

Glenda Wiles

From: Suzy Foss <suzyfoss@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:30 AM
To: Jeff Burrows; J.R. Iman; Greg Chilcott
Subject: Fwd: Natural Resources Committee Leaders Urge U.S. Forest Service to Permanently Withdraw Controversial Groundwater Directive

Please read and share with Ray and Doug. This is another assault on our water by the Fed via the USFS. Please, please invest in fighting for state rights to manage our water and our lands before it is too late.

Subject: FW: Natural Resources Committee Leaders Urge U.S. Forest Service to Permanently Withdraw Controversial Groundwater Directive

Thank you, Michael, for sending.

I had received a memo from Western Governors' Association, dated Oct. 2, 2014

Re: FS-2014-0001-Proposed Directive on Groundwater Resource Management, Forest Service Manual 2560

It was from Sandoval, Gov. Nevada (chair) and Kitzhaber, M.D. Gov., OR (vice-chair)

It addressed 2 concerns: Potential for Special Use Authorization to Supersede State Authority
Connectivity of Surface Water and Groundwater

Both issues might be of significance as we proceed with debate over the CSKT water compact. It also called for Executive Order 13175-Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments. Forest Service is trying to lay claim to extensive point source for water and debate is going on concerning ownership of (all) water within state boundaries (surface and ground).

I appreciate Sen. Rob Bishop being on top of it. He is a very strong supporter of states rights and natural resources/land issues.

Now the Coordination process may include: Municipal, County, State, Tribal and Federal.

More Governments gets more involved everyday.

Soon there will be no-one left to work in the field.

From: Michael Shaw [<mailto:shaw@freedomadvocates.org>]

Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 4:46 PM

To: 'Clarice Ryan'

Subject: FW: Natural Resources Committee Leaders Urge U.S. Forest Service to Permanently Withdraw Controversial Groundwater Directive

Do you know of this? Hope you are well.

From: Rachel Thomas [<mailto:badgerall@earthlink.net>]

Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 2:51 PM

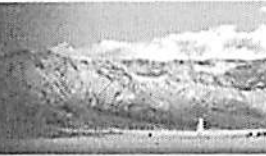
To: a Everyone

Subject: Natural Resources Committee Leaders Urge U.S. Forest Service to Permanently Withdraw Controversial Groundwater Directive

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN ROB BISHOP



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 12, 2015

CONTACT: [Julia Bell](#)
202-226-9019

Natural Resources Committee Leaders Urge U.S. Forest Service to Permanently Withdraw Controversial Groundwater Directive

WASHINGTON, DC – House Committee on Natural Resources Chairman Rob Bishop (UT-01) sent a letter today to U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell, urging the agency to withdraw its Proposed Directive on Groundwater Resource Management. The letter was also signed by Committee Vice-Chairman Cynthia Lummis (WY-At large), Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans Chairman John Fleming (LA-4) and Vice-Chair Paul Gosar (AZ-4), and Subcommittee on Federal Lands Chairman Tom McClintock (CA-4) and Vice-Chair Doug LaMalfa (CA-1). The letter echoes similar concerns voiced by the [Western Governors Association](#) and others about how the proposal could usurp state management of groundwater.

[Click here](#) to view the full letter.

“As you know, bipartisan concern exists over the U.S. Forest Service’s (Forest Service) Proposed Directive on Groundwater Resource Management (Groundwater Directive). To date, there are many unanswered questions and growing issues on this far-reaching proposal that would impact 155 National Forests and adjacent lands and waters across the country. While we understand that you have put the Groundwater Directive on a temporary ‘hold’, we urge you to withdraw it permanently to allow states to continue their longstanding groundwater management,” the letter states.

The Members conclude the letter, stating: *“...we believe the Forest Service has failed to justify the need for this new policy. The end result has been uncertainty and growing distrust between the Forest Service and state and local governments. Since putting this proposal on a temporary hold only increases uncertainty, we urge you to withdraw this misguided and unnecessary policy on a permanent basis.”*

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NaturalResources.house.gov

