



# 100 Valleys



A Quarterly Publication of the Members of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc.

Spring 1998

## Judge says Follow the Law!

**A** Federal district court ruled on April 29, 1998, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is not doing enough to protect endangered fish, and ordered government agencies to stop dozens of timber sales until they have ensured salmon and trout will not go extinct. The ruling is expected to result in increased protection for salmon and trout on public lands throughout the West, starting in the Umpqua basin. The ruling by Judge Barbara J. Rothstein, in Seattle, came in a case brought by fishing and conservation groups, including Umpqua Watersheds, Inc., seeking greater protection for the endangered Umpqua River cutthroat trout.

The Umpqua National Forest and Roseburg BLM last year offered dozens of timber sales in areas with endangered trout or salmon. Judge Rothstein's ruling makes it clear changes must be made to meet the standards set by the Endangered Species Act for protecting fish. Wherever they're doing timber sales that could affect salmon or trout, this decision will apply. That includes most of the Umpqua National Forest and all of Roseburg BLM, with some areas of Medford and Coos-Bay BLM included in the ruling.

Judge Rothstein ruled federal agencies need to take a much harder look at individual timber sales, to make sure salmon and trout are protected rather than simply relying on the general goals of the Northwest Forest Plan.

Imperiled fish, and commercial fishermen, cannot withstand more of the same clearcutting and road-building that degraded aquatic habitat and caused the current fish crisis. The judge found that the federal government failed to prove

the Umpqua cutthroat trout can survive the extensive logging, clearcutting and road-building that is authorized under the Northwest Forest Plan. The judge ruled it was illegal for the federal government to proceed with timber sales "without analyzing whether the site-specific projects are in fact complying with the ACS (federal Aquatic Conservation Strategy), the mechanism designed to protect aquatic species.

Some of the ancient forest projects that the court found illegal, and have been halted, are Roseburg BLM's Diamondback, Emile, Broken Buck and Myrtle Creek timber sales, and Umpqua National Forest's Little River Demo timber sale. While it is a very welcome reprieve for these valuable, beautiful places, the court ruling did not apply to illegal sales that are above natural barriers to endangered salmon, such as most sales in the Diamond Lake Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest. Old-growth forests in timber sales such as Peanuts and Yogi have not yet been saved. Some of the sales that were not saved are within roadless areas, such as Paw timber sale.

What was also not saved are the sales within endangered fish habitat that were sold under the salvage logging rider, which exempted the agencies from

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*This Forest is Saved, For Now?*

### Volunteer Potluck/Workshop

**June 5th** Umpqua Watersheds' volunteers will meet to find their volunteer niche. **Dinner at 6pm.**  
**Workshop at 7pm. Bring a friend!**

As many of you know Umpqua Watersheds Inc. is in the beginning phases of extending our volunteer activities so as to best engage it's memberships' skills and abilities. Earlier this year at the Annual Membership Banquet a show of hands indicated an overwhelming desire to engage in volunteer efforts to save the forests. Special emphasis was placed on

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*inside...*

**Is BLM clearcutting in your drinking water?** by Francis Eatherington

**How Much Old Growth is There?** by Ken Carltoni

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**Fish Passage Decision on June 5th** by Bob Allen

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## Who is Umpqua Watersheds?

*Umpqua Watersheds was incorporated as a private non-profit organization in 1992. Its members are residents of the Umpqua Basin who are dedicated to protecting and restoring the watersheds of the Umpqua River Basin. Many of our past and present Board of Directors are: forest management professionals, forestry technicians, health care professionals, small business owners, and educators. Together we own and/or manage over one thousand acres of timberland. One or more of us have been involved in almost every phase of forest management from theoretical landscape analysis and planning, to setting chokers in the brush. We have planted over a million trees on the Umpqua. We build recreational trails, fall and mill timber, and sit on a number of community committees and councils.*

**President - Penny Lind**  
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**Treasurer - Gwen Bates**

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 Leslee Sherman  
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**Public Forest Monitor**  
 Francis Eatherington

**Outreach Coordinator &  
 Editor of "100 Valleys"**  
 Patrick Siarnes

**Please Come Visit Our Office!**  
 630 SE Jackson  
 Downtown Roseburg, OR

Please call: 672-7065 or Page: 677-5100

*All contributions to Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. are tax-deductible. Please send check or money orders to: PO Box 101 Roseburg, OR 97470*

**Come Visit Our Website!**  
[www.teleport.com/nonprofit/umpquawater.html](http://www.teleport.com/nonprofit/umpquawater.html)

## NEW President's Message by Penny Lind

**U**mpqua Watersheds, Inc. has had a few adjustments in its organizational structure. Ken Carloni, the former UW President is on sabbatical for a year during which he will continue to lend his expert service to UW by working on our Advisory Board (giving valuable advise, of course). I've stepped forward to be the President of UW through the next exciting year. I would like to thank the board for their vote of confidence and also for their continual help in the hard work that UW does to meet its goals.

**Who am I?** I've lived in Oregon for the past 29 years. I came here from Michigan, another beautiful, lush state with many complex resource, economic and social benefits and challenges. Sound familiar? My family and I have lived on the same rural, forested property throughout those 29 years.

I have worked as an employee or a volunteer in our community in performing arts, education, recreation, conservation and public health. While serving in those communities of interest I have been fortunate to represent our local area both state and region wide.

I have worked as an environmental protection advocate from the first day I arrived at my home in April 1969 when I experienced my first spring day in the land that's Oregon.

In those 29 years that brought me to my current position, I've learned many complex facets of the Umpqua River Basin be it the rivers, forests, people, jobs, politics, history, prejudice, compassion, government or science; WOW, and everything in between that's made my conservation position pretty time consuming yet worthwhile. I've served on the board of Umpqua Watersheds Inc. since its reorganization in the early 1990s. However, when I look back, my truest motivation still comes from the feelings I experienced on the wet, green afternoon in April when my family arrived in the land that's Oregon.

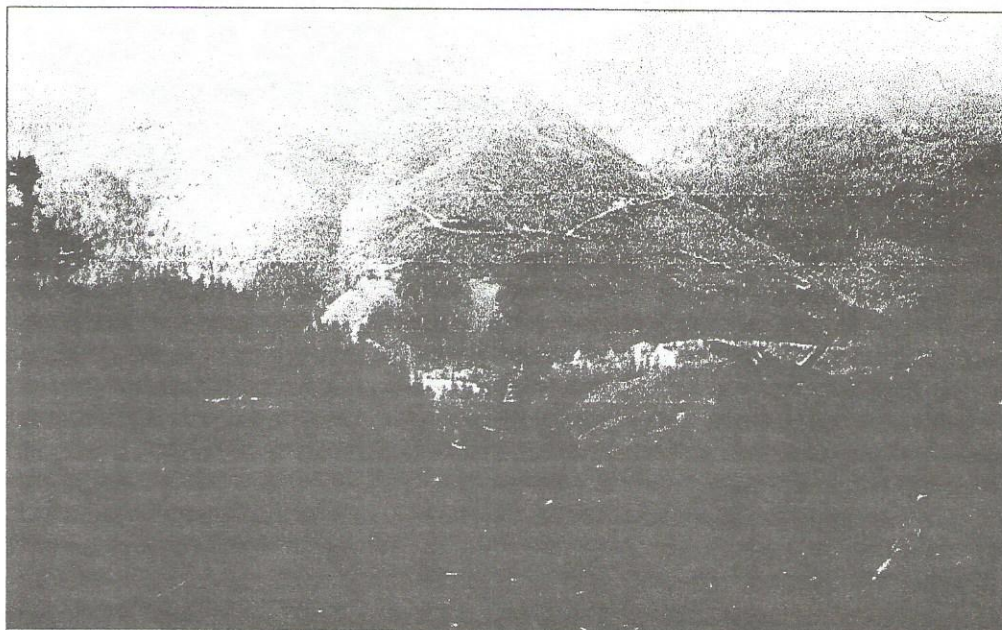
**Conservation Work:** Throughout those years the efforts that I and others have put forward have been both difficult and rewarding. I see our strong commitment as advocates never waning even though our degree and type of presentation may shift. At times our work is bold, exciting and rewarding; at other times it can be spiritual, peaceful and whole; still at times, and these can be the most challenging, we experience sorrow, burn-out, grief and, yes, frustration. However, there is always a thread of the same shared goal that can tie the work together. UW has defined that goal for me by being dedicated to the protection and restoration of the watersheds of the Umpqua River Basin, and that's BIG, don't you think? I know that for many of you, who support UW and who we hear from through emails, letters and personal contact, that these same goals are paramount to you.

**Volunteer Work:** UW has recently begun to develop its NEW volunteer program. With the help of committed, leadership volunteers and our UW staff this program is just waiting to be fun, educational, full of rewards and a challenge, for you. We have received such exciting response from many of you already. UW volunteer help comes in all sizes: telephone work; field adventures; newsletter contributions; office support; organizational training; equipment donations; event participation; letter writing; information gathering; financial support; leadership; organizational partnering; and a friendly smile of support. The community knows we've been here and that we're here to stay as individuals and as an organization. With your help, UW will continue to affect change in Douglas County.

**Steps Ahead:** UW will continue its successful Forest Monitor and Outreach programs that have won us local, regional, and national recognition. Many of those accomplishments are in this and previous newsletters and posted on our award winning website. I will do my best to have UW be your conservation voice in the

(Continued on page 6)

## Is the BLM clearcutting in *your* drinking water?



*This devastation in the uplands not only hurts fish habitat  
but also human drinking water.*

**T**he town of Myrtle Creek and Riddle have had their municipal watersheds slaughtered by private land logging. Unfortunately, we can not even count on our public land to protect their water supply.

**Myrtle Creek:** BLM has decided to sell the *Class of '98 timber sale*, scattered in the lower South Myrtle Creek watershed. One unit is just a mile out of town, on the ridge separating the Days Creek Cutoff road and the huge, ugly clearcut on South Myrtle Creek that private industry cut in 1995. Some of BLM's sale adjoins that clearcut. All that is left of this beautiful ridge of ancient Madrone and Douglas Fir trees (see picture) is on public land. But on March 24, 1998, Roseburg BLM sold it to the highest bidder: 1,400 logging trucks (7 mmbf) of old-growth from 204 acres - all clearcuts.

**Riddle:** The BLM 'Loose Laces' and 'Cow Catcher' timber sales are entirely within the municipal water supply for the town of Riddle. This community had to move it's water plant 10 years ago

because the quality and quantity of water was degraded. Now, they need to put in a new water plant next year - all at the expense of the residents of Riddle.

Yet the timber industry has reaped huge profits logging off the watershed. Unfortunately, the public lands in the watershed will suffer the same fate - they are all in the "matrix" (slated to all eventually be logged). The Northwest Forest Plan does not protect municipal watersheds.

In 1974 BLM signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the city of Riddle concerning their municipal water supply. But this MOA does not even require BLM to consult with the city before planning sales in their watershed. In fact, the MOA does not afford Riddle any additional protection for their watershed, except for one: "Only workmen in good health shall be employed to work within the watershed." As long as no one is sick, the watershed can be entirely roaded and clearcut.

*Cow Catcher and Loose Laces* are the first two timber sales planned since Riddle's watershed was designated 'matrix'. Cow Catcher (in Russle Creek and Lower

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## *Watersheds Work Changes Us*

**H**istorians say that those elected to our highest office often act in ways that could not be predicted from their record. The office brings out the best in them. A recent rating of our current president suggested that he was at his best after the Oklahoma Bombing.

In national and local affairs this question may be asked. Does the group find the person it needs or does the person step up to the office? I believe the latter. Our group certainly has what any objective observer would call a mission. This mission calls for the best in us at times and demands a quality of leadership we may doubt we can bring forth. It may be that Jim Ince, Ken Carloni, and Penny Lind; the three presidents our organization has had, felt no qualms about the task of their office. Only they can say and I have not asked them.

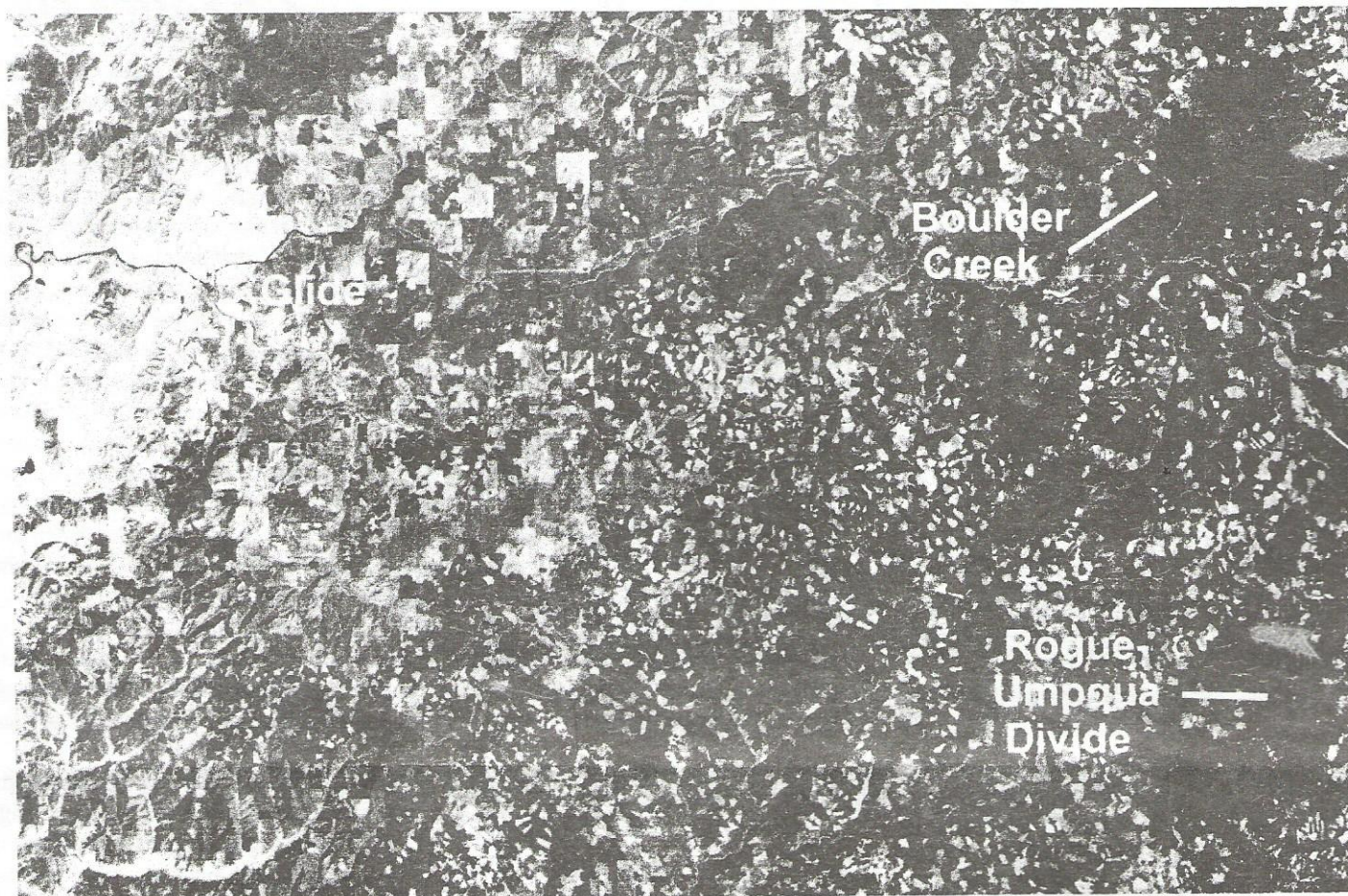
Three styles of leadership, all, it seems necessary and happening at just the right time to bring forth success beyond our hopes and expectations. Comparing them to an old growth forest seems appropriate. Think of the varieties of trees and the qualities which make them prosper and grow. The strength of the oak, the flexibility of the vine maple, the opportunism of the madrone, you get the picture: a variety of qualities assisting adaptation to the environment.

Our Watersheds organization is now, and has been, led by outstanding people who stepped up as volunteers when the need was there. Let us, by their example, do our best too. Who knows what depths we might plumb and what we might find.

*Submitted by Umqua Watersheds Board Member, Bob Allen.*

*Mr. Allen ran against the local wise-use movement during his bid for county commissioner in 1994. His recent success was passage of the county debt measure this March.*

# How much old-growth is there? *by Ken Carloni*



*A picture is worth 1000 words.*

**T**his Landsat image from 1990 represents a portion of Douglas County forest land east of Glide, Oregon. The lightest areas on the image are devoid of forest. The light to medium gray areas are mostly young second growth plantations. The darkest areas are what remains of mature second growth forests and old-growth forests.

The land at the left of the image surrounding Glide is largely comprised of pasture or otherwise cleared land. Just east of Glide, the Roseburg BLM checker board is clearly visible. Notice the few geometrically shaped islands of mature forest remaining on public land, and the nearly complete absence of mature forest on the alternating private squares.

The right half of the image is mostly on Umpqua National Forest

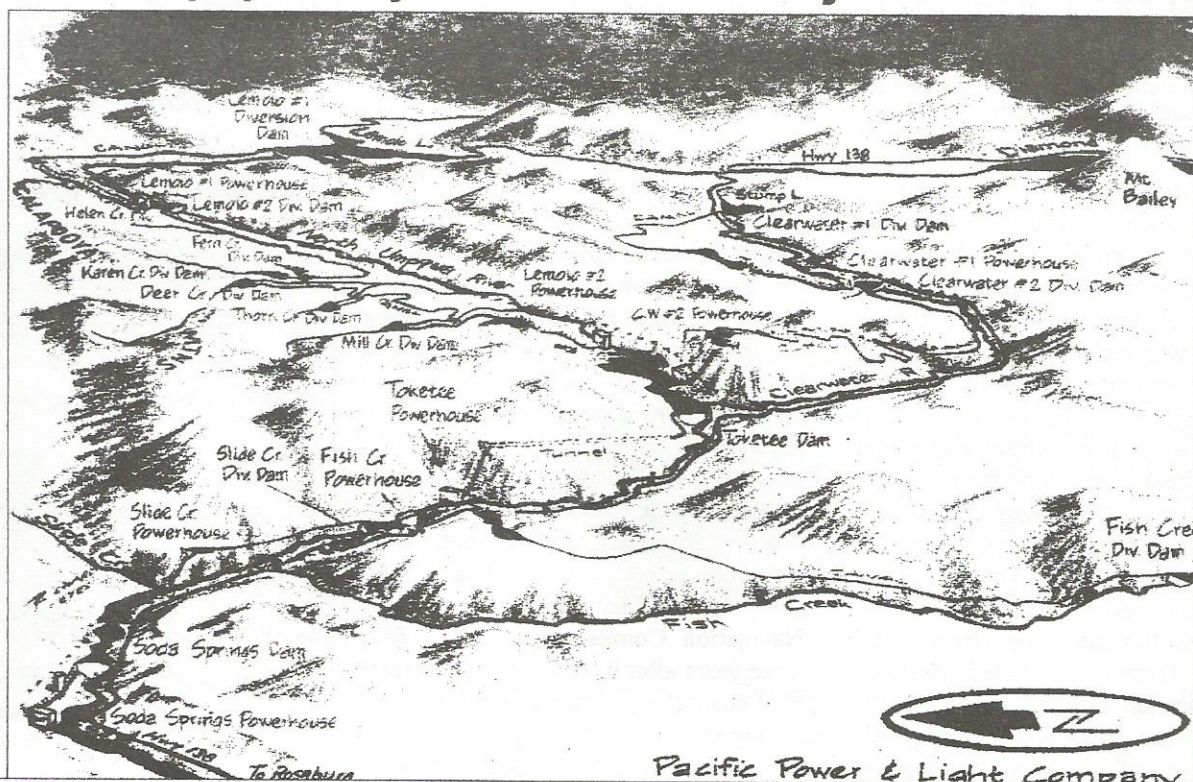
land. The Boulder Creek Wilderness and the Rogue-Umpqua Divide Wilderness are labeled in the upper lower right hand corners. These wilderness areas contain the largest blocks of unfragmented native forest left on the Umpqua. Interestingly, a significant portion of these areas are younger forests that have not as yet attained old growth structure.

Recently, the Douglas Timber Operators have run newspaper ads claiming that 50 percent of the Umpqua National Forest (UNF) is old-growth. Although they cite the 1990 Umpqua National Forest Plan as their source for this statistic, that figure was not based on any systematic survey. It was, in fact, only a rough estimate, and newer Forest Service estimates based on satellite image analysis have revised that number downward. Heavy cutting has continued since then further depleting native

forests on the Umpqua. The satellite image above tells the story.

Using the wilderness areas for comparison, the heavy fragmentation of the rest of forest is clearly evident. Many of the isolated islands of old-growth no longer function as habitat for endangered wildlife, and the logging roads connecting the patchwork of clearcuts continue to feed the streams with silt. Even if the highly inflated figure of 50% did represent the amount of old growth left on the Umpqua National Forest, most of that acreage is dominated by "edge" with very little surviving interior habitat to support endangered old growth dependant species. Moreover, the BLM lands to the west of the UNF lands are even more heavily cut over, and estimates of 2% old growth left on private lands may be generous.

# North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project Relicensing



**Does PacificCorp's 37 miles of canals, 36 miles of roads and 8 dams endanger critical fish habitat?**

**T**he North Umpqua hydroelectric project was constructed between 1947 and 1956. It is located entirely on Umpqua National Forest lands in the upper North Umpqua watershed. The project is one of the most complex hydroelectric projects in the country in both project operations and resource issues that result from the complex of eight dams and impoundments, 37 miles of waterways, 117 miles of transmission lines and 36 miles of access roads.

The North Umpqua Project operates under a license issued by the **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)**. The original 50-year license for the project has expired. The project currently operates on an year-to-year extension commonly granted during the relicensing process prior to the issuance of the next 30 to 50-year license.

Under the **Federal Power Act (FPA)**, the relicensing process includes an assessment of environmental impacts under the **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**. PacifiCorp has

responded to this requirement by initiating a collaborative watershed analysis and settlement effort with federal and state agencies and other public interests. The current timetable calls for finalizing the settlement agreement by early fall, 1998.

The watershed analysis and settlement agreement process involved three interdisciplinary and overlapping teams - Science, Resource, and Drafting. The **Science team**, which has been working since 1996, includes natural resource specialists from state and federal agencies, consulting firms, and universities. The formal synthesis of their analysis has recently been completed. The **Resource team** consists of representatives of PacifiCorp, Umpqua National Forest, other federal agencies, state agencies, and interest groups.

Umpqua Watersheds is represented on the team by **American Rivers**. The Resource team is charged with negotiating settlement terms to restore ecological processes and historic conditions in the areas impacted by the project, to the extent possible, based on the Science team's analysis. The **Drafting team** con-

sists of attorneys representing various agencies and interests and has just recently begun meeting.

Most of the state and federal agencies involved have legal mandates with which any agreement will have to comply. Chief among them is the Forest Service which holds a trump card under **Section 4(e)** of the Federal Power Act. The act states that licenses issued for hydropower projects on federal government "reservations" (such as National Forests) "shall be subject to and contain such conditions as the Secretary of the department under whose supervision such reservation falls (Secretary of Agriculture) shall deem necessary for the adequate protection and utilization of such reservation...."

The federal and state agencies and interest groups have, as might be expected, different perspectives and priorities for addressing environmental issues. PacifiCorp, understandably, has an interest in minimizing its financial contribution to resolving these issues. *Negotiations over the next few months should prove interesting!*

**For more information call: 672-7065**

# Who Owns the River?

This is the second of three parts of an essay excerpted from local writer Bob Heilman's book: *Overstory Zero: Real Life in Timber Country*, published in Seattle by Sasquatch Books. To order, please call: 1-800-775-0817

**O**n Sunday morning, February 16, 1870, the sternwheeler *Swan* arrived in Roseburg. Within minutes church bells were ringing, people were firing guns into the air, and a wild celebration broke out all over town. It was hailed as the dawn of a new era of economic prosperity for Douglas County.

The boat had come, inching its way upstream from Scottsburg, at the instigation of the Merchants and Farmers Navigation Company, a local group that had formed to open the Umpqua River to steamboat travel.

At the time, the Oregon and California Railroad had halted construction at Eugene, seventy miles north, for lack of funds. The 1,600 tons of goods imported annually into Douglas County and the 1,000 tons of goods being exported were still being hauled in wagons to and from Scottsburg, a long trip that cost \$40 per ton in freight charges. A steamboat could carry the freight for half that price, saving \$50,000 every year – if a riverboat could force its way upriver to Roseburg.

Capital Haun declared that the river could be made navigable by blasting a handful of obstructions at a cost of a few hundred dollars. The Navigation Company petitioned Congress for a study, and the Army Corps of Engineers sent out a survey party that summer. Despite the fact that the river was impassable even in a rowboat by then, the engineers recommended the project. After all, impossible as it seemed, the *Swan* had made the trip.

Having waved the magic wand of a feasibility study over the project, Congress appropriated \$22,500 to make the river navigable – about forty times the amount that Capital Haun had said it would cost. Contractors spent the summer of 1881 blasting ledges and boulders and pulling logs out of the river to carve a boat channel while the Navigation Company built a new riverboat, appro-

priately christened the *Enterprise*, to make the inaugural run.

When the fall rains came, the *Enterprise* set out from Scottsburg. Unfortunately, it never arrived in Roseburg. The new channel had sped up the current and the boat couldn't fight the increased flow. Even if the *Enterprise* had reached town, it was too late by then anyway. In April of 1882, a few months after the new riverboat's unsuccessful maiden voyage, the O&C Railroad line reached Roseburg, making steamboat travel obsolete.

The Merchants and Farmers Navigation Company folded in 1882, three years after it began, but the steamboat channel is still there, and we're still paying for it. For the past 120 years the river has flowed more swiftly, causing greater winter erosion and lower summer water tables. When we look at the consequences of an increased water flow rate – less water storage, more soil erosion, loss of riparian vegetation, siltation, warmer and more polluted water, fewer fish it's a safe bet that the true cost of the riverboat project has been millions of dollars.



It takes a long time to understand a place, to learn what its limits are. The beaver were trapped out between 1920 and 1940 and with them went the thousands of small dams they built. Hydraulic gold mining silted up hundreds of miles of gravel spawning beds. Moving logs downriver scoured the bottom. Marshes were drained to make pasture. Cattle and sheep grazed off the streamside brush, causing erosion as the banks gave out. Clearcutting removed thousands of acres of the forest canopy. Following the flood of 1964, the federal government began a program aimed at removing woody debris from the headwaters creeks, turning them into what might as well be concrete storm drains.

(Continued on page 10)

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### WHO PLANTS A TREE

Give gods their gold, and knaves their power;  
Let fortune's bubbles rise and fall;  
Who sows a field, or trains a flower,  
Or plants a tree, is more than all.

John G. Whittier

## President's Message

(Continued from page 2)

community to study, investigate and act upon, important issues that affect the people and places of the Umpqua River Basin.

You need to know, that this has become a bigger job than any one of us can do alone. I thank you again, and all of those that have come before us, for the generosity and support given as we work and learn together.

Penny Lind became President of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. this spring.



# Spring Cleaning!



*Here at Umpqua Watersheds Inc. we are trying to get our Membership house in order.*

*First of all we want to thank all of you who have come to our banquets, fair booths and many other events. These are the places where we gather your names and addresses. Secondly, we send you our Newsletter, free, for awhile. Finally, we invite you to become a paid member. Every year we hope you'll renew your membership and continue to support our growing efforts.*

*Now, we understand many of you have renewed this year's membership (1998) and are waiting to receive your T-shirt, yet once again...*

## Please Help!

*by filling out the surveys below*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Choose Your Membership (please circle dollar amount below)

### 100 Valleys Plus

*Executive Stewardship*  
You'll receive recognition in the Newsletter, proudly wear a UW T-shirt and receive a year's subscription to our Newsletter.

\$100+

### Business Member

*As a Business Member, you'll receive a FREE ad in our Newsletter, proudly wear a UW T-shirt and receive a year's subscription to our Newsletter.*

\$50+

### Silent Partner

*As a Silent Business Member, your membership remains confidential and yet you will receive a UW T-shirt and a year's subscription to our Newsletter.*

\$50+

### Individual Member

*As an Individual Member, you'll receive one sturdy 100% cotton UW T-shirt and receive a year's subscription to our Newsletter. More T-shirts can be ordered (below).*

\$25+

### Living Lightly

*Become a full member and stay in touch with a year's subscription to UW's Newsletter. Great for Students! More T-shirts can be ordered (below).*

\$15+

## Order Your T-shirt (please circle BOTH size and color below)

X-Large

Large

Medium

Small

Large Sleeveless

Large w/pocket

Light Grey

Black

Deep Sky Blue

Forest Green

I would like more than one T-shirt @ \$12 ea. # \_\_\_\_\_

## Choose a Volunteer Committee (please circle volunteer committee below)

### Monitor Committee

*Help gather data in the field by hiking, measuring, photography and other means of monitoring our precious and diminishing Ancient Public Forests and their watersheds.*

### Office/Membership Committee

*Help in the office: answering the phone, data entry, mass mailings and other various chores.  
Help recruit members by staffing our Outreach Booth which travels around the county: educating and registering voters about conservation issues which they CAN change!*

### Education Committee

*This newly formed committee looks forward to creating (or gathering pre-existing) educational materials which can be used in classrooms or with our Outreach Booth. This committee could also sponsor public forums, retreats and conferences for the sake of community education and discussion.*

# Judge Rules Agencies Need To Protect Fish



*Can we cohabitate?*

*Underwater photograph of steelhead by Richard Grost.*

*(Continued from page 1)*

complying with all laws. About a dozen of the ancient forest clearcuts that the judge ruled to be illegal are shielded by the Salvage Logging Rider, such as Kernel John and Four Gates.

However, the court did stop 24 timber sales. The court ruling said, "The court finds that NMFS could not have rationally concluded, based on the evidence of adverse effects and lack of evidence of significant mitigation before it, that the proposed actions were consistent with the ACS's mandate that agencies maintain and restore aquatic systems".

For instance, agencies will often propose large clearcuts in old-growth forests -- openings in the forest canopy that cause rain water to run off the steep slopes faster, stressing the creeks below and sometimes even causing landslides. Because the Northwest Forest Plan prohibits degrading the watershed like this, the agencies repair some old logging roads. However, the judge said that: "the road mitigation achieved was slight."

Another example of how these sales are illegal is their abuse of Watershed Analysis, required by the Northwest Forest Plan. The judge said: "For

many of the timber sales... there is no watershed analysis. For others the watershed analysis identified areas in need of restoration and recommended that there be no clear-cutting in those areas. [NMFS], however, nonetheless approved clear cutting in those areas."

The Judge concluded: "...NMFS has assumed ACS compliance, but on the project level it has failed to ensure or verify compliance.... The court, therefore, grants the plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment as to the timber sales primarily before the court..."

The ultimate fate of the halted sales remains unclear. For instance, in spite of the Judges clear agreement with the "evidence of adverse effects", Roseburg BLM will not admit that clearcutting the public's ancient forests degrades our watersheds. BLM's response is: "The ruling by Judge Rothstein stated that the affected sales were 'procedurally' out of compliance with ACS... that NMFS had assumed agency compliance... not that the agencies were in non-compliance." In other words, a little shift in paper work is all they feel is needed to correct the problem.

*Article written  
for our website by  
Umpqua Watersheds'  
Public Forest Monitor,  
Francis Eatherington.*

## Is the BLM clearcutting in *your* drinking water?

*(Continued from page 3)*

Cow Creek) is still in the planning stages, but BLM is thinking about clearcutting 189 acres. The Loose Laces forest (in Russle Creek) will be sold this summer, and will clearcut 202 acres of old-growth forests, hauling away about 800 logging trucks of

public forests (7300 ccf).

The official 'public comment' period on Loose Laces and Class of '98 is closed. But, anybody can talk to BLM at any time about any sale they want. If you comment on Cow Catcher and include your mailing address, BLM will officially

"consider" your comments, and it will be in the public record that the public had an opinion about logging in municipal watershed.

*Article written for our website by UW's  
Public Forest Monitor, Francis Eatherington.*

# Thank You, Mr. Defazio, but...we still need... ...permanent wilderness protection!

Dear Congressman DeFazio,

April 20, 1998

The Board and staff of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. would like to thank you for meeting with us at our office in Roseburg on April 9<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate your insight on the many subjects that we brought up at this introductory meeting with Umpqua Watersheds, Inc.

Although many of us have contacted you individually, over the years, this was our group's first opportunity to address you directly with some of Umpqua Watershed's concerns.

I have listed the important issues we were able to discuss during your visit:

- ▶ Alternative right of way policies for federal public land agencies
- ▶ NUCOR's pathway possibilities for their power line
- ▶ Heavy metals in fertilizers from industrial waste
- ▶ Delays to public access of information requested via FOIA (BLM Roseburg)
- ▶ Municipal watersheds and their outdated MOU's with federal public land agencies
- ▶ Judi timber sale status
- ▶ Halting the Smith bill
- ▶ Barriers to the Committee responsible for natural resources
- ▶ Mc Kinney Leach proposal
- ▶ Diamond Lake district timber sales
- ▶ Summer field trip on the Umpqua
- ▶ Northwest Forest Plan shortfalls
- ▶ Roadless area protection

A long list for such a brief visit. Thank you for your quick response.

You have given us some guidance on how to address many of the obstacles we have encountered and also prompted creative ideas to more effectively use our resources.

In a recent newscast, I learned that in the past seven years one quarter of Oregon's population are from outside the state of Oregon. This drastic increase gives rise to the need of conscientious plans, people, and promises for our state, including the region of the 4<sup>th</sup> district.

I expect future topics will be similar to what we have listed above and will also include: **fish passage; recreation; wetlands; further forest and habitat protection; transportation; waste control; and of course funding sources to help sustain healthy communities.**

Through this time of growth, Umpqua Watershed's local conservation work will persevere. Presently, we have board representation in cooperative groups such as the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council, Umpqua Land Exchange Program and many traditional community organizational ties. We continue to evaluate this participation to guarantee that we do not compromise Umpqua Watershed's mission.

As we stated at our meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>, you were courageous to stand up for the Hardesty, used to be, roadless area. We thank you again and look forward to future opportunities to exchange our ideas.

Sincerely,

Penny Lind,  
President Umpqua Watersheds, Inc.  
(541) 679-5981 email - thehill@teleport.com

**P.S. Please support the Copper Salmon Wilderness designation in the Elk River Watershed.**

cc: President William J. Clinton;  
Governor John Kitzhaber;  
Katie Mc Ginty; Jeff Steer; Chris Conroy

*Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring the watersheds of the Umpqua River Basin.*

## "No, Dad...the big concrete thing?"

(Continued from page 6)

All these practices have changed the dynamics of the river. We have always had about the same amount of rainfall, but what has changed is what happens to the water. It gets to the ocean much more quickly now, instead of soaking into the soil and spreading out. Lower summer flows, coupled with less shade from tress and brush, make for warmer water. Pumping water out for urban water systems and farm irrigation leaves what's left lower and warmer and funkier still. Pollution from industrial chemicals, sewage spills, and agricultural runoffs, becomes even more disastrous when there's less water to dilute it.

It's hard to see the changes happening because the damage hasn't been a matter of dramatic calamities. Instead, it has occurred slowly, bit by bit over the past 150 years – a wetland drained here, a grove of trees logged off there, a road cut too close to a stream, a field that has been overgrazed. None of these small events, in and of themselves, is enough to kill a river. But the accumulation of these misuses, over a period of time spanning several generations, amounts to a disaster greater than any flood or wildfire or chemical spill.

If we could see it happening all at once, we'd be much more alarmed. Rust and fire are the same chemical process – oxidation. If your car was in flames you'd call the fire department. But it's easy to ignore rust, even though it'll ruin the car just as surely and completely as a fire, given enough time. It's the same process, the only difference being a matter of pace.

The river's pace is not a human one. Our longest personal measurement, our own life span, is barely enough to begin measuring the rate of change in a river. And, of course, even that requires careful attention, decades of accurate observation.

*The final sequel of this essay will appear in the summer quarterly.*

*Professional storyteller and writer Robert Leo Heilman began to write after a roofing accident prevented him from continuing seasonal labor. He lives with his wife and son in Myrtle Creek, Oregon. Heilman was awarded the Northwest Writers 1996 Andres Berger Award for Overstory: Zero.*

*UW, Inc. would also like to thank Karen at While Away Books for donating a brand new copy to our office. She has many more copies to sell.*

## Volunteer Potluck/Workshop

(Continued from page 1)

assisting in the monitoring of proposed sales. Francis Earthington will have regular briefings for those interested in monitoring timber sales; subsequent workshops will be held to educate all of our volunteer staff.

**Thank you** to those who have recieved and returned the questionnaires. I have received many returns to date. If yours is still in the "to do" pile, or have not received yours, don't worry about the deadline date, go ahead and send it in (even if you've worked with us before and think we already know you).

With the addition of a **down-town office**, the need for a volunteer staff is becoming apparent. Our resources will be utilized to the greatest effiecincy with your participation and involvement here at the headquarters as well as in the field.

Further planning, organizing, team building and committee formation will be the focus of the evening **Friday June 5th @ Umpqua Watersheds office** downtown on **630 Jackson** in Roseburg. **Dinner begins @ 6 pm** and the volunteer meeting will begin **@ 7:30 pm**. Feel free to bring a friend. Looking forward to meeting you all soon. Please feel free to e-mail me:

[terryk@jeffnet.org](mailto:terryk@jeffnet.org)

or snail mail at:

UW Inc  
PO Box 101  
Roseburg, OR  
97470

Peace Out,

Terry K.

**672-1298**

*"Ask the fish 'cause I think he'll know,  
but the fish can't swim where the waters won't flow....."*

*- Leftover Salmon*

### MIXED MEDIA SHOW

### LESSNER & HEILMAN

Local Photographer & Writer  
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Robert Leo Heilman's  
essays and  
Michael James Lessner's  
photographs  
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Umpqua Valley Arts Center  
and then move to  
Mercy Medical Center.

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Community Sponsor - Umpqua Watersheds Inc.

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*The next hike is scheduled to  
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Meet behind County Courthouse  
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For more information call Bob Hoehne: **679-7077**



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# Milltown Fish Passage Decision

*Fish and Game Commission Hearing in Portland on June 5th*

**D**ouglas County continues to plan for an environmental and fiscal disaster with the "Millstone" dam project. "Swallowing hard" in the words of Ron Yockim, their \$60,000 per year lawyer for natural resources, they are preparing to "boldly go where none has gone before," (in the lingo of Star Trek). **Mr Yockim told** the Fish and Game Commission that the county would be willing if **necessary to condemn private property** if landowners along Elk Creek are not inclined to sell. This to convince the Commission that the county meant business. The Board of Douglas County Commissioners when asked if they supported this idea, reacted surprised. Many aspects of this project are making our county officials increasingly uncomfortable.

1) The Fish and Game Commission held a public hearing in Roseburg on May 15, all day at the Holiday Express, to decide, among other things, the question of giving the dam a waiver of the fish passage required by law. Their final decision is **June 5th** up in Portland. Call Bob Allen for carpooling info: **672-5239**.

2) ODF&W recently did an analysis of the "poor habitat" above the dam site and wonder of wonders, they found it to be good, in fact excellent. This was done by scientists from OSU who had no axe or

fishhooks to grind. This new information was shared with Fish & Game Comm. and we hope it will influence their decision.

3) On March 10, voters in the county approved a ballot measure which prevents the county from going into debt for more than two million dollars unless the people vote their approval. To proceed with the dam the county's taxpayers will be asked if they want to go into debt for 40 years. How do you think they will vote, dear reader?

4) Recently the News-Review came out in a full page editorial with its most clear statement yet on the dam. It stated an opposition to any more spending on the dam until and unless the costs are spelled out clearly for all to see.

5) Thomas Paine wrote large he said, "so that George III could see without his glasses". We are stating as clear as possible our intentions to take all legal measures to stop this fiasco which has already cost all of us over 10 million dollars. It has been a six-year fight and we are "tanned, rested and ready" in the words of a late republican president who also thought that duping the public had its value. In the words of former Douglas County Counsel Paul Nolte, **"NEVER HAVE SO FEW SPENT SO MUCH FOR SO LITTLE."** .....*Bob Allen*

## COMMONWEALTH GARDEN

*Vegetables - Herbs - Flowers - Plants*

**541-825-3780**

Joanne & Bruce  
20230 Tiller Trail Hwy.  
Days Creek, OR 97429

[commgdn@pioneer-net.com](mailto:commgdn@pioneer-net.com)

## Volunteer Potluck/Workshop

**J**une 5th Umpqua Watersheds' volunteers will meet to find their volunteer niche. **Dinner at 6pm.**  
**Workshop at 7pm. Bring a friend!**

As many of you know Umpqua Watersheds Inc. is in the beginning phases of extending our volunteer activities so as to best engage it's memberships' skills and abilities. Earlier this year at the Annual Membership Banquet a show of hands indicated an overwhelming desire to engage in volunteer efforts to save the forests. Special emphasis was placed on

(continued on page 10)

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## Volunteer Potluck/Workshop

Friday 6pm

**June 5th**

at UW's Office

630 SE Jackson, Roseburg

*inside...*

Is BLM clearcutting in your drinking water? by Francis Eatherington

How Much Old Growth is There? by Ken Carloni

UW's First Official Meeting with Congressman DeFazio

Fish Passage Decision on June 5th by Bob Allen

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