

HARTT Laura A * WRD

From: Peter Tronquet <pjtronquet@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 3:08 PM
To: WRD_DL_rule-coordinator
Subject: Groundwater Policy Change

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from pjtronquet@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Water Resources Department,

I strongly encourage you to consider revisions to the groundwater permitting process for new pumping rights. A policy that requires knowledge of current groundwater levels before a new permit is granted is basic responsible management. If flows are not reasonably stable then do not grant the permit. If there is a possibility of impacting senior and instream water rights, do not grant the permit.

I served on advisory committees that helped ODFW write three wild salmon and steelhead conservation plans for south coast rivers. A great leap of faith was required because we had to assume there would be enough water in the rivers to allow the adult fish to spawn and for the juveniles to survive and grow. We knew that groundwater supplies the salmon ecosystem and without sustainable groundwater the fish would either suffer a decline in reproductive success or isolated populations risk going extinct. This was before climate change became the limiting factor it is today.

Groundwater has been over allocated for years. I stand behind a rigorous process for evaluating new permit requests that insures sustainable levels of groundwater and recognizes the groundwater connection to streams and wetlands and estuaries that people and fish depend on.

Sincerely,

Peter J Tronquet
2958 Greenbrae Ct
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
541-261 -5041

Sent from my iPad Sent from my iPad