

Ken and Bonnie Miller

* this is a very serious/significant step that needs far more public disclosure before decisions are made.

* it's not widely known but over 50% of our states 22 million acres are already in no-touch/no-management status;

* the scientific community is slowly determining that little to nothing outside of 75' of the stream bank provides any meaningful benefit to riparian functions;

* the science community is just beginning to see the benefits of some levels of management to help Mother Nature create or expedite more highly functioning riparian zones;

* those trying to help our forests, and particularly our riparian zones survive our increasing forest fire susceptibility have long ago concluded we must manage our stream corridors for fire resilience in order to protect the functionality we are already investing so much in;

* Ecology needs to be part of the solutions, not just blindly follow the whims of an often misguided/misinformed public;

* it feels like Ecology is embarking on a major change in their control of the states waters that cries out for a much higher level of public policy review than what seems evident today.