

Stop the Attack on the Clean Water Rule

Protect North Dakota's Drinking Water

The Clean Water Rule was recently finalized by the Obama administration after years of planning, 400 stakeholder meetings, and more than a million public comments. It safeguards our water and restores protections to the drinking water sources for 1 in 3 Americans. This includes the drinking water for 2 in every 5 North Dakota residents. **The Clean Water Rule is a strong, commonsense policy that makes clean water a priority throughout the nation.** If Congress blocks the Clean Water Rule, at least 84% of North Dakota's stream miles and millions of acres of wetlands nationwide will again be at risk from pollution and destruction from development, oil and gas production, and other industrial activities. Blocking this rule would imperil drinking water sources, as well as the small businesses and communities that rely on clean water.

Souris River in North-Central North Dakota



Credit: Marlene Welstad, USFWS on [flickr](#)

- **40% of North Dakotans** get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams that are protected by the Clean Water Rule.
- **Protections were restored to 1,500 miles of streams** that feed into North Dakota's drinking water sources.
- **Thousands of acres of wetlands** that provide flood protection, recharge groundwater supplies, filter pollution, and provide essential wildlife habitat are safeguarded.

Rule Provides More Economic Benefits than Costs

- **This commonsense proposal restores, but does not expand, the historic coverage of the Clean Water Act. EPA estimates that the rule will provide at least \$339 million and up to \$572 million annually in benefits** to the public, including reducing flooding, filtering pollution, providing wildlife habitat, supporting hunting and fishing, and recharging groundwater.
- **Protecting small streams and wetlands supports fish and wildlife and North Dakota's vibrant recreational industry.**
- **North Dakota's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** North Dakota breweries contribute \$82 million to our economy every year and support more than 700 jobs.

North Dakota Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **Nearly 500 North Dakotans, out of more than 800,000 Americans, support the rule.**
- In 2003, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department submitted comments opposing Bush administration efforts to roll back protections for small streams and wetlands.
- Recent polling shows that 79% of Americans want Congress to let EPA implement the Rule.

For more information, please visit www.protectcleanwater.org