

Stop the Attack on the Clean Water Rule

Protect South 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 over 1 in 3 South 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 86% of South 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.

Seasonally flooded wetland in Lake County, SD



- **36% of South Dakota residents** get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams that are protected by the Clean Water Rule.
- **Protections were restored to 1,327 miles of streams** that feed into South 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 South Dakota's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, \$1.2 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in South Dakota, including \$203 million on fishing, and more than half a million people participated in these recreational activities in South Dakota.
- **South Dakota's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** South Dakota breweries contribute almost \$75 million to our economy every year and support more than 800 jobs.

South Dakota Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **More than 770 South Dakotans, out of more than 800,000 Americans, support the rule.**
- In 2003, the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks submitted comments opposing Bush administration efforts to roll back protections for small streams and wetlands.
- Groups like Friends of the Big Sioux River, Izaak Walton League, Northeastern S.D. Walleye Club, and South Dakota Wildlife Federation support protections for clean water.
- Recent polling shows that 79% of Americans want Congress to let EPA implement the Rule.

For more information, please visit www.protectcleanwater.org