

## HARTT Laura A \* WRD

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**From:** voteforwatersheds@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Linda Pace  
<voteforwatersheds@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 15, 2024 10:20 AM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_rule-coordinator  
**Subject:** I support sustainable groundwater management!

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Dear Chair Quaempts and Members of the Commission:

Thank you for the Commission's critical work to oversee OWRD's development of science-based groundwater allocation rules that implement Oregon's 1955 Groundwater Act. I support OWRD's proposed rules because they will result in more sustainable management of groundwater.

More sustainable groundwater practices will result in better protection of streamflows and cold water inputs to rivers and streams. These changes are an important first step in addressing water scarcity and drought associated with the impacts of climate change, and are critical for protecting aquatic ecosystems. Improving how Oregon issues new groundwater permits is long overdue, and I look forward to adoption of the proposed rules.

Nothing could be more important in these times of climate change and with Oregon facing the possibility of large numbers of "climate refugees" from Arizona, New Mexico and California. We can't waste water growing alfalfa; we need human food, that is fruits, vegetables, and sustainably raised animal protein. We need clean drinking water.

I have a well that I tend and give thanks for as some of my neighbors in Southern Oregon lose their wells.

I venture to say that you folks have the most important job in the State of Oregon.

Thank you for listening.

Please act swiftly to approve OWRD's proposed groundwater allocation rules!

Sincerely,

Linda Pace  
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