

From: [Gregory W. O'Neal](#)
To: [WaterbodyComments](#)
Subject: Proposed 2018 Impaired Waterbody List
Date: Sunday, September 9, 2018 8:29:07 PM

Director Keogh,

I submit these comments with regard to placing segments of Big Creek and segments of the Buffalo River in Category 4b. (AR [1101003 022](#), AR [1101003 020](#)) and segments of Buffalo River (AR [11010005 011](#), AR [11010005 010](#)) in Category 4b.

Although I am a resident of Tennessee, I own a vacation home in Norfork, Arkansas and love fishing for smallmouth bass on the Buffalo River. The Buffalo is a national treasure that must be protected for the benefit of everyone and should not be allowed to be destroyed for the financial benefit of a few.

- Findings document rapid growth of algal masses in the lower half of the Buffalo National River and Big Creek
- Reports state floating and fishing in the rivers is restrictive due to the heavily affected waters
- Fishing guides have reported fewer fish
- Arkansas Health Department has issued written warnings to the general public about exposure of pets and humans to pathogens found in the Buffalo river waters.

My request/recommendation:

I ask ADEQ to act quickly and take decisive enforceable action to determine what sources are impairing the Buffalo River and Big Creek.

I ask ADEQ to designate these stream segments as Category 5 impairment. I understand that status will allow tracking and enforcement of pollution limits (through a TMDL).

Thank you for your consideration.

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