

Lisa Belleveau

The current Forest Practices rule for Type NP stream buffers (50ft) does not meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act or the Washington State water quality standards and is ineffective in protecting waters of the state from degradation.

The Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program has studied this for many years, and the science is clear; a 100ft buffer is the most protective of water temperatures and the proposed rule is lower than that to reduce the burden on small forest landowners. The proposed rule is a compromise while still an improvement to the quality of our state's waters.

I encourage the submission to the Forest Practices Board that the proposed rule of 75ft buffers along Type NP streams is fair based on the Department of Ecology's Tier II analysis findings.

Thank you,
Lisa Belleveau