

Shannon Ozog Somes

Hello,

My name is Shannon and I'm writing in support of the Washington DNR's proposed rule to increase the buffers around streams. Our headwaters provide critically important cool water for our salmon. They also provide equally important water sources for our forests to get through the increasingly hot and dry summer months.

I live in Snohomish County and our council recently passed, with vehement opposition from our communities, rule changes that reduce stream buffers for building new development. Statewide rules would help reduce habitat loss as a result of my council's decision. At a time when environmental protections are being threatened and weakened at the federal level, it is more important than ever to enact our own protections at the state level.

Please protect our forest streams to ensure cool, clean water and green forests for future generations of Washingtonians.

Thank you,

Shannon Ozog Somes