



NATIONAL GRANGE
OF THE ORDER OF THE PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

"American Values. Hometown Roots"



Issue Brief

Action Alert



Definition of Waters of the United States

is Now Totally Confused

Call Your Senators to Stop WOTUS Overreach

The Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule is now the law of the land for much of the country but not all the country. A 197 page regulation from the EPA and Corps of Engineers that will further regulate practically all waters and land mass in the country went into effect Friday, August 28. However, it will not be enforced in 13 states (Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Montana,

Nebraska, Nevada, South Dakota, Wyoming, and New Mexico) but will be in effect for the remainder of the country. On Thursday, August 27, a federal judge in North Dakota blocked implementation of the WOTUS rule in the 13 states that had filed in his court.

In his ruling, Judge Erickson said, "Once the Rule takes effect, the States will lose their sovereignty over intrastate waters that will then be subject to the Clean Water Act." A dozen farmer, rancher, land owner and business organizations and a total of 31 states have filed various legal actions for relief from the WOTUS rule. One of their primary concerns is the apparent disregard for private property rights. An editorial in the Investor's Business Daily suggested, "The EPA interpretation would lead to private land owners having to ask permission from the government to do anything. It would give the EPA sweeping control over almost all private land in America." The EPA, however, responded immediately that the rule would go into effect in the remaining states on Friday.

National Grange policy recognizes the importance of protecting all watersheds but opposes any mandate that suggests all watersheds are to meet the same water quality standards. We believe Americans must not sacrifice their property under the guise of environment, climate change, critical habitat, urban sprawl or other initiatives.

TAKE ACTION NOW!

Request your Senator to vote to stop the WOTUS rule

Contact your two U.S. Senators [Click Here To Find Your Senator](#)

Call the U.S. Capitol switchboard (202) 224-3121

Ask for your Senator's office