

From: [COOK Nirvana * WRD](#)
To: [COOK Nirvana * WRD](#)
Subject: FW: McCanna - Written Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 3:13:47 PM

From: Ben McCanna <benmccanna@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2021 7:48 AM
To: COOK Nirvana * WRD <Nirvana.COOK@water.oregon.gov>
Subject: Re: McCanna

To the Water Resource Commission Members,

12/03/2021

My name is Ben McCanna I live in Harney County and I have lived here on and off about 47 years. I have a small place that is 25 miles south of Burns. I am what you call a domestic well owner in our county with what was a very good well. I listened to some of the testimony about how OWRD has overallocated our water. This is so true! my well is being taken away by over foot a year now for the documented time going on 6 years. I have now lost over 7 feet of water in my well number HAR.50399. you can look it up and see the drop. I will not be able to pump out of it in the not too future. Me and a number of other domestic well owners are in the same position.

Our problem started after there were to many water permits issued in my area with a large number of alfalfa pivots being placed on top of our aquifer. We now have a huge hole in our aquifer and all our water is running into it trying to fill it back up. Once my water is gone according the experts it will never come back and it will not stop dropping now. Being a domestic well owner the agency says you don't have any rights to the water because I am not a permitted water user. They also say that I need to have a my well fully develop into the aquifer? I don't see how you could have gotten any more developed than my well. I had very good water and there was lots of it around 30 gallons a minute in a 6 inch well you don't get any better than that. I remember when we drilled it. I was talking to the well driller, we both knew, that we had to stay in the cinders if you wanted good water. The cinders in this area are not very deep. If I go down too much my water will be very, very, bad. When OWRD. Hands out a water permits they don't ask anyone around the development what they think about it. Is there going to be enough water? Plus, they don't care. They relay solely on what the watermaster says. I knew years ago by talking to some of the farmers in our area. That we needed to be very careful with how much water is taken out of this aquifer. OWRD. didn't even look at it. They didn't ask anyone what they thought. They just rubber stamped ever permit that came down the pipe line. They are also hiding behind these so-called rules that say they have to hand out permit after permit? This is not the first place they have done this! It is happening all across our state they are draining are water away. It's happening in aquifer after aquifer all across our state. My problem now is? What do I do now? Go deeper that doesn't make any sense to me. If I go much deeper my water will be awful! I had one of them say it was going to get better? HOW? and WHEN? I was here 15 years before any of these so-called permit owners started taking our water. My aquifer is being destroyed by too much pumping and there is not one thing I can do about it?

Thank you for your time,

Ben McCanna

60012 McCanna RD.

Burns OR. 87720

Phone number: 541-589-0867

|