



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
Curt Fransen, Director

September 25, 2013

Ms. Ara Andrea
Service Area Regulatory Program Manager
Idaho Department of Lands
3284 Industrial Loop
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

Dear Ms. Andrea:

Subject Idaho Proposed Shade Rule, Docket No. 20-0201-1303

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) proposed stream protection shade rule. IDL and the Forest Practice Act Committee are to be commended for working through several Public Comments and Public Hearings in the last few months. The rule as proposed is a much better rule than the current 75 % shade rule.

As you know, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has been participating in this effort since the 2000 Forest Practice Act Audit indicated a problem with the current shade rule. DEQ's interest is to see a shade rule that meets water quality standards and supports beneficial uses.

DEQ is working with IDL to get clarification regarding several aspects of the shade rule. We look forward to continuing to work with IDL.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael McIntyre".

Michael McIntyre
Surface Water Program Manager

MJM:er

c: Don Zaroban, DEQ
Leigh Woodruff, EPA, Boise
Dave Powers, EPA, Portland