

Winter 2002

# 100 Valleys

A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds

#17

## Forests Protected Again

### Higher Court Re-lists Endangered Coho Salmon

On Friday, December 14, 2001, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals overturned Judge Hogan's ruling to not stay his delisting of the threatened Coastal Coho Salmon. That's a relief. On September 10, Judge Hogan had ruled that the salmon must lose the protections of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Last Friday's ruling gave those protections back.

**What Happened?** Environmental protections in the Umpqua have been swinging widely on a seesaw of court rulings. You think you heard that some timber sales were stopped, then you hear they aren't. You hear the salmon were protected under the ESA, then they aren't, and now they are. Timber sales are stopped again. Welcome to the Court Confusion Club. We will sort out what's been happening.

**Background:** The Endangered Species Act protected fish like the Coastal Coho Salmon by requiring timber sales to follow the Northwest Forest Plan. Judge Rothstein found 3 times between 1998 and 2000 that clearcuts degraded watersheds, which violates the Northwest Forest Plan. If the clear-cuts are in watersheds that support endangered fish, they violated the ESA and were stopped. Unfortunately this did not include the vast acres of clearcuts proposed in the Diamond Lake area, above endangered fish habitat. Fortunately, it did include most all of BLM's bad sales and two sales in the North Umpqua Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest (Felix and Little River Demo). The 9th circuit court of appeals upheld Judge Rothstein in May 2001.

Then on September 10, 2001, Judge Hogan undid all that when he ruled on a lawsuit brought by people who questioned why we should protect rivers when we could just farm salmon in hatcheries instead. Never mind that hatchery fish are part of the demise of wild salmon for various reasons. All we need are more cement pools to raise farmed fish so we can just continue with bad logging and other river pollutants.

Judge Hogan gave them a big victory. He ruled that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS, the government agency in charge of protecting endangered salmon) did not consider hatchery fish when protecting wild salmon under the ESA. The big mistake that Hogan made was that he yanked the Coastal Coho Salmon off the endangered species list. A judge can't do that. He is not a scientist. Only NMFS can list or delist fish. We asked Judge Hogan for a stay on his ruling so fish protections could remain in place while scientists could

debate the hatchery question. Hogan refused. Conservationists appealed that ruling to the 9th circuit court of appeals and won on December 15. The stay of his ruling will remain in effect for months, or maybe years, until the role of hatchery fish can be defined under the Endangered Species Act.

During the short time that the fish lost their protections, the agencies could have whacked down forests Rothstein had protected. Coos-Bay BLM did just that in the Belieus Brothers timber sale. The old-growth is now laying on the ground, waiting to be yarded out in the spring. Roseburg BLM showed restraint and didn't cut anything. The Umpqua National Forest worked fast trying to get the Felix timber sale out the door, but the snow stalled them. See elsewhere in this newsletter for the latest on Felix and Little River Demo.

*Written by Francis Eatherington, Umpqua Watershed's Public Forest Monitor.*

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Call 672-7065 and make a difference in the Umpqua.

## Look Inside!

**Good Thinning or Bad Thinning** by Francis Eatherington

**Roadless Rule Update**

**Winter Hikes and Events:** Schedule for January, Feb. & March

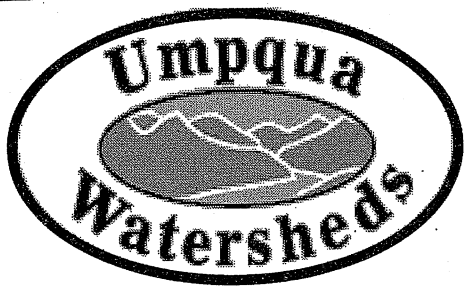
**Fungus Among Us and Power Panels** written by UW Members

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## MISSION:

Umpqua Watersheds is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and restoration of the watersheds in the Umpqua River Basin since 1995.

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## Your Support Provides Sustainability!

Dear Supporter,

*The Umpqua, our backyard, offers so much for all of us.*

*The peace and tranquility that our Wild Forests provide sustains our will and teaches us important lessons. The strength and wonder that the Mighty Umpqua Rivers display sustains wildlife, fish and our community with life sustaining waters.*

*Umpqua Watersheds' work helps our precious forests and rivers maintain these important benefits. We have a list of challenges as we begin 2002 that will help us do just that.*

### We need your help to:

Defend the Roadless Protection Plan	- AGAIN
Comment on the North Umpqua Hydro Project	- MARCH 2002
Protect Mature and Old Growth Forests	- NOW
Visit and celebrate our forests and rivers	- EVERY DAY
Volunteer your time to Umpqua Watersheds	- ANYTIME
Support Sutherlin citizens to protect Cooper Creek	- NOW

### Protect the Forests and Mighty Rivers in the Umpqua

### What to do:

Read through the pages of "100 Valleys."  
Write support letters to your local newspapers.  
Attend and comment at public meetings.  
Contact your elected officials.

*The Umpqua deserves our attention NOW – Umpqua Watersheds is here to help you make a difference in Sustaining the Future of the Umpqua. Thank you for all you do.*

Sincerely,

  
Penny Lind, Executive Director

## IN MEMORY OF:

Liz Abramawitz  
Mary L. Cookman

*Women we will miss in the Wild Umpqua!*

# Good Thinning & Bad Thinning *by Francis Eatherington*

In Fiscal Year 2001, and so far in Fiscal Year 2002, the Roseburg Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has proposed only thinning timber sales, mostly in 40 to 60 year-old clearcuts (called "managed plantations"). This is a significant departure from BLM's past logging, when they targeted our remaining mature and old growth forests for conversion to tree plantations.

## How did this transformation happen?

The BLM was addicted to old growth logging in the past, not so much because old-growth was so valuable at the mills, but because the mills wanted to use public tree-farms in addition to their private tree-farms. If a public forest is old-growth, it is not available to the mills to log every 60 to 80 years on a rotational basis. Forests never logged before, older than 80 years, are on a downward spiral of value to mills because of slower growth and increased defects in the wood. The mills prefer that the BLM convert old-growth forests to tree-plantations because plantations are useful to the mills in perpetuity. The forests will never be allowed to become old growth again.

As a result of decades of this philosophy, the Roseburg BLM converted almost two thirds of our former ancient forests to "young, vigorous, healthy" tree plantations for the benefit of the timber industry. The tree-farms might be healthy for mills, but the forest is so unhealthy that entire species of wildlife are disappearing.

In 1995 the BLM started implementing a new set of public forest rules, the Northwest Forest Plan, which slowed down this conversion. The Plan put about 70% of BLM's land into some kind of "reserve," and left the rest for BLM to continue with old-growth conversion. The problem with this plan is that about half of the old-growth "reserves" were already clearcut before they were designated a reserve, and much of the remaining old-growth forests were designated for continued conversion to tree plantations in the "Matrix." (Matrix are public forests set aside for timber production). The BLM has stated that they will complete all old-growth conversions to tree plantations in the Matrix within the next 30 to 50 years.

So from 1995 to 2000, Roseburg BLM tried to implement this promise of finish-

ing off the old-growth in the Matrix. Year after year they proposed huge and horrible sales like clearcutting 500 acres in the headwaters of Myrtle Creek, or 500 year-old, redwood size trees just outside the city of Sutherlin (Diamondback timber sale). Umpqua Watersheds litigated these sales because they degraded the watershed, which violated the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) of the Northwest Forest Plan. Our legal challenge only included areas with endangered fish. We won. (See page 1)

## Restoration Thinning versus Commercial Thinning

### UW prefers to...

- create stable jobs
- reduce fuel loads
- create biodiversity
- leave wood for habitat

### ...instead of:

- more new roads
- logging along streams
- market-dependent jobs

Public 2nd growth forests  
which could be thinned:

## 184,100 acres

*more than 10% of all federal forests in Umpqua*

In 1998 and 1999 Judge Rothstein ruled in our favor, stopping most of Roseburg BLM sales. In 2000 the BLM appealed that ruling, and in May of 2001, the 9th circuit court ruled in our favor. The BLM was breaking the law by proposing large clearcuts of old-growth forests, in (at least) watersheds supporting endangered fish.

Roseburg BLM was paralyzed. What could they do? At first the Roseburg Bureau of Land Management simply proposed no logging. But in Fiscal Year 2001 they broke that paralysis and started offering thinning sales in the thousands of acres of the tree-plantations they had already cre-

## How does Umpqua Watersheds reply?

Lately there have been sensational news headlines and guest editorials in the News-Review that we are delaying these thinning sales and hurting the local mills by holding up the process. This is simply not true. Umpqua Watersheds has never once appealed a Roseburg BLM sale in managed plantations in the Matrix.

Thinning in the Matrix produce timber volume by taking out some trees from the thousands of acres of "plantations" in the matrix that were created 40 to 60 years ago, and are now dense stands of Douglas Fir trees. If we have to log public forests, it makes far more sense to log from places we have already converted to tree plantations, instead of converting more old-growth forests to tree farms.

The past clearcuts, also called Managed Plantations, are both in the Matrix (set aside for timber production), and in the reserves (set aside for wildlife). The reserves were set aside for old-growth dependent wildlife, like the spotted owl or salmon. The reserves are also called Late Successional or Riparian Reserves.

About half of the wildlife reserves were clearcut before they were designated reserves in 1995. Now we have to thin these reserves to change their trajectory from a high-income tree farm to a more diverse, wildlife-friendly forest. The reserves are not for timber production, like the matrix. When the BLM proposes thinning sales in the reserves, our input centers around how to best thin for improved wildlife habitat. Since timber production is only by-product, not the purpose of Reserve thinning, less volume should be produced per acre. Our input for the "reserve" thinning encourages this balance. In the past we have appealed some Roseburg BLM sales in wildlife reserves that we felt needed more balance.

## What Process Does UW Use?

The process we use is outlined in legislation called the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Roseburg BLM has determined how the public uses NEPA for timber sales. The BLM says the public participates by "protesting" timber sales. It's their word, not ours, and it is not the same thing as "appealing" timber sales. Neither of these process are litigation.

*See Restoration Thinning (Continued on page 12)*

# President's Message

Seasons Greetings from all of us at Umpqua Watersheds to all of our supporters far and wide. We hope your holiday season is a happy one. Before the Christmas tree is but a pleasant memory and New Years Eve is but a foggy memory, make sure to get your tickets to our annual banquet and silent auction. It will be Friday, **Jan 25<sup>th</sup>** at the Nest in Sutherlin. Contact one of the Board members or the office at **672-7065** for tickets.

The banquet committee has done a great job on the banquet this year and it's going to be a lot of fun. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you there.

I wanted to thank everyone who contributed last year, both money and time. There are many of you who have received this newsletter and we hope you will make commitment to the Umpqua.

We have a lot of work to do, and money is always our limiting factor. Every dollar helps, and helps a lot. Without your generous contributions, we wouldn't exist, so please include us in your year-end tax-free contribution list. We'll make every dollar count for you. If monetary contributions aren't feasible for you, your time is just as valuable to us. Call the office and we'll put you to work! We have more work to do than people available to do it. You don't need any special "environmental" skills, just a little free time.

As the year ends, I want to personally thank all the staff members, supporters and Board members. Your efforts have resulted in another successful year. I can only hope that next year will be as good as this one.

Thank you,

*Dale Greenley*

## Felix and Little River DEMO

**L**ittle River DEMO was stopped by the courts as an illegal sale in the first Rothstein ruling in 1998. Unfortunately, it could still be logged next summer because it is "research," and under the Northwest Forest Plan, if you call a timber sale "research," it is exempt from all environmental laws. Little River Demo is in Willow Flats, a rare high elevation plateau that grows really big trees. In fact, the timber sale is close to the "Taft Tree" celebrated in regional hiking books as a protected museum tree. Little River Demo will log 160 acres of old-growth forest, 60 by clearcutting, and the rest by heavy thinning or large circles of "group harvest." The unusual logging pattern is because the research is on the best "pattern" to use to log old-growth. The results won't be available for decades, after we've either cut all available old-growth or have protected it. Exemptions from environmental laws in this case means they will clearcut right over streams, and could even cut down red tree vole nest trees (instead of the required 10 acre logging buffer).

The **Felix Timber Sale** is right between, and adjoins Little River Demo on one side and the Cougar Bluffs inventoried roadless area on the other side. It is more clearcutting and more thinning of old-growth forests. Recently a citizen research group toured this sale, climbed a few trees, and found 4 more valuable Red Tree Vole nests. Even though the Forest Service has always given each vole a 10-acre buffer, they responded to this new find by saying they will first determine if the new voles really need protection. (We'll let you know on UW's website when USFS makes their final decision on the vole protection). Since Red Tree Voles are the main food for the Northern Spotted Owl, have limited dispersal capabilities, are uncommon, and thrive best in old-growth forests, they were afforded special protections by the Northwest Forest Plan. We can only hope the Forest Service upholds those protections. Judge Hogan's ruling released Felix for logging, and the Forest Service busied themselves in getting it ready for the chain saws. Luckily, snow came and then Hogan's ruling was stayed (see page 1). Therefore we have a little time to work out the vole thing, as well as address the replacement volume problem.

### Replacement Volume Sales

To add to the intrigue of seesaw court cases, red tree voles and research exemptions, both Felix and Little River Demo are "Replacement Volume Sales." This is another outrageous political fiasco that further threatens these sales. Here's how it works:

A long, long time ago Roseburg Forest Products (RFP) bought some timber sales in the Siuslaw National Forest (near Waldport). Even though it was a second growth forest, the trees were big enough to support Marbled Murrelets. When the Marbled Murrelets became protected under the ESA and found nesting in the timber sales, RFP was (after a long story) offered a trade of "like kind and volume". But what Roseburg Forest Products got was not second growth timber in the Coastal Mountain Range. Instead they were offered an old-growth forest in the Cascade Mountain Range, Felix and Little River Demo. This was simply not fair. It wasn't fair to the Umpqua, to our wildlife, or even to Roseburg Forest Products because their sales just continued to get held up in continued litigation. Roseburg Forest Products would be just as happy with a nice little uncontroversial thinning sale in a second growth forest that they could log in peace, instead of sitting on a volatile situation.

### What can we do?

We can encourage Allyn Ford of Roseburg Forest Products to ask for replacement to his replacement volume. Weather these sales are stopped by activists or by the courts, the RFP contract needs to be addressed. Let's do it now. If you happen to run into Allyn on the street or talk to him on the phone, ask him to request a buy-back of Little River Demo and Felix, or at least start to negotiate a trade for a less controversial thinning sale. The Forest Service's Tomatillo sale is an example.

Call the supervisor James Kaplan at the Umpqua National Forest (672-6601) and encourage them to accept or encourage the trade of the RFP replacement volume sales. While you're at it, ask the Umpqua NF to protect all found red tree vole nests, especially ones found by hard working volunteers.

*Update by UW's Public Forest Monitor,  
Francis Eatherington.*

# Roadless Area Conservation Rule UPDATE

Following is a quick analysis of the Forest Service's latest **Interim Directives on Roadless Area Management (ID Roadless)**. The ID Roadless - issued as an amendment to the Forest Service Manual - went into effect on December 14, 2001 and published in the Federal Register on December 20. Public comments are due: **February 19, 2002.**

## Summary

The new Forest Service directives significantly reduce administrative protection for national forest roadless areas.

1. eliminate the requirement that there must be a "compelling need" for road construction in roadless areas,
2. eliminate the requirement to prepare an environmental impact statement prior to building roads in roadless areas,
3. eliminate any special protection for un-inventoried roadless areas greater than 1,000 acres that are adjacent to inventoried roadless areas or wilderness areas, and
4. create a new loophole for logging old-growth forests in roadless areas.

**The directives essentially allow logging and road building in roadless areas.**

## Background

On January 12, 2001, the Forest Service adopted the Roadless Area Conservation Rule, which prohibited most road construction and commercial logging on 58.5 million acres of inventoried roadless areas (IRAs) in the national forests. On the same day, the Forest Service adopted a Transportation Policy, which included some additional, procedural protection for both the IRAs and un-inventoried roadless areas located adjacent to the IRAs or wilderness areas.

On June 8, Forest Service Chief Bosworth issued a memorandum stating that he was taking personal responsibility for approving any road construction and logging in IRAs. However, Bosworth said that roadless area decisions are best made at the local forest planning level and that any national forest with a revised forest plan would be exempt from Chief-level review of roadless area decisions.

On August 22, the Forest Service issued two interim directives to implement Bosworth's memorandum. The directives

amended the timber management and transportation system sections of the Forest Service Manual.

## Umpqua Wilderness Adopters

and the Old Growth Campaign

### Invite You! to Monthly Meetings

### 7pm - Last Thursday of Every Month

at the UW office - 630 SE Jackson

Brought to you by :

*Umpqua Wilderness Adopters*

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*Oregon Natural Resources Council*

*Northwest Old Growth Campaign*

## Analysis

The new directives consolidate interim management direction for inventoried roadless areas (IRAs) into one section (the forest planning section) of the Forest Service Manual, and they entirely delete the roadless area section of the Transportation Policy. These changes have several negative effects on roadless area protection.

First, the Transportation Policy required that any road construction or reconstruction in IRAs may only be authorized if the Regional Foresters determine a compelling need" for a road.

The new interim directives eliminate that requirement. Consequently, the standard for road building in roadless areas will be reduced to the same as that in any other area - i.e. the Forest Service must determine the road would serve a "documented need."

Second, the Transportation Policy required the Regional Foresters to prepare and approve an environmental impact statement (EIS) prior to approving road building in IRAs.

The new interim directives give the Forest Service added discretion to determine whether or not an EIS is required. Another

section of the Forest Service directives system requires an EIS only if an action would substantially alter the undeveloped character of an inventoried roadless area." Consequently, Forest Service managers could now elect to build roads in a roadless area without preparing an EIS if they determine that the roadless area would not be substantially altered.

Third, by rescinding the roadless area section of the Transportation Policy, the new interim directives remove any form of protection for un-inventoried roadless areas. As noted above, the special procedural requirements of the Transportation Policy applied equally to IRAs and to un-inventoried roadless areas located adjacent to IRAs and wilderness areas. These contiguous unroaded areas" often provide important wildlife corridors or other ecological values. Since the new interim directives only require Chief-level review of road-building projects in IRAs, the Forest Service apparently has decided that the contiguous unroaded areas warrant no special protection of any kind.

Fourth, the new directives apparently create a loophole for logging old-growth forests in roadless areas. The Roadless Rule generally prohibited commercial logging in IRAs, but included exceptions for logging that "is incidental to the implementation of a management activity not otherwise prohibited by this subpart". The interim directives greatly broaden this exception by allowing logging that "is incidental to the implementation of a management activity and not otherwise prohibited under the land and resource management plan."

This latter exception is far broader than the one in the Roadless Rule, since local management plans often allow unlimited logging in IRAs.

In addition, the new interim directives would leave in place Chief Bosworth's policy of allowing all roadless area decisions ultimately to be made through local forest planning. The new interim directives require the Chief to approve road building and logging activities in IRAs, with some exceptions. However, the Chief's approval is no longer required once a national forest completes a forest-scale roads analysis (for road-building activities) and a forest plan revision (for logging activities).



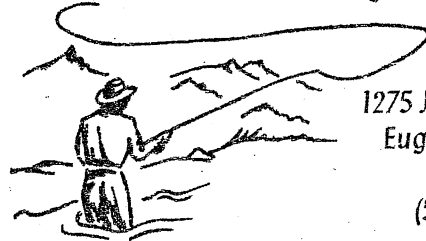
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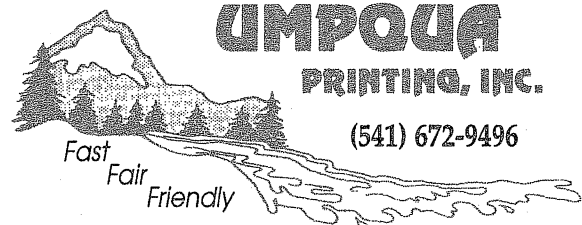
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photography**

*in the old Chapman's Pharmacy*

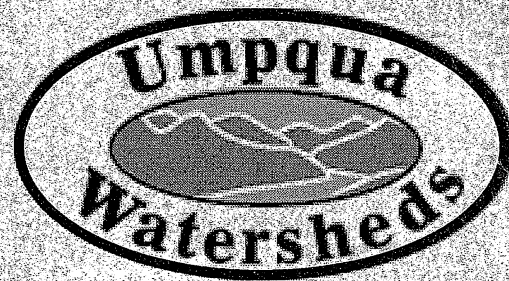
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.....*Get The Picture*.....

**672 - 8929**

**Winter 2002**

# Winter Hikes 2002



## January 10 - What's with Wolverines?

Thursday, join Forest Service biologist, Cindy Barkhurst, at UCC's Indian room near the cafeteria when she explains how a team of scientist may find the Cascade Wolverine! The wolverine was considered extinct and their discoveries may help the species recover. A carpool will meet at UW office at 6pm for those who need a ride. Presentation begins at **7pm** at UCC.

uw@umpqua-watersheds.org 672-7065

## January 12 - Snowshoe near Diamond Lake

Saturday, explore the beauty and wonders of UW's proposed National Monument around Diamond Lake with USFS bio-tech, Steve Burns. Steve will talk about other rare carnivores besides the Cascade Wolverine and we hope id tracks in the snow! Snow shoes will be available to rent for \$10. Call UW to reserve: 672-7065. Carpool will meet in Roseburg behind Douglas County Courthouse at **8am** or at the Diamond Lake Lodge at 10am. Beginners encouraged!



## January 25 - Umpqua Watersheds' 6th Annual Banquet

After work Friday at **6pm**, join hundreds of like minded friends and neighbors for UW's annual gathering. The Executive Director of American Lands Alliance, **Randi Spivak** will be our guest speaker. She will give us the latest scoop from her Washington, DC office regarding NW Old Growth legislation or the Roadless Area Rule. Ticket scholarships are available by calling the UW office at 672-7065. See back cover of newsletter for more details.

## February 24 - Cross Country Skiing

Once again explore UW's proposed National Monument with a Cross Country ski trip into the Diamond Lake Area. Skiers will be responsible for their own skis. Call for ski equipment locations: 672-7065. Carpool will meet behind Courthouse at **8am** or at the Diamond Lake Lodge at 10am. Beginners encouraged! FREE!



## February 17 - Boulder Creek Roadless Area on the South Umpqua

Saturday, join USFS fish biologists, Bob Nichols when hikers will learn about the importance of protecting this South Umpqua Roadless Area. Bob will show miles of road decommissioning and other restoration efforts the Forest Service has initiated and planned for the future. Meet behind the Courthouse at **9am** or at Canyonville's Promise Bakery at 10am.

## February 24 - Tingstad & Rumbel Annual Benefit Concert

Enjoy the fresh original acoustic music of this brilliant duo as they generously offer to play another benefit concert for Umpqua Watersheds. Details of time and venue will be coming to you soon via mail, etc.

## March 2nd - Little River DEMO above Grotto Falls

See some of the largest old growth in the Little River watershed learn how Roseburg Forest Products plans to clearcut the forests above Grotto Falls. Meet in Roseburg behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler Street at **9am** or at the Glide Ranger Station at 9:30am. For more information on this "replacement volume sale" see page 4 of newsletter.

## March 17th - Climb Saint Patrick's "Rock" of Lookingglass

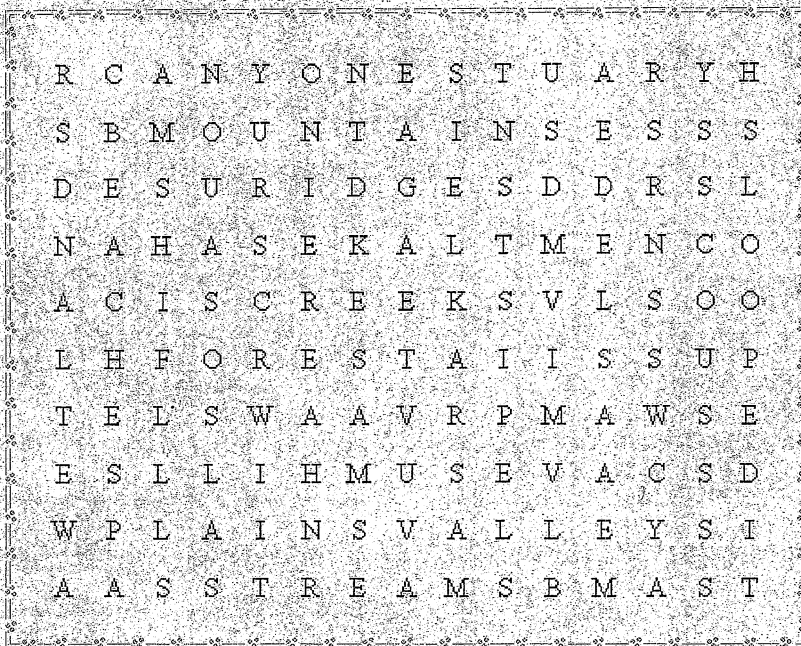
Sunday, climb the amazing geological wonder with great views of Tenmile and Lookingglass Valleys. Lookingglass native and geologist, Polly Lind-Witten will discuss how the 1700 feet elevation "conglomerate" rock raised from it ancient gravel river bed. Hopefully the Spring flowers will offer colorful compliments to the early spring vistas. Carpool will meet in Roseburg behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler Street at **9am** and then meet at the Lookingglass Store at 9:30am.





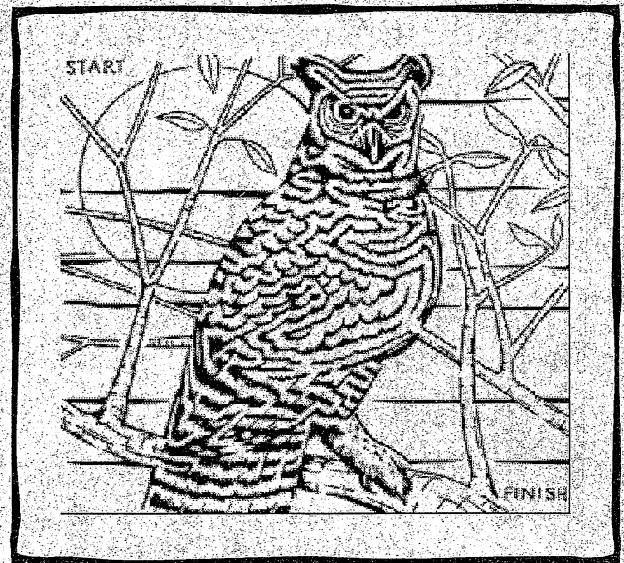
# Word Search

Natural Features Of A Watershed



# KIDS IN THE WATERSHED

Great Horn Owl an aMazing

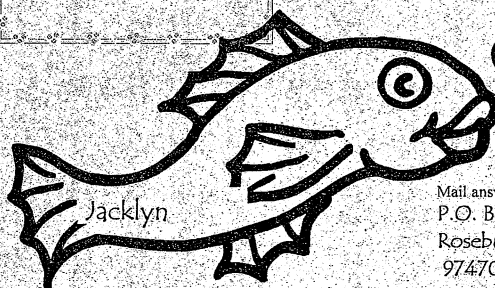


## List of Words

HILLS  
MOUNTAINS  
SWAMP  
BEACHES  
VALLEYS  
RIDGES  
CREEK  
ESTUARY  
MARSH  
LAKES  
PONDS  
RIVERS  
STREAMS  
WETLANDS  
PLAINS  
FOREST  
CANYON  
CAVES  
TIDEPOLS

First correct  
answer wins  
WIN A  
T-SHIRT.

Name 3 navigating  
tools that Jacklyn  
will use to find her  
Umpqua home.



Mail answers to:  
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## Wildlife Crosswords

Answer Key to Summer 2001's Puzzle





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# Camp Tyee Foundation

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Natural Family  
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Allergy Elimination

### Schroeder

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## Commonwealth Garden



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## Fungus Among Us

**O**n November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Umpqua Watersheds led an outing which had a different focus than any of our previous hikes/outing-mushrooms! The day's outing included both an educational seminar and a gathering/identification session and, judging by the number of people in attendance (over 35) as well as the overall high level of interest, I'd call it a huge success!

Umpqua Watersheds was very fortunate to have Jack Hausotter host our event! Jack is now retired, but taught a mushroom class at U.C.C. for 26 years, and is the one who piqued my own interest in the fungal world. Despite an extremely busy schedule, and running on no sleep, Jack was kind enough to spend the day teaching us all we could digest (no pun intended!). Thank you, Jack!

The three main categories of mushrooms were discussed, as well as the vital roles they play in a healthy forested ecosystem. The saprophytes, which feed off of dead and decaying matter, are nature's decomposers/recyclers, and produce organic mineral matter for plant and tree root uptake. The parasites feed off of a living host, and can cause trees to die, having the effect of opening up the forest to more light and young tree growth. The fallen dead trees create "snags", which in turn are homes and nesting/breeding sites for many of our forest's inhabitants. The mycorrhizal fungi have a symbiotic (or mutually beneficial) relationship with a living host.

Did you know that coniferous trees depend on fungus for their very lives? A healthy Douglas Fir tree has 30-40 different species of mycorrhizal fungi attached to it's roots, and without a healthy, functioning fungal system, our forests, as we know them, would die away and cease to exist!

After Jack's introductory session, everyone split into small groups of three or four people to "hunt" for a couple of hours. This was great fun, and some people, who initially saw nothing, discovered that, by simply standing still and carefully looking around, they were surrounded with mushrooms of many various types!

We then gathered together for an I.D. session. A number of people brought out their cameras at this point, as the wide array of mushrooms collected, when placed together, made quite a pretty display! Jack

## Power Panels

**M**ike Piehl pulled together a couple powerful panels for Umpqua Watersheds. First, at the November 15 public meeting, Mike introduced Portlanders Sam Mace and Tom Wolf of Trout Unlimited. Sam, western outreach coordinator, reviewed a salmon recovery plan for the Snake River basin, pointing out that flow targets are not being met and Congressional appropriations for recovery are not forthcoming. She favors, instead, Washington Representative Jim McDermott's Salmon Protection Act that's attracted 49 co-sponsors. This proposal would authorize the Corps of Engineers to take action in lieu of removing four lower Snake River dams; it initiates a plan to replace lost power; it eases communities' economic transitions. The veteran activist from Idaho recommended a video—"Taking a Second Look: Communities and Dam Removal." Copies of this uplifting set of case experiences are available through Umpqua Watersheds.

Tom Wolf, volunteer chair of Oregon's Council that represents 2400 members, overviewed his activities to: preserve ESA's reliance on habitat—not hatcheries; review criteria for prioritizing fish habitats in urban areas; fine tune the Steens Mt. accord to further protect the Great Basin red band trout; project harvest allocations in the Columbia River; refine ODFW's wild fish policy; and collaborate with USFS fish biologists working to recover cutthroat trout near Mt. Hood—all this besides chairing the Tualatin Watershed Council and maintaining a full-time "real" job!

Concluding the introduction to Trout Unlimited, Ms. Mace, spoke about a coalition working on the Wild Native Trout Program and showed inspiring slides of several trout—the object of all their work. She recommended a recent report: "Imperiled Western Trout and the Importance of Roadless Areas," also available through Umpqua Watersheds.

then led us in identifying them, and talked about the particular roles that many of them play in the eco-system.

At the conclusion, those who so desired filled their baskets with goodies for their dinner tables, and most headed home while a few of us "hardcores" stayed and hunted a while longer.

Mike introduced another panel of resource persons knowledgeable about the North Umpqua Hydropower Project. Under the Federal Power Act, the USFS, as manager of the land on which the Project is located, has authority to impose terms and conditions for relicensing. Initially, the Forest Service recommended removing Soda Springs Dam, the lowermost dam in the Project, to open additional spawning and rearing habitat. Later, the Forest Service reversed its position.

Craig Burns, fish biologist, showed slides that featured engineering features of the Project and their environmental affects. Penny Lind, UW director, reviewed early negotiations among Scottish Power, public agencies and conservation interests to relicense the Project. She suggested we stay alert—FERC may release its DEIS as early as March '02, with a public comment period following. Stan Vejtasa, power engineer and economist, calculated that Project revenues could easily supplement significant restoration efforts—well beyond the planned-for "techno-fixes" agreed to in last spring's "settlement."

Jeff Dose, speaking as a public interest scientist, asserted that this may be the last chance for the terms and conditions in this relicensing process to reflect changing social values and new scientific understandings. Craig Burns capped off the panel by urging us to think even bigger—acknowledge anadromous fish, yes, but also regard other critters affected by the Project—mollusks, insects, amphibians. . . During discussion, Sam Mace alerted us to proposed changes in the Federal Power Act that, if adopted, would harm wild fish habitats. Thanks, Mike Piehl and panelists, for the power of your insights.

*Jim Long, a retired agriculture professor, volunteers on the Education Committees of Umpqua Watersheds, Small Woodland Owners Association and the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council.*

This outing was so successful, I propose we make it an annual event! I also wish to thank a few others who have enough mushrooming knowledge that they were co-opted into helping lead the "hunting" parties. You know who you are!

*Geoff Niles, is UW's Board Member from the Little River valley and a sprouting Mycophile.*

# An Awakening

**H**is talk was entitled "Awakening of Conservationism." It resulted in my awakening.

Daniel Robertson, November 1 for Umpqua Watersheds, told stories about early western land deals that stirred the public to change how our national government allotted federal lands. Most land in the early American west was Federal property, acquired, for instance, through the Louisiana Purchase and the Mexican-American War. Hence, the federal government granted private ownership of land in the West. This was different from the earlier Colonial pattern of ownership on the East Coast where English royalty granted land to individuals and companies.

Initially, what did the Federal government want with these Western lands? Income for the federal coffers! Large tracts were auctioned to land speculators. Then, in 1841, the Preemption Act decreed that parcels of 160 acres on which settlers had squatted were to be sold to that *individual*. Still, generating income was the primary goal; General Land Offices accounted to Congress in terms of dollars earned. Two exceptions were what Daniel Robertson called the "Two Ys": Yosemite Valley set aside in 1864 and Yellowstone Park reserved in 1872.

Then the nation's land policy began to change. Through long, contentious legislation, a principle emerged: Land—as a policy tool—should be managed for the *public's* welfare. Examples included the Donation Land Act of 1850, the Oregon and California Act of 1860 to support westward expansion of the railroads, the Homestead Act of 1862; the Timber Act that gave 160 acres to settlers if—in the Midwest "desert"—they agreed to plant 40 acres of trees; the Desert Act of 1877 that gave land to venturesome souls who converted Kansas and Nebraska to agriculture; the 1878 Timber and Stone Act that allowed settlers to log and mine; and allotments for state "land-grant" universities—like Oregon State.

But probably, only a tenth of these allocations were legit. Through forgery, bribery and dummy entrymen, most land pat-

*Jim Long, a retired agriculture professor, volunteers on the Education Committees of Umpqua Watersheds, Small Woodland Owners Association and the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council.*

ents had been acquired fraudulently. Disagreement among the President, Congress, Department of Interior and the General Land Offices prevented prosecution. But along came one Teddy Roosevelt who, as President, asserted he will not accept fraud and the national government *will* conserve land for future generations.

Half the General Land Officers—including Roseburg's Binger Herman, then head of the General Land Office in Washington DC—were indicted. Politicians were arrested. Middlemen like Stephen A. Douglas Puter (named for the U.S. Senator with whom Douglas County is identified) were imprisoned. "SAD" Puter didn't get any help from his former buddies, so, Puter turned state's evidence and, in 1908, published his *Looters of the Public Domain*. Muck raking presses picked up on this story by a conspirator spurned. The public was awakened!

So, our nation's public land policy evolved from making money for the federal treasury and for private speculators to managing federal land as an instrument to pursue the public welfare. Once awakened, the public saw to it that these changes were made: Land was auctioned to anyone with resources—not just speculators; rights of *actual* settlers were preserved; land was granted to support other public benefits—wagon trails, railroads, mining, logging. Other lands—within a new spirit of "conservationism"—were retained by the federal government to assure long-term supplies of natural resources. And still other federal lands—under an emerging policy of "environmentalism"—were held to preserve natural values inherent in the land itself.

Readers may enjoy Robertson's "The Awakening of Conservation, the Oregon Land Fraud Trials," in *The Umpqua Trapper*, Summer 1984, available in the Douglas County Museum of History and Natural History. Thanks to Daniel Robertson, former director of our Museum, for an important awakening, November 1.

# Wolverines on Mount Bailey ?

**T**he just released monitoring report for the Umpqua National Forest says: "*Wolverine: Surveys to locate dens and confirm reproduction continue to be difficult to effectively implement. However, highly reliable observations of wolverine continue to be documented, most occurring on the Diamond Lake Ranger District. One of the most recent observations was at the base of Mt. Bailey. Remote, undisturbed denning habitat is essential for wolverine. The Mt. Bailey roadless area is one of a very limited number of areas containing denning habitat in southwest Oregon. Survey information shows that Mt. Bailey winter recreation activity is affecting the suitability of this area for denning habitat.*"

Also, a report says, "*In summary, this analysis supports the previous conclusion (from the 1998 Monitoring Report) that Forest Plan goals and ACS objectives for fish habitat and aquatic ecosystem integrity are not, as yet, being realized.... Additionally, for the 19 watersheds within designated Key Watershed where trend data exists, 18 remain in an impaired condition, 3 of them display a declining trend, and one shows an upward trend. Limited project-specific monitoring of watershed restoration actions has demonstrated changes in physical environments, but this bio-monitoring continues to show that there has not been a corresponding biotic response - with most sites remaining impaired and some continuing to decline further. This suggests that restoration actions, to date, have been ineffective in reversing the adverse impacts to aquatic ecosystems from past management actions.*"

Also, "*A significant number of pre-commercial thinning acres (over 40,000) are now ready for thinning in Late Successional Reserve (LSR) and Matrix allocations. These are areas planted from past harvests. This backlog was created due to a lack of appropriated funding in the past ten years for timber stand improvement from Congress.*"

To read this USFS report visit:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/umpqua/planning/>

***"It is not enough to understand the natural world; the point is to defend and preserve it"*** Edward Abby



# In The Heat of STILL FISHING

**ITEM:** Annual release of carbon dioxide by the United States has increased 14% since 1990.

**ITEM:** Morocco is expected to suffer a 15% decline in water availability over the next 20 years due to global warming.

**ITEM:** Climatologist Peter Cox considers it probable that the projected 8 degree temperature increase over the next 100 years will trigger a runaway greenhouse effect through the release of stored up carbon in the oceans. Temperatures could reach up to 15 degrees higher than at present.

It is, in a way, the ultimate gorilla at the table. Even the most ardent environmentalist, while acknowledging its importance, will grow glassy eyed over the subject. Global warming does not possess the sense of urgency and immediacy as the logging of public lands or the weakening of the Endangered Species Act, yet, as critical and essential as these causes are, global warming remains the overarching threat that can render all our efforts meaningless.

I am a member of CLIMATE SOLUTIONS, a Pacific Northwest based non-profit organization dedicated to education and forging public/private partnerships to create viable solutions to global warming. If you would like more information on their efforts or would simply like to discuss ways to formulate a local response to global warming. Call me at 672-9819.

*Stuart Liebowitz is a paid member of UW since 1999.*

*And since boyhood  
I keep on with what seems  
this foolish go-forth and fish-for.  
Yet hooked and fought to net or not,  
even now seem never satisfied,  
but always beach that high-  
bowed, curved bottom, row  
on river-going boat reluctant  
to leave off drift and fish  
at last light, this passed day  
trailer-loaded with my craft, both  
truck-towed home through dark  
where, tired, I arrive with  
what death-straight salmon/  
sea trout hang outside  
like streamlined ingots;  
chromed rockets left looking up  
as if for launch in moon and starlight.*

*Or might swim the rain-wet sky  
through nights I troll my sleep  
weighed deep for dreams  
of when I'll wake  
to hook that golden fish  
(not gilded one)  
fins patiently, well hid;  
whose swimming churns  
the shoreless sea inside of me  
to storm tides (always did)  
can climb the headland capes  
and pound the pulsing seawalls  
bound my sheltering, some-  
times shipwrecked heart?*

*Joseph Patrick Quinn*

# Cooper Creek Clearcut Updates

On December 28, the Sutherlin Water Control District Board directed their manager, Norm Bing, to draft a letter to Lone Rock Timber voicing their concerns about the effect the proposed clearcuts would have on water quality. The nine persons elected to the Board will review the draft letter **January 9th**. They will meet at the Sutherlin City Council Chambers on the corner of Umpqua and Everett **at 7pm**. The meeting is free and open to the public.

The Sutherlin Water Control District is responsible for the flood control systems at Platt I and Cooper Creek Reservoirs. The District owns over 100 acres around the Cooper Creek Reservoir (built in 1970).

This past September Lone Rock Timber put up a private agenda sign on the public property. Citizens will encourage the Board to ask Lone Rock to move the sign to private property which is near the trail at the south end of the dam. The Sutherlin Water Control District Board is also going to tackle this problem at this same meeting mentioned above.

**January 16**, Tim Molinari will speak to the Sutherlin Chamber of Commerce about the economic benefits of protecting this watershed for recreation and the future of Sutherlin's drinking water. They meet at the Oakhills Golf Club at **11:30am**.

## Book Review

I had been waiting for a long time for "The Book!" The book that would talk about what I had been thinking about for a long time - simplicity. It seems I am always trying to find ways to simplify my life.

**The Circle of Simplicity** by Cecile Andrews is a great inspirational book dedicated to help people recognize the value of simplicity. She gives many amazing examples and also discusses the importance of doing this to help protect the earth. As consumers, with each item we consume a part of Mother Earth dies. I recommend this book to all of us - consumers of the Mother Earth. May we all walk gently upon her soul.

*Reviewed by Beth Worster. She volunteers on hikes as a photographer. You may see her work in all of UW's photo albums. Thanks Beth!*

## Restoration Thinning

*(Continued from page 3)*

NEPA is just a simple public procedure any citizen has the right to follow.

NEPA allows the public to review public land timber sale proposals and submit comments and protests (BLM's words, not ours). Roseburg BLM uses a "Protest Decision" to respond to public input when explaining reasons for its decisions. Though the BLM has other means, it has mainly used Protest Decisions to dialogue with the public about site-specific public forest decisions.

It is important to remember that these

forests are public. No timber industry or mill owns them. The federal process of communicating with the public does consume time. Sometimes it takes the BLM several weeks to issue their protest decisions. But that is the price of managing a public resource for the benefit of the entire public. Industry has accused us of "holding up" these sales, but public NEPA oversight of federal actions simply takes more time than it takes private industry to decide on their private land timber sales.

## Proctor Memorial Forest - Part II

**Y**ou may recall reading about Jim Proctor in the last newsletter. Jim continues to progress toward establishing a learning forest in honor of his parents—Robert and Virginia Proctor, long time, active residents of South County. At an October meeting in Canyonville, Jim and Jill Dufour, USFS/Tiller Ranger District, updated a mix of folks on their progress and elicited ideas to further the goal of supplementing comprehensive forestry education in Douglas County.

Represented were persons from Umpqua Watersheds, Douglas Small Woodlands Association, industrial forestry, public forestry, South Umpqua Historical Society, local schools, Douglas County Cooperative Extension, OSU forestry education, local government and Southern Oregon Land Conservancy.

The group reviewed proposals for the “living classroom”: name, mission, objectives, guiding principles, key elements, anticipated near-future milestones, potential resources and relationships between the landowner and the nonprofit organization. The discussion identified additional resources and parallels with similar efforts, for example, the Children’s Forest Association within the San Bernadino National Forest. Next, comes the “business plan.” Stay tuned.

*Jim Long, a retired agriculture professor, volunteers on the Education Committees of Umpqua Watersheds, Small Woodland Owners Association and the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council.*

Headwaters & the Ecology Center of the Siskiyou  
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## Western Forest Activist Conference

Ashland, Oregon

**February 1-3**

Friday Keynote Address by  
**Winona LaDuke**

Skills Workshops and Field Studies on Sunday!

*Registration Packets Available Soon*

For More Info Call Darcy Davis

**(541) 482-4459** or email [darcy@headwaters.org](mailto:darcy@headwaters.org)

## “Recycle Your Old Computer!” Collection Event

**D**ouglas County businesses and residents will again be able to recycle their outdated, non-functioning, or unwanted computer equipment. A computer recycling event is on:

Friday, **January 25** (for businesses)  
Saturday, **January 26** (for residents)

Douglas County Fairgrounds  
Community Building

Friday from **9am to 1pm**  
Saturday from **10am to 3pm**

Any unwanted computers, working or not, keyboards, mice, monitors, printers and other peripherals will be accepted. Because of the difficulty and costs of getting monitors to a qualified recycler, a fee of \$5.00 per monitor will be charged at the event.

This event is being sponsored by Douglas High School StRUT (**Students Recycling Used Technology**) and Douglas County. Reusable computer components will be refurbished by DHS students and given to qualified recipients. All non-reusable components will be recycled. Tax deductible receipts will be available for donated items.

A similar event held in January, 2001, yielded **22.3 tons of unwanted computer equipment** collected for reuse and recycling. With the number of obsolete computers increasing each year, estimated at 500 million by 2007, the hazardous materials contained in the equipment pose significant disposal problems. For example, each monitor contains 3 to 8 pounds of lead. Therefore, keeping this equipment out of the landfill and put back into use or recycled yields many long-range benefits.

*Submitted by Douglas County's Solid Waste Reduction Manager, Terri Peterson. You can call her for more info at: 440-4350*

*Or Douglas High School's Candy Robinson at: 679-3001*

## Riparian Workshop

**T**he Oregon Natural Resources Research Institute (On-Ree) is located at the **Wildlife Safari** in Winston, Oregon. ONRRI is a cooperative institute, dedicated to providing value-added education in the areas of science and mathematics through the study of natural resources. ONRRI has assembled a team of scientists and engineers that provide instructional aid to classroom teachers at our land laboratory.

ONRRI provides the location for a variety of organizations to accomplish common goals in education and research.

ONRRI's goal is to bring math and science to life in Douglas County. Current projects include teaching compost management to a service learning class at Phoenix School and water quality monitoring with students from Douglas High School. This summer will feature an opportunity to learn about bugs - by joining the BLM in a survey project in local streams. Student volunteers will learn science tasks this spring at the Safari, like operating a transit and classifying insects to order. Five 4-person teams will join a bio-diversity expert with kick nets and waders, inventorying riffle and pool.

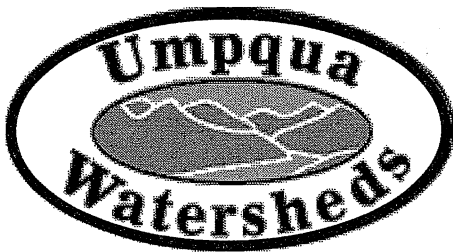
In other areas, ONRRI will provide professional development opportunities for teachers (PDU's) and host class visits to the Wildlife Safari. ONRRI scientists provide support for teacher's curriculums. Bi-weekly science discussions cover topics in all areas of natural resource management.

This winter, ONRRI and Umpqua Community College are teaming up to offer credit courses in Wildlife Management. The courses will meet on three Saturdays:

January 26  
February 16  
March 16

The featured topic will be animals in riparian areas and will include a behind the scenes look at the Wildlife Safari. The \$75 dollar fee will include 8 hours of classroom credit and lunch.

For more information, contact the Safari at (541) **679-6761** ext.221 or contact Lenny Schussel at [howdt@mcsi.net](mailto:howdt@mcsi.net)



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**What's with  
Wolverines?**  
**Jan. 10**  
Thursday, 7pm

*Look Inside!*

Good Thinning or Bad Thinning by Francis Eatherington  
Roadless Rule Update  
Winter Hikes and Events: Schedule for January, Feb. & March  
Fungus Among Us and Power Panels written by UW Members

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# 6th Umpqua Watersheds' Annual Banquet & Silent Auction

**Friday at 6pm**

**January 25**

*"The Nest" Restaurant \* Oakhills Golf Club  
Off I-5 on Exit 232, Sutherlin*

**\$25**

*for one  
in advance*

**\$45**

*for two  
in advance*

**\$30**

*for one  
at the door*

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*UW's Office 630 SE Jackson*

Call: **672-7065** or Email: [uw@umpqua-watersheds.org](mailto:uw@umpqua-watersheds.org)

Keynote Speaker:

## Randi Spivak

Executive Director of

### American Lands Alliance

Randi Spivak became Executive Director of American Lands Alliance in July 2001. American Lands, formerly the Western Ancient Forest Campaign (W AFC), is dedicated to providing a stronger grassroots voice for citizens working to protect wildlife and wild places nationwide.

She is a long-time forest advocate and is experienced in national campaigns, advocacy and marketing. Based on the West Coast for the last 15 years, Randi became involved with forest issues in the early 1990's, when she organized in Los Angeles to protect ancient forests in the Northwest.

Prior to her appointment as Executive Director, Randi was board President of American Lands and Director of its campaign to protect old growth forests in the Northwest.

Randi's past work includes serving as campaign manager for the extremely successful \$319 million Park and Open Space ballot measure for Los Angeles county and as division chief for a California State lands conservancy, where she was responsible for land acquisition, strategic planning and community organizing.

Randi also serves on the board of Los Angeles-based Earth Communications Office (ECO), an organization that Creates environmental public service announcements now seen by over one billion people worldwide. Randi is former advertising executive, responsible for advertising and marketing for several major national and regional brands.

**[www.americanlands.org](http://www.americanlands.org)**