## Hello!

I am writing to tell you my thoughts on the Buffalo River and CAFO operations. As the 1st National Scenic River in the country I am proud to claim it in our state. There is no other river like it, and I have traveled and canoed all over the country. It truly is a treasure that needs to be preserved forever. So, I want a permanent moratorium that I understand is on the docket with public comments happening now. I totally agree with the Rule Changes to 5 and 6 for a permanent swine CAFO (or really, any farm raised animal) moratorium as is in Docket Numbers #19-002 and #19-003 R. Now is the time to take action and save this river before it is too late. From the draft. Rule 5.901 states: "The director shall not issue a permit pursuant to Rule 5 for Confined Animal Operation in the Buffalo National River Watershed with: 1) 750 or more swine weighing 55 pounds or more or, 2) 3,000 more swine weighing less than 55 pounds." Actually, although this is a good first step, I ask for even more protection. You need to limit how many of these smaller operations there can be. Also, you need to prohibit or control the importing of manure from hog farms, poultry, cattle and other large animals. The manure, even manufactured fertilizers are the main problem with the geology that exists in that **area.** So, please hear what I've said, and take control of this situation and keep our beloved Buffalo River the beautiful river that it is. Let 's make a permanent Moratorium that has teeth in it for generations to come.

Thanks for taking action! I hope you get an overwhelming positive response to this rule.

Sincerely, Pattie Heitzman 479-616-7270