

As someone who is intimately connected to water that comes out of Oregon's forests, I can say with certainty that OFRI has whitewashed the problems with industrial logging and forest health. Not only does clear-cut style logging and monoculture tree farming have an objectively negative impact on the hydrological function of a forest, but those of us downstream feel and understand the impacts in our daily lives. Whether it be the community of Triangle Lake whose residents each tested positive with 2-4D in their urine, or municipalities like the city of Coquille whose reservoir filled with sediment while a clear-cut was removing the forest above, or native Chinook Salmon who have been pummeled by increasingly poor habitat conditions, or rural residents like myself whose once perennial water source now runs dry every summer after a monocrop plantation replaced a healthy functioning forest.

OFRI has eroded their public trust due to a pernicious bad-faithed messaging campaign that sought to portray big timber activity in ways that fly in the face of observable reality. Their veneer of authority on forestry activity, has allowed false or misleading ideas to take root in the public conversation about what is truly happening deep in our forests. Due to this propagandistic messaging, the public is less equipped to make informed decisions regarding future initiatives that seek to govern forestry activity. For if one were to believe the lie that Oregon already has strong logging laws, that salmon are healthy, that water is clean and free of toxins, then what's the need to improve regulations? Nevermind the fact that Oregon has, by far, the weakest regional laws in regards to buffers, herbicides, and stream protections. The consistent bad-faithed messaging has had a devastating impact on the ability to reform logging practices to match the best available science, as practices have become unmoored from the needs of rural Oregonians and tethered to the short-term fiduciary responsibilities to Wall St. investors. Rural Oregonians deserve the truth.

Please see 2 minute video... <https://youtu.be/PhrRfCEcjsk>