

can protect communities by trapping floodwaters, retaining moisture during droughts, recharging groundwater supplies, filtering pollution, and providing habitat for fish and wildlife.

## Corrections for the NYT story:

It is called the Clean Water Rule, not Waters of the US rule. Just because other people don't use the correct title doesn't mean it should be reported that way.

The E.P.A. rolled out a social media campaign on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and even on more innovative tools such as Thunderclap to counter opposition to its water rule, which imposes new restrictions on how land near certain surface waters can be used. [The Clean Water Rule does not impose restrictions on land use. It defines what waters are protected under the Clean Water Act.](#) This is in the preamble page 8: "The rule also does not regulate ... land use." The Clean Water Rule protects waters from pollution and destruction – it does not regulate land use. A Clean Water Act permit is only needed if a protected water is going to be polluted or destroyed.

The agency separately violated the anti-lobbying law when one of its public affairs officers wrote a blog post saying he was a surfer and did not "want to get sick from pollution," and included a link button to an advocacy group urging the public to "tell Congress to stop interfering with your right to clean water." [The link was to a page about why surfers are vulnerable to pollution. Your wording is inaccurate. You cite from the report, the link in the blog went to a page about why surfers get sick. That page had a button. Your wording in the story suggests the link went to an advocacy action page.](#)

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**From:** Daly, Matthew [mailto:[MDaly@ap.org](mailto:MDaly@ap.org)]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2015 3:58 PM  
**To:** Purchia, Liz <[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Purchia.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: NEWS: Inhofe Statement on EPA Illegal Propaganda, Lobbying

Yes I am.

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**From:** Purchia, Liz [mailto:[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Purchia.Liz@epa.gov)]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2015 3:56 PM  
**To:** Daly, Matthew; Harrison, Melissa  
**Subject:** RE: NEWS: Inhofe Statement on EPA Illegal Propaganda, Lobbying

You're not writing on this are you?

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**From:** Daly, Matthew [mailto:[MDaly@ap.org](mailto:MDaly@ap.org)]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2015 3:55 PM  
**To:** Purchia, Liz <[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Purchia.Liz@epa.gov)>; Harrison, Melissa <[Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov](mailto:Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: NEWS: Inhofe Statement on EPA Illegal Propaganda, Lobbying

Do you have comment on GAO ruling that EPA violated law in water rule media campaign?