

Peter Alberg (adpce.ad)

From: Public Comment <Comment@adeq.state.ar.us>
Sent: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 7:12 AM
To: Peter Alberg (adpce.ad)
Subject: Fw: Permanent Moratorium on CAFOs in Buffalo River watershed

From: Ann Mesrobian <mesrobiana@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 1, 2024 9:41 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: Permanent Moratorium on CAFOs in Buffalo River watershed

Sir or Madam,

I fully support all comments submitted by the Buffalo River Watershed Alliance relating to this matter.

The Buffalo National River perches atop karst limestone whose porous nature make the entire watershed profoundly unsuitable for Confined/Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations. It has become screamingly apparent that the Buffalo River is a fragile ecosystem easily overwhelmed by nutrient loading from animal waste. We now know that legacy nutrients from the 3500-head swine CAFO located on Big Creek that was closed in 2019 after just 6 years of operation will compromise the Buffalo River ecosystem for decades. This is just not acceptable stewardship for our nation's first National River by the agencies responsible for managing our precious natural resources.

Further, as stated in BRWA's comments:

"BRWA has identified four facilities in the Buffalo River watershed with "Active" Reg 5 permits, although none are currently operational and most have been effectively closed for several years, are in violation of regulations, and should be voided."

I agree with BRWA's assessment.

There should be NO CAFOs in the Buffalo River watershed, ever, period.

Sincerely,

Ann Mesrobian, 19 W Gecko Lane, Fayetteville, AR 72701