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<hawk.prod.itd.earthlink.net [207.217.120.22]>
X-WARNING-TO-THE-RECIPIENT:
 +-----------------------------------------------------------------+
 | Internet email cannot verify the sender's identity.             |
 | Always confirm important information by independent means.      |
 +-----------------------------------------------------------------+
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      by hawk.prod.itd.earthlink.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id VAA10224
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From: "Henry" <henryallen@earthlink.net>
To: <cleanwater/wo_caet-slc@fs.fed.us>
Subject: Unified Watershed Approach
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 2000 21:10:35 -0800
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13-March-2000 Hello, Last week I attended the "Town meeting" held in Portland Oregon and was encouraged overall. I think there is alot of talent in the Federal Government that could have quite a positive and pioneering impact on the quality of the environment and health of the wildlife in America's watersheds. I do have a few comments that I would like to offer: 1) The public outreach program needs help. I consider this policy crucial to preserving our watersheds and many people should know about it but I found out about this meeting almost by accident surfing the internet. 2) For this policy to succeed, it seems that the many Federal Agencies involved will need to work together as one unified agency - no small challenge! As a civil engineer, my experience with different agencies is that they seldom work together. There are often "turf" battles and hidden agendas that could completely pull the plug on your progress. A recommendation is to have an objective mediator to resolve any animosity or differences (we all have them) between agencies and keep the progress happening. 3) Make sure that people recognize the talents and abilities in the other agencies not just there own, there is alot! 4) Please don't let a "good policy" become the product of all this effort but strive to carry through until actual environmental improvements occur. Fish and wildlife are not affected by agreements in Washington D.C. but by improvements in their habitat. 5) I feel there is the need to have some way of determining (measuring) progress so that we keep going forward and know when we are not. Be accountable to someone. 6) Funding - if you educate me (the american people) to see that there is a genuine need, that this policy has down-to-earth benefits and that what I do matters, then I would even vote to fund such a program. 7) The Unified Watershed Approach is bigger than just the Federal government and, I believe, will require coordination with local governments and agencies. For instance, I was in a meeting today where different counties were discussing getting together and coordinating to deal with the recent ESA listing of salmon. One of the concerns is that the upper watersheds are controlled by the US Forest Service and thus how the USFS manages the forest affects the quality of the downstream riparian habitat which the counties are responsible for keeping healthy for the salmon. These are some of my thoughts. Thank you for your time. Please let me know how I can keep in touch with the progress of this policy. Henry

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