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Ref: Clean Water Management Plan and Preliminary Review of the Unied Federal Policy ensuring a watershed approach to federal lands and resources.

Comments from Edwina L. Myers - address above:

Apparently there has not been a "Good Scientific" study made to substantiate the claims made in this plan by the forest service. Epa's assessment of water quality to date has been anything but "Good Science". In 1999 an EPA report led congress to believe that agriculture polluted 70% of the nations streams. In other 1999 EPA documents, EPA states that 40% of U.S. waterways are still polluted, and 60% of the current pollution comes from agriculture and urban non-point sources. But EPA's own actual data supports neither of these statements. Their data used to justify regulating animal feeding operations (AFO's) shows that only 693,905 miles of the 3.6 million miles of streams in America, or 19.3% was ever surveyed. Of those 693,905 miles of surveyed stream only 14,075 miles, or 2% had major problems due to livestock. It must be remembered, however, that even this data is suspect because most of the surveying occurred in areas where problems were thought to be likely, and 22% of the data came from one state - Mississippi. With such "shoddy science" forest service can hardly make claims of andy need for non-point source water pollution.

It is my express opinion that forest service is laying the ground work to collect billions of dollars for permits which they claim will occur.

I demand that the forest service make "good science" studies of the entire U.S. before making such claims as have made in this document. This document is anything but a good scientific study by EPA or the forest service.

note In an internal memorandum, Forest Service Chief, Mike Dombeck, has reportedly said "We will take every opportunity to tie with the V.P.'s Clean Water Initiative and indeed provide a media event for the V.P. to showcase the Initiative." If this is to be legal, don't you think it should go through the U.S. Congress first for funding?.

Edwina Myers

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