

**From:** Allen Hallmark <hallmark3843@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 14, 2024 10:23 AM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_rule-coordinator  
**Subject:** My comment on new ground water rule making

Some people who received this message don't often get email from hallmark3843@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the staff of the Oregon Water Resources Dept:  
I support these comments recommended by The Nature Conservancy:

- **Fish and Farmers:** Pumping too much groundwater can dry up streams and rivers in Oregon. The proposed new rules will protect rivers from unsustainable groundwater use—benefiting both fish and farmers who rely on that water to thrive.
- **Drinking Water Access:** Hundreds of Oregonians each year are losing access to safe, secure drinking water because groundwater levels dropped too low for their domestic wells to function. These new rules could prevent 35,000 domestic wells from going dry across Oregon.
- **Vulnerable Communities:** Drought is projected to become more frequent and more severe in Oregon in the next several decades due to climate change. These new rules will protect Oregon's frontline communities most vulnerable to drought.
- **Water Smart Oregon:** Oregon is facing an uncertain water future and must make smart

water choices. The proposed new rules will create safety measures to ensure new water-use permits rely on evidence that groundwater is available to support that use.

Thank you,

Allen Hallmark

Medford, OR 97504

458-226-6970