a local level -This is also about protecting property values and jobs- clean air for everyone to breathe, especially children. It is about doing the right thing so that people need not fear that their wells will be contaminated.

On a national level- By establishing the Buffalo National River we have made a promise to our children and to their children that special places like the Buffalo River will be preserved for them to experience. In a crowded world rarely are parks set aside with out considerable sacrifice on the part of local people. That is certainly true for the people in this region who gave up their land to preserve what was carved out of rock by time and water in these beautiful Ozark Mountains. It would be a terrible injustice if we were to waste those sacrifices by allowing CAFOs in the watershed.

On an international level- Few may realize that national parks are a uniquely American idea that has spread all over the world. Many countries look to the United States as the model for how to protect and preserve remnants of creation. When we falter in our resolve, when we fail to keep our promise to our citizens and to the future, We weaken those who struggle in other places to convince their governments that conservation is a serious responsibility. When we take risks with our national treasures, we risk setting an example, we embolden those who only see short term profits. As surprising as it may seem, what Arkansas does with its greatest natural treasure could influence what goes on in Khao Yi National Park in Thailand and Manuel Antonio National Park in Venezuela.

I believe most Arkansans want this protection for the Buffalo River. I believe Americans want this protection, and I believe the world needs us to continue to set a good example of proper stewardship of our natural resources Jack Stewart Box 632, Jasper, AR 72641