

# DAIRY FACTS

Friends of Toppenish Creek

September 2021



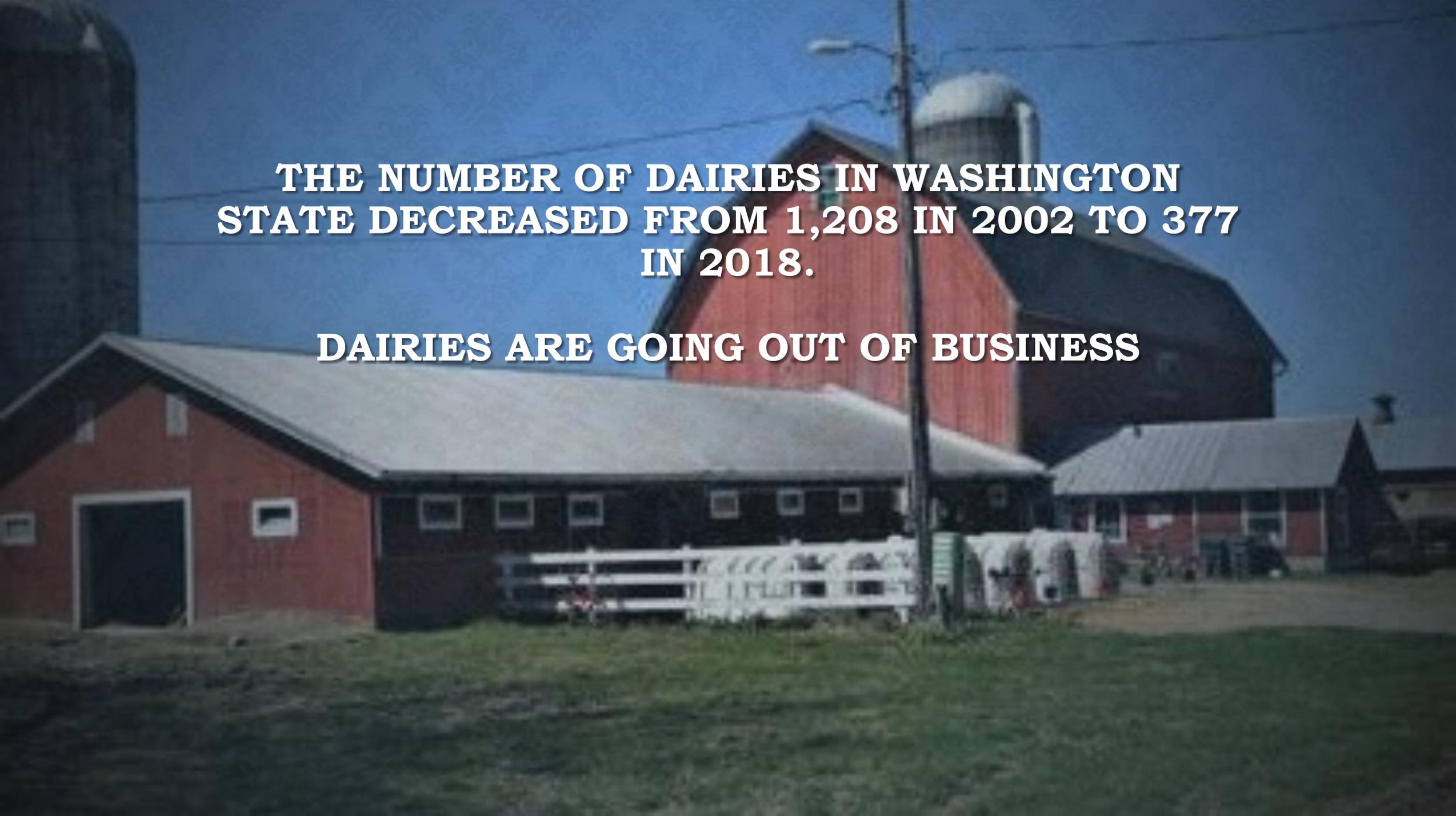
**AGRICULTURE  
HAS BIG  
PROBLEMS**

**WE AGREE**



**DAIRY HAS BIG  
PROBLEMS**

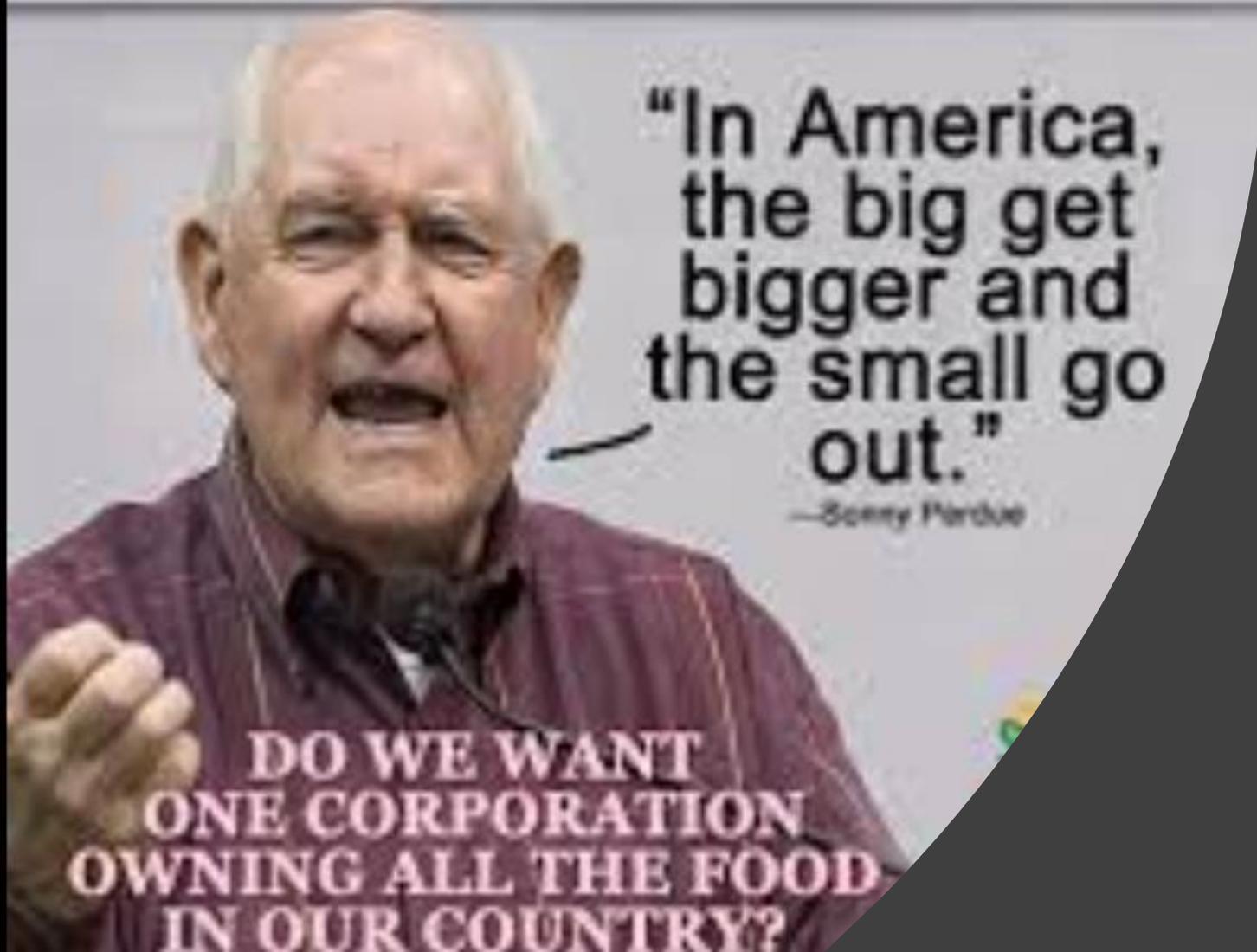
**WE AGREE**



**THE NUMBER OF DAIRIES IN WASHINGTON  
STATE DECREASED FROM 1,208 IN 2002 TO 377  
IN 2018.**

**DAIRIES ARE GOING OUT OF BUSINESS**

**SHADES OF LARRY DAVIS**  
SONNY PERDUE TELLS SMALL DAIRY FARMS TO  
**GET BIG OR GET OUT**



"In America,  
the big get  
bigger and  
the small go  
out."

—Sonny Perdue

DO WE WANT  
ONE CORPORATION  
OWNING ALL THE FOOD  
IN OUR COUNTRY?

**IS THIS THE  
RESULT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION?**

**NO, IT IS NOT.**

**ONLY 23 OUT OF  
230 CAFO  
DAIRIES IN  
WASHINGTON  
STATE HAVE  
NPDES PERMITS.**



# SINCE THE 1980S DAIRIES IN WHATCOM COUNTY HAVE:

- Polluted the rivers and streams
- Caused the closure of shellfish beds at great cost to people who rely on harvesting shellfish for their livelihoods
- Polluted 29% of domestic wells so neighbors are forced to buy bottled water
- Contributed to nutrients in Puget Sound and the near extinction of salmon runs and orca whales



## **SINCE THE 1980S DAIRIES IN YAKIMA COUNTY HAVE:**

- Constructed leaky manure lagoons that are merely holes in the ground
- Applied manure to cropland at up to 7 times agronomic rates
- Caused some of the highest groundwater nitrate levels in the nation
- Caused residents to spend over \$1 million per year on bottled water
- Demanded the “right” to spray manure into the air when the air is hazardous to breathe

# **Dairies in Washington State receive millions in taxpayer subsidies:**

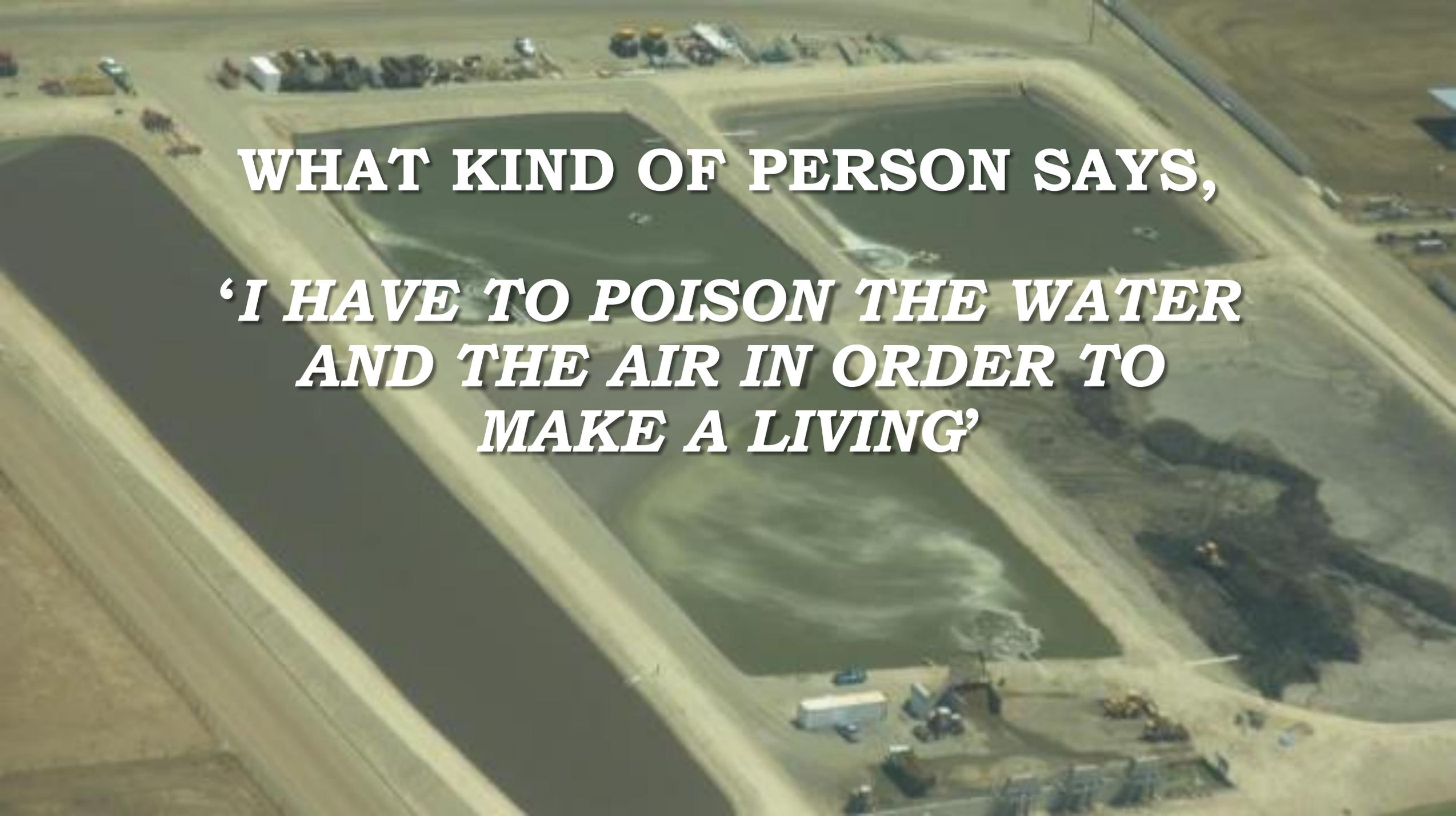
- **Fines for water pollution do not go to the people whose wells are contaminated or the people who cannot harvest shellfish. Money from fines goes back to the dairies.**
- **In our state, only dairy has their own separate rules and regulation under the Clean Water Act. No other industry receives this special treatment.**
- **40% of dairy income now comes from taxpayer subsidies.**



**ANYONE ELSE WHO FORCED  
ANIMALS TO LIVE IN THEIR  
OWN FECES WOULD BE  
PUNISHED**

Easterday guilty plea is latest in ghost cattle fraud

**DAIRIES WITHDRAW UNLIMITED  
AMOUNTS OF FREE GROUNDWATER IN  
WASHINGTON. THE REST OF US HAVE  
TO PAY.**



**WHAT KIND OF PERSON SAYS,  
*'I HAVE TO POISON THE WATER  
AND THE AIR IN ORDER TO  
MAKE A LIVING'***

**THANKS FOR THINKING  
ABOUT POLLUTION**

