

Re; Water Resources Budgets: I reside in rural Yamhill County, in an area designated by Or. Water Resources Dept. as the Chehalem Mt. Ground Water Limited Area. A proposed well in the area has drawn me newly into ground water and surface water issues. While there is a lot of information about aquifers in the area, I was surprised to find out how little is known about how much water is actually available to use. OWRD's hydrogeologists should be commended for their expertise, but more information is needed to make accurate decisions concerning water availability and whether to approve or deny new applications for either ground water or surface water uses. Water is and will continue to be a critical issue facing the state. Staff at OWRD and Or. Fish and Wildlife are the ones who have the expertise to better study water-related issues and come up with the data needed to make more informed decisions. Please do not cut their budgets. Thank you for your time.