

The impacts from existing dairies in Oregon are already clearly devastating to the environment due to air and water pollution. In addition, dairies need enormous amounts of water for crops to feed the cows as well as water for dairy operations (let alone watering the cows themselves). With years-long droughts now the norm, we have no water to spare; in order to add new dairies or expand existing industrial dairies, the water will have to come from somewhere - meaning already-over-allocated surface and groundwater sources. Who will be shorted? Family farms? Cities like Bend? Fish and wildlife depending on abundant, clean water? It's a clear choice: there is no rational argument to support a need for more mega-dairies destroying the environment and family farm economies.