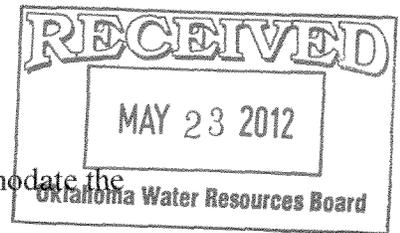


Dear Anissa Campbell

Ten years ago, I lived in Norman and fished the Blue River as often as I could, usually at least once a week during trout season. A fishing partner of mine, Dr. Main Hutcheson (Researcher for the Water Resources Board-now retired) told me that I needed to find somewhere else to fish. Dr. Hutcheson said, the City of El Reno planned to build a pipeline from the Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer, which feeds the Blue River, and transport the groundwater back to El Reno. He said that, if this happened, the River would no longer be able to support fishing. I looked for other places to fish but could not find any in the region that compared to the Blue River. I am a member of Trout Unlimited and discussed El Reno's plan with other members. Attorney Laurie Williams found out about my dismay in what was happening and got me involved in CPASA. I have been a board member of CPASA ever since.

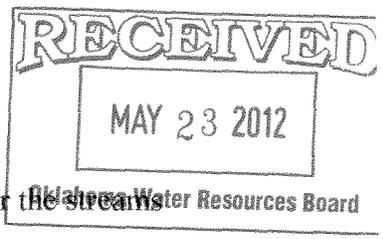
I now live in the Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer area and try to meet with members of Trout Unlimited at least once a month. I keep them abreast of what I call 'the war on the Blue River'. Our Oklahoma City (89er) Chapter alone has over 400 members and they are very concerned with what is going on. Turner Falls and the Blue River are our only close trout fisheries. I was given permission by the administration of our chapter to represent their interest in the Tentative Maximum Annual Yield Determination for the Arbuckle-Simpson Groundwater Basin administrative proceedings. I have discussed with them the science involved in the tentative Equal Proportionate Share (EPS) of 0.2 acre-feet per acre per year. Although the Oklahoma City Trout Unlimited Chapter would like to see a



smaller EPS we accept that 0.2 acre-feet per acre per year would accommodate the communities and residents of the area while still protecting the Blue River for trout fishing. I also explained the time necessary to implement SB288 so that the communities would have time to prepare for the change. The Oklahoma City Trout Unlimited Chapter supports an EPS of 0.2 acre-feet per acre per year and a 5 year implementation period allowing an extended plan for those unable to comply with the 5 year time constraint but having a good cause.

I attended the Prehearing Conference in Ada and both days of the Hearing in Sulphur. I hope that those who make the decisions realize the intentions of those opposed to the science. It was saddening to see the science attacked, but I understand such a tactic is nothing more than a last ditch legal maneuver, particularly when no credible evidence exists opposing the TMAY Order. I was told that, at the recharge rate, Turner Falls would no longer exist. This is the only growing waterfall in the United States. And, at the recharge rate, the Blue River would lose 80% of the water and the wildlife supported by the river would be gone. This is one of two areas in the world where the Seaside Alder grows. I struggle to understand how those opposed to the TMAY Order could let Turner Falls and the Blue River be destroyed so that a very small percentage of the people could significantly line their pockets. I don't know how anyone could accept a legacy of destroying the Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer.

Although I am now retired but my life's work has been in science. I have a great appreciation for nature and respect the majority of people that make their livelihood over



the Aquifer. I do not want to see the towns and residents lose their water or the streams and springs emanating from the Aquifer. If those who oppose the present scientific investigation want further studies, I welcome them to fund additional independent studies. However, it is evident to me that the science used in recommending an EPS of 0.2 acre-feet per acre per year was sound. On behalf of myself and the Oklahoma City Trout Unlimited Chapter, I encourage the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to approve its MAY Determination for the Arbuckle-Simpson Groundwater Basin.


Ken Meyers (Ardmore/Dixon Resident)

1333 Red Cedar Rd

Ardmore, OK 73401

(580) 224-9296

kmeyers@ou.edu