

100 Valleys

Spring 2003

A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds

Issue No. 22

Forest Initiative *Not* Healthy!

On March 9 the Oregonian reported that the timber industry was hiring a public relations firm to help convince the public that their chain saws are healthy for our forests.

"With the encouragement of the Bush administration, the timber industry is quietly building a public-relations campaign to promote the president's plan to reduce fire danger by thinning public forests..." Companies were urged to each contribute "up to a maximum of \$275,000, to the public-relations campaign."

Since industry could make substantial profits from salvage logging, this would be a reasonable corporate investment. Conservation organizations make no money from logging public forests and are unable to respond with equal public-relations funds.

The President's "Healthy Forest Initiative" proposes to cut the public out of public forest decisions. We will have little or no input in timber sales. The Bush administration has even proposed to **cut public notification** for some logging. They have proposed to **take out meaningful scientific input** for many projects, as well as **eliminate the requirement to consider alternatives** to their proposals. Much of the changes will happen on plain old timber sales that have nothing to do with fire prevention, fire salvage or fire anything. It is just for logging that includes mature and old-growth trees.

We agree that forests close to communities should be thinned.

But we don't agree with what the industry ad campaign will tell you about the Forest Initiative.

As each of these proposals has gone through the public comment period, we have notified you by email.

A BEDROCK ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

(National Forest Management Act = NFMA)

needs your comments!

NFMA gives science a say and a plan to act upon while protecting forests and rivers for wildlife, fish and people.

COMMENT DEADLINE - April 7

PLEASE sign up for our listserve - "UmpquaNews" by emailing: uw@umpqua-watersheds.org

You and I know that logging native, mature, and old-growth forests in remote places of the Umpqua are not needed to "fire-proof" the National Forests. Not only is it impossible to fireproof our entire forest, it is unconscionable of the timber industry to promote a process that excludes public participation in the timber sale decisions on your public forest. Don't be fooled by industry's slick PR campaign!

Forest Monitor, Francis Eatherington

Science *must* Guide Salvage Logging

Last summer 88,000 acres in the Umpqua National Forest were enclosed within fire lines. According to the forest service, 82% of that had such a cool burn there was no change in the canopy and only 6.5% were blackened with dead trees, primarily in tree plantations.

Our 2002 fires were nearly a natural event, with 2 exceptions:

- 1) Limpy Creek (above Apple Creek campground) had the biggest chunk of old-growth forests killed. This was due to a human-caused, possibly arson, ignition source when the conditions were perfect for a hot, fast burn.
- 2) Over a quarter of the fire area was previously clearcut and converted to tree-plantations. The Umpqua National Forest, **Wildfire Effects Evaluation Project (WEEP)** report said these "plantations experienced a disproportionately high amount of stand replacement mortality caused by crown fires as compared to older, unmanaged forests. Seventy-four percent of the plantations that were less than 20 years old were lost. Young plantations had a tendency to increase the rate of fire spread and in-

creased the overall area of stand-replacement fire effects by spreading to neighboring stands."

This March 2003, WEEP report also states, "Even considering the unnatural landscape and possible arson, the mosaic burn of the fire was well within what is considered a **natural and healthy burn, not catastrophic**. The pattern of mortality in the unmanaged forest resembles historic stand-replacement...."

The Beschta Report - Scientist Say

In 1995, a team of respected scientists from Oregon State University wrote a report called Wildfire and Salvage Logging: Recommendations for Ecologically Sound Post-Fire Salvage Logging - known as the Beschta Report after its lead author, Dr. Robert Beschta. The report says, "...most native species are adapted to natural patterns and processes of disturbance and recovery in the landscape and that **preventing additional human disturbance** generally will provide the best pathway to regional ecological recovery."

(Continued on page 3) **Greed Should *not* Lead Fire Restoration**

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Hikes and Events: Schedule for April, May & June

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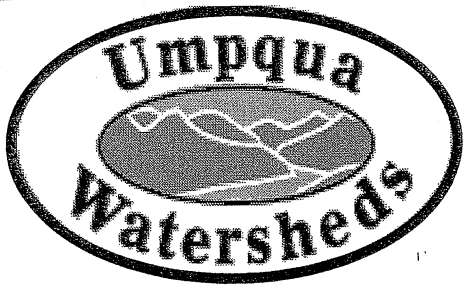
UMPQUA INTERVIEWS with Fish Bio Jeff Dose

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UW's Mission Statement:

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

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COMMON SENSE *needed now!*

Dear Supporters,

People like YOU and ME must present common sense forest management solutions to Washington DC and to our local communities. The caretakers of our Wild Forests and Mighty Rivers are NOT getting common sense directions from Washington DC today.

Mark Rey, the Bush administration's harbinger of **BAD NEWS** and **BAD POLICY** for our public lands has his marching orders. Those are to "get commodity production up. . . deliver for the timber industry." In our neighborhood, that means logging, road building, clearcutting – at the price of the public's treasures and the public's voice.

Common sense solutions must survive these attacks. Please call out to your neighbors, your leaders and President Bush to:

- *Protect our Wild Forests and Mighty Rivers
- *Maintain the Northwest Forest Plan
- *Fund Active Forest Restoration
- *Approach Fuel Reduction cautiously
- *Apply the Aquatic Conservation Strategy
- *Apply Survey and Manage for old growth dependent species

The worst policy revisions coming out of Washington attack our country's premiere, bedrock environmental laws: **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** – Gives you and me a voice in democracy and **National Forest Management Act (NFMA)** – Gives science a say and a plan to act while protecting forests and rivers for fish, wildlife and communities.

Don't let Washington succeed at striking down the core values of these important environmental laws that maintain environmental standards by considering alternatives, listening to the public, and listening to scientists who recommend protection of our remaining healthy forest ecosystems.

Penny Lind, Executive Director

PS: The administration wants to use categorical exclusions (CE), ie., act without meeting environmental standards, act without alternatives, and act without the public's voice, to dig deeper into our old forests and roadless areas. This type of response is the path to increased give away to the industry and a renewed path to controversy and conflict in our communities and our nation. It's not a common sense solution.

"Today's Tech Tools" needed

Umpqua Watersheds depends on your support in diverse ways.

Today our needs call for **Tech Tools**. If you or your place of business are upgrading your used but working equipment please call UW.

Today's needs: Copy Machine * FAX Machine

Call UW office: **672-7065**

Major Threats to Major Landmarks *by Francis Eatherington*

Washington DC has recently attacked our forests on all sides, proposing changes to very significant and long-standing environmental laws. To help you keep score, let us count the ways:

1. Survey and Manage is a part of the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) that protects rare and uncommon plant and animal creatures that depend on older forests to live. Before the agencies can log old forests, they have to survey for these species, and if found, protect them with buffers. The reason we have Survey and Manage (S&M) is because the NFP allowed continued clearcutting of old-growth forests, and species that could not move out of the way could have been locally exterminated.

Now, to settle a DTO lawsuit (yes, our very own Douglas Timber Operators), the federal agencies are proposing to completely eliminate Survey and Manage because they think it is too expensive and time consuming.

Status: You sent scoping comments November 2002. You can comment on a Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) this summer.

2. The Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) is the part of the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) that protects rivers and aquatic species by protecting watersheds. The ACS includes 9 objectives that "restore and maintain" watersheds, forbidding the agencies to further degrade watersheds. Three times courts interpreted this to include the degrading effects of clearcutting. Since the government and industry typically clearcut old-growth to convert forests to managed plantations, they want the enforcing teeth of the ACS to go away.

Status: NEW extended scoping comment deadline is **January 13, 2003**. A draft and final comment period will begin this spring. We'll let you know when.

Send comments to:
SEIA for Aquatic Conservation Strategy
PO Box 2965
Portland, Oregon 97208

3. The National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) are plans that govern each National Forest. For instance, the Umpqua National Forest developed the Umpqua LRMP in 1990 that decided areas to be logged, where Elk

would be encouraged, which sensitive species to protect, where to develop recreation, etc.

LRMPs are updated every 10 or 15 years through a public process that considers alternatives, environmental impacts, gives local people notice, and allows local input, and appeals. But the Feds propose to greatly reduce environmental analysis, wildlife protection, and public involvement. The proposal will allow the Forest Service to change their Plans without considering any alternatives or environmental consequences.

The proposal will eliminate the single most important legal requirement for protecting wildlife in the national forests - the requirement to maintain viable populations of native species. (This was the regulation that began protections for the Northern Spotted Owl). Priorities given to ecological concerns would be reduced. National forests would be more available for commodity development and off-road vehicle use. Enforceable standards, as well as most public notice and participation opportunities would be reduced or eliminated.

Status: You can comment on the proposed rule by March 6, 2003.

Send written comments to:
USDA FS Planning Rule
Content Analysis Team
PO Box 8359
Missoula, MT 59807

E-mail to: rule@fs.fed.us

4. The Healthy Forest Initiative (HFI) was proposed by the Bush administration on December 16. It actually contains 5 rule changes, each with their own comment due date. Proposed are: new rules for fuels reduction and post-fire restoration, shorten Environmental Analysis procedures, changes to citizen appeals and expediting Endangered Species Act consultations.

Let's look at one of these, the "hazardous fuels reduction" proposal. Most of these projects will be exempt from public notice, comment and appeals. They could be any size. For instance, if the Umpqua NF determined that a burned forest posed another fire hazard, a salvage sale of unlimited size could be authorized with no environmental analysis, public

input or appeals. Bush's initiative is remarkably narrow in its scope, focusing on reducing "needless red tape and lawsuits" as the key to improving forest health.

There is more focus on overriding environmental laws and eliminating public participation than on a comprehensive strategy for restoring healthy forests and protecting rural communities.

President's Message

Umpqua Watersheds' staff and volunteers are working on "inreach". This means organizing our membership from "side-line supporters" to active, paid members.

If you have been getting the newsletter, going on hikes, enjoying other events and other information from Umpqua Watersheds, please become a paying member. You will receive many benefits when you become a member of this effort. It is the growing and healthy membership of any organization that brings strength and stability to it's mission.

It is also important to have a well-balanced and diverse board of directors, who support programs and staff while leading the organization. If you and someone you know are interested in environmental issues and want to join Umpqua Watersheds, pass on THIS newsletter.

Also remember to invite them to your 7th Annual Umpqua Watersheds Banquet and Silent Auction on **February 21st** at the Douglas County Fairgrounds.

With Washington DC, the Oil and Timber industry working to weaken environmental laws, the challenge to protect public lands, ancient forests and rivers has never been more important.

It is a frustrating time for us right now, but we need to step up to the plate and meet these challenges before us. A good way to remember why we work on these issues is to take a hike into the ancient forest. Not only do our children's children deserve to live in a world with fresh water, intact forest and wildlife, but also we deserve to live in that world today!

In Friendship,

Bob Hoehne

Umpqua Fires 2002 Revisited

After the wildfires of July and August 2002 Umpqua Watersheds and the Forest Service held public forums and led tours to the sites.

UW's Firewalk - OCT 26 by Jim Long.

Ken Carloni, UCC's biology instructor, walked and talked 35 of us through parts of the 2002 Apple Creek fire and the 1996 Boulder Creek fire. Thanks to the USFS who unlocked the gate to the 1987 and 2002 Apple Creek fire areas east of Roseburg. Patrick Starnes, Umpqua Watersheds outreach coordinator, supplied maps produced from aerial photos taken in September. The maps represented intensities of burns in both old growth forest and plantation forests inside the perimeter of the fire between Hwy 138 and Twin Lakes.

For cavity-nesting birds, Ken noted the value of snag patches, historically comprising up to 6 % of a forest but now relatively rare. Ken said he doubted snags standing since the '87 fire contributed to the spread and intensity of the '02 fire. First, fine fuels to carry hot, fast fires had rotted away in the last 15 years; and, second, the '02 fire burned intensely *before* it reached these snags.

We were curious about the risks of erosion from winter rains and spring runoff. Jeff Dambacher, fish biologist, explained we'll likely see more erosion in the Apple Watershed, but that some erosion is desirable because it contributes cobble to streams for spawning. A rush to sow seeds of exotic annual grasses may not be the thing to do, Jeff cautioned, that non-native grasses may delay recovery of native bunch grasses.

Connie Mehrel, an entomologist on loan from the Colville National Forest, referred to damaging insects. For example, she explained that "brood" trees under stress might lose chemical defenses and attract bark beetles. Robust live trees may withstand bark beetles particularly within those few crucial years after a fire. She noted the availability of pheromones that can be applied artificially to signal insects to move on.

Also on the tour was Rick Acosta, on loan from the Wenatchee National Forest. Rick explained that over the next few months he will facilitate community input for the Umpqua National Forest.

Later that afternoon, some of us hiked into Pine Bench through the 1996 Boulder Creek fire. We noted the quick regrowth of *Ceanothus*—nitrogen-fixing "deer brush" attractive to browsers. In time, the additional nitrogen and organic matter from falling snags will create a suitable seedbed for naturally regenerated conifers. Ken also pointed out several features valued by Native Americans, for example a huge "medicine tree"—an ancient ponderosa pine whose pitch provides phenolic compounds with antiseptic properties.

Old Growth Salvage Timber Sales Planned

Baked Apple (North Umpqua)
Planning Area **2,200 acres**

BASH (from Tiller Fire)
Planning Area **4,301 acres**

ACKER (from Tiller Fire)
Planning Area **5,805 acres**

All sales will be primarily old growth.
Areas may end up smaller.

We returned to our cars at dusk feeling we'd gained a new perspective on forest fires and on the wisdom of Native Americans who for centuries sustained healthy landscapes with intentionally managed fires.

Our thanks to Ken Carloni, Patrick Starnes and other resource persons for insights about fire as a tool for forest management.

USFS Tours by Francis Eatherington

The Umpqua National Forest is taking what they call a "fish-bowl" approach to their planning for the aftermath of summer fires by providing meetings and field trips. **Three timber sales are planned.**

The human caused Apple Fire will give us the "**Baked Apple**" timber sale in the North Umpqua. The lightning caused Tiller fire is developing into the "**Bash**" timber sale and the "**Acker**" timber sale in the South Umpqua. Priorities are being developed for replanting

the plantations (past clearcuts) that were completely consumed.

Burned plantations in the Matrix will be planted with future timber harvests in mind while burned plantations in the LSR will be planted with future old-growth dependent wildlife in mind.

Unfortunately, the Umpqua National Forest has kept all the facts, figures and plans off their web page. This must change so even people who couldn't make a meeting can see into the "fish bowl."

Glide Forum-DEC 5 by Chuck Schnautz

About 12 Forest Service employees staffed the forum with 24 members of the public. Roseburg Forest Products and other timber interests were well represented.

The forum opened with remarks from the North Umpqua District Ranger, Carol Cushing. Then Public Affairs Officer, Rick Acosta from Wenatchee Washington led much of the discussion. Acosta talked about Umpqua Forest Supervisor Jim Caplan's desire to be all inclusive in getting the community to support the work that needed to be done. Caplan wants to keep the planning "transparent." Acosta was well spoken and very knowledgeable.

The lead presenter was Joe Linn who is the chief fire spokesperson for the Umpqua National Forest. He covered damage, intensity, severity, and future studies.

Several other USFS presenters covered damage and need for repairs, salvage, and restoration. They touched briefly on 2,200 acres of salvage they were "looking at" in the Apple Fire area.

Of the Umpqua's 88,000 acres, in last years total fire area, the salvage proposals are in the 9,000 acres of Matrix. The Forest Service is NOT planning any salvage in the 59,000 acres of LSR at this time. All projects over 250 acres or 250,000 board feet will require an EIS. No salvage is planned in riparian buffers.

Carol Cushing noted that she was hoping for passage of a "streamlined" environmental process that has been sitting in Congress since September.

Almost 4 miles of North Umpqua Trail was damaged or destroyed above Panther Creek. Unfortunately, there are no funds or plans to repair the trail at this time.

The Forest Service does not have a
See Tiller Fire Forum (continued on page 9)

GREED Should *not* Lead Fire Restoration

Continued from front page

The report does agree that our forests are in decline, but states that *"The entire range of land management practices are implicated in this region wide decline. Streamside development, logging, grazing, mining, fire suppression, removal of beaver and large predators, water withdrawals, introduction of exotic species, and chronic effects of roadbuilding have cumulatively altered landscapes to the point where local extirpation of sensitive species is widespread..."* Science shows how, *"Western ecosystems evolved with and in response to fires. Land management based on controlling fire will not set the region on a course toward recovery, especially when conceived in a crises mode."*

BAKED APPLE SALE

Human caused fire on North Umpqua

Clearcut **1,226 acres**
with only
6 to 12 dead trees per acre.

Your opinion is needed
before April 18
(or ASAP).

Send comments to:

Carol Cushing, District Ranger,
North Umpqua Ranger District,
18782 North Umpqua Highway,
Glide, Oregon, 97443. Or email:
ccushing@fs.fed.us

ASH CREEK SALE

Tiller 2002 Fire on South Umpqua

Clearcut **350 acres**
with only
2 to 6 dead trees per acre.

Your opinion is needed
before April 25
(or ASAP)

Send comments to:

James A. Caplan,
Forest Supervisor, UNF,
PO Box 1008,
Roseburg, Oregon 97470.
Or email: jcaplan@fs.fed.us

tiny number of trees left behind must provide shade for seedlings planted in black ground, for the wildlife dependent on snags, and to help heal and replenish nutrients in the soil.

Additionally, the Umpqua National Forest announced they are considering another EIS to salvage log in the Late Successional Reserves (reserves set aside for wildlife).

Should We Salvage Log?

Dr. Beschta and the team of OSU scientists also made recommendations on salvage logging after a fire. They warn: *"Human intervention on the post-fire landscape may substantially or completely delay recovery, remove the elements of recovery, or accentuate the damage."*

"... there is little reason to believe that post-fire salvage logging has any positive ecological benefits... There is considerable evidence that persistent, significant adverse environmental impact are likely to result from salvage logging... soil compaction and erosion, loss of habitat for cavity nesting species, loss of structurally and functionally important large woody debris."

"We are aware of no evidence supporting the contention that leaving large dead woody material significantly increases the probability of reburn."

The report concludes, *"Although post-fire landscapes are often portrayed as 'disasters' in human terms, from an ecological perspective, fire is part of the normal disturbance regime and renewal of natural forest ecosystems."*

What is Proposed in the Umpqua National Forest?

The Umpqua National Forest has announced they are doing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that proposes to salvage log dead trees in the matrix of the North Umpqua and Tiller fires. Respectively called the **Baked Apple EIS** and **Ash Creek EIS**, they are asking for your opinion before the end of April.

So far, there is no official proposal to salvage log in any of the wildlife reserves (Riparian Reserves and Late Successional Reserves), or log in inventoried roadless areas. However, the pro-

Please write to the Forest Service immediately.

They are asking YOU for your opinion as soon as possible.

Ask the Forest Service to **leave more dead trees** for wildlife, shade, soil replenishment and erosion control. The fragile nature of burned soils and recovery of the ecosystem should be a primary concern for the Forest. To do this, the Forest Service should follow the best available science, such as the Beschta Report, which recommends:

- * **leave at least 50%** of the dead trees under 20" across and all dead trees over 20" across
- * leave all trees that were older than 150 years
- * do not log at all on erosive, fragile, or steep slopes
- * do not build any new roads or landings

Ask the Forest Service to **leave old growth reserves** alone (Late Successional Reserves) in any future proposals. The Forest Service had originally decided to do just that, but changed their minds after heavy lobbying from the Douglas Timber Operators (DTO) and county commissioners. The Forest Service must hear alternatives from the conservation community also.

The trees in LSRs were not slated for the chainsaw before they burnt, and are even more valuable to wildlife now, especially cavity nesters and woodpeckers. The Northwest Forest Plan, not the local DTO, governs our forests. The Plan says the Reserves represent forests *"in their natural conditions with natural processes, such as fire, allowed to function to the extent possible."* It requires that any *"salvage operations not diminish [wildlife] habitat suitability now or in the future."*

Finally, ask the Forest Service to **STOP all future regeneration harvests** (aka clearcutting) in future timber sales because they add to extreme future fire hazards.

By UW Staff

BANQUET KUDOS

Major thanks to all who attended our 7th annual banquet. Umpqua Watersheds board and staff were privileged to share the most "up to the minute" wild forest and mighty river protection information with all of you.

The volunteers who produced this grand event deserve all our thanks. They included: artists, donors, ticket vendors, security folks, fund raisers, musicians, speakers, business supporters, caterers and more. Special recognition to the staff at the fairgrounds who made it all seem easy.

Thank you to all those who donated to our Annual Silent Auction and to all who won the item of their dreams. You have all made it possible for us to begin planning for our 8th Annual Banquet.

The 2002 "Counting on You" volunteer recognition awards were presented to Randy Gates and Patricia Heilman for their hours of dedicated work for the Umpqua. Mike and Lane Sharkey were the deserving recipients of our "Environmental Advocacy Award" for their work to keep our air and water clean from harmful pesticides. *Penny Lind, Executive Director*

Recycle a Banquet

Inside story about how the banquet meal was totally utilized

The salmon filets served at this year's annual banquet came from line-caught Chinook in the Pacific Ocean. Much care went into securing a meal palatable enough for our membership and yet also politically correct. The Committee chose to serve salmon as a symbol of the rivers and forest of the Pacific Northwest. We found we were caught in a paradoxical situation: we labor so hard to save our fish from extinction but then we want to eat them, too!

Farmed fish were early nixed in our exhaustive discussions. Due to regulation, we were unable to catch our own to serve or to accept fish as donations from volunteer fisherpersons. We were at our wits end when a kind and patient supporter, Jack DeAngelis, was able to purchase politically correct Chinook caught in the ocean; delicious to the taste buds and legally safe besides.

And a further interesting anecdote about the banquet meal goes like this: The day before the banquet, the large frozen Chinook were filleted in a licensed kitchen by professional food handlers and their helpers. This took hours of very skillful and hard labor. The ten fish were frozen solid and weighed approx. 20#.

After the meal was prepared and served, as part of the original plan, Gwen Bates and Kathy Shayler gave the remaining salmon to the Light House Mission where the food would go to good use. But yet another pact was also reached. After the Mission served the food, the remains would be gathered up and saved. At the appointed time, Gwen and Toby Bates picked up the salvaged salmon, carried it and deposited the remains back into the original source, and with a reverential notion they recalled the first honourous people who lived long ago on our beautiful river we now know and love as The Umpqua.

Many, many thanks go to the entire cooking and kitchen staff, prep cooks, fileters, servers, The Light House Mission, and the fish recyclers. Now that's what I call recycling!

Written by Robin Wisdom, a volunteer on the banquet committee

Kerr Says Voters Matter

Conservation Pioneer is Tauntingly Optimistic

Andy Kerr, February 21, reviewed three decades of conservation activism and concluded: "*These are dark times—but not so bad.*" And the reason, he said, is because our congressional delegates respond to the growing grass roots conservation movement.

President Bush wants to roll back environmental protections to "get out the cut" from old growth forests. But U.S. Representatives and Senators from the Pacific Northwest listen carefully to conservationists in groups like Umpqua Watersheds.

Looking out over the crowd of 260 during the Umpqua Watersheds' annual meeting at the county fairgrounds, Kerr illustrated his point by noting that all conservationists in Douglas County in the 1960s could have been seated at the head table and counted on one hand. Gradually, public awareness and commitment to conservation grew.

For example, he observed the power of the "Limpy Ladies"—a foursome of veteran Douglas County naturalists who through careful, on-the-land documentation, won Natural Research Area designation for the Limpy Rock area in the Umpqua National Forest on the North Umpqua River.

He further demonstrated the power of citizen activism when recounting the story of how three areas in the Umpqua National Forest became Boulder Creek, Mt. Thielsen and Rogue-Umpqua Divide Wilderness Areas. One particularly telling indicator of change in public opinion was the "barrel survey": Wilderness support ballots were placed in a barrel at an industry-rigged wilderness "hearing" 1982. One third of the ballots supported "wilderness" in the Umpqua.

Andy Kerr, with The Larch Company in Ashland, said we *can* support efforts to keep roadless areas roadless—mini-wilderness areas, perhaps, as small as one thousand acres. We *can* pressure Congressional delegates to stop cutting old growth.

We can do this, he said, by using tools to "dump sand in the gears" on defense and "pump grease in the gears" on offense. For example, we can insist that public agencies Survey and Manage and we can monitor public agencies' compliance with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy outlined in the Northwest Forest Plan of the '90's.

Voters matter. Voting constituencies influence legislators more directly than the Presidency. Our challenge is to build the influence of grassroots groups like Umpqua Watersheds on elected representatives. We possess the political and legal tools to do it. Will we commit the resources to do it?

Andy Kerr can be reached:

1213 Iowa St.,
Ashland OR 97520

andykerr@andykerr.net

Telephone: 541-201-0053

Retired Agriculture Professor, Jim Long, is a regular writer for "100 Valleys."

IN MEMORY

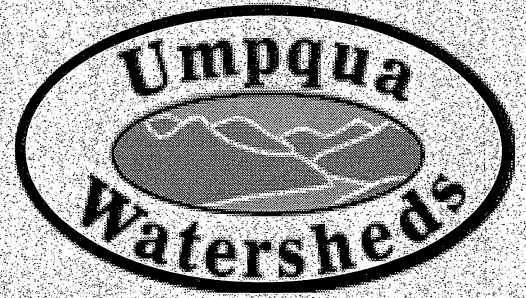
Good bye . . . "SPARROW"

Forest & River Supporter and Activist

Rest peacefully in the misty Cascade Mountains.



Spring 2003 Hikes & Events!



April 12 - Apple Fire Area on the North Umpqua

Saturday, join concerned friends and neighbors who want to learn more about the complexity of forest fires and their importance for wildlife. USFS Wildlife Biologist, Ray Davis will show hikers his method of snag inventory and will be able to answer questions for the public prior to the April 18 scoping **comment deadline**. Hikers can meet in Roseburg behind the Douglas County Courthouse at **9am** and/or at the Ranger Station in Glide at 9:30am. Bring small backpack with lunch, water, sunscreen and raingear.

April 19 - Tiller Fire Area on the South Umpqua

Saturday, join concerned friends and neighbors who want to learn more about the complexity of forest fires and their importance for wildlife. USFS staff from the Tiller Ranger Station will be available to answer questions for the public prior to the April 25 scoping **comment deadline**. Hikers can meet in Roseburg behind the Douglas County Courthouse at **9am**, Promise Foods in Canyonville at 10am and/or at the Ranger Station in Tiller at 10:30am. Bring small backpack with lunch, water, sunscreen and raingear.

May 3 - Hoover Hill Old Growth with Private Forest Tour

Visit private forest land managed with a light hand and then hike into an isolated parcel of BLM Old Growth and the first peak of the Siskiyou Mountains, Hoover Butte. This is a short hike with several parts that will be difficult. The wild flowers should be in full bloom. Depart the courthouse at **8:30am** or assemble at the Brockway store at 9am. Bring small backpack with lunch, water, sunscreen and raingear.

May 10 - Mother's Day Eve to Donegan Prairie Roadless Area

Saturday, the day before Mother's Day, take your Mother on a mellow stroll thru the beautiful natural meadows of the Donegan Roadless Area. This 6,350 acre Roadless Area is a prime example of potential Wilderness areas many hope to gain this year through legislation. We will also visit the world's tallest pine tree and the only natural rock arch on the Umpqua, Cow Horn Arch. Meet behind the Courthouse at **9am** or at Canyonville's Promise Bakery at 10am.

May 11 - Mother's Day Concert with Annie Rapids

Sunday at **6pm**, Mother's Day, enjoy an intimate Benefit Concert with Seattle singer/guitarist/song writer Annie Rapids at the Umpqua Valley Arts Center on Harvard off I-5 exit #124. Check out her music at: www.annierapid.com

June 7 - Spotted Owl Hike with wildlife biologist

Learn how Spotted Owl populations have been doing over the past decade with a guided tour led by a wildlife biologist who monitors local owls. Hikers can meet in Roseburg behind the Douglas County Courthouse at **9am**. Bring small backpack with lunch, water, sunscreen and binoculars. Off trail hiking required.

June 28 - Bulldog Rock Roadless Area above Steamboat

Meet UW's NEW President, Gerald Wisdom when he guides hikers to the Roadless Area he and his family have adopted. Bulldog Rock over looks the watershed which provides the coldest water to Steamboat drainage. Hikers can meet in Roseburg behind the Douglas County Courthouse at **9am** and/or at the Ranger Station in Glide at 9:30. Bring small backpack with lunch, water, sunscreen and raingear.

Business Members and Advertisers Policy

Umpqua Watersheds Business Supporter Policy - REMEMBER: Only \$25.00 of any Business Membership is tax deductible.

\$50 gets you Membership & **1 ad**

*

\$100 gets you Membership & **4 ads** @ year

\$25 quarterly payments are **OK** *

All ads and articles are due by: Dec 1, March 1, June 1 and Sept 1

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ALL Members receive our quarterly newsletter.



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Roseburg, OR 97470
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- natural whole foods
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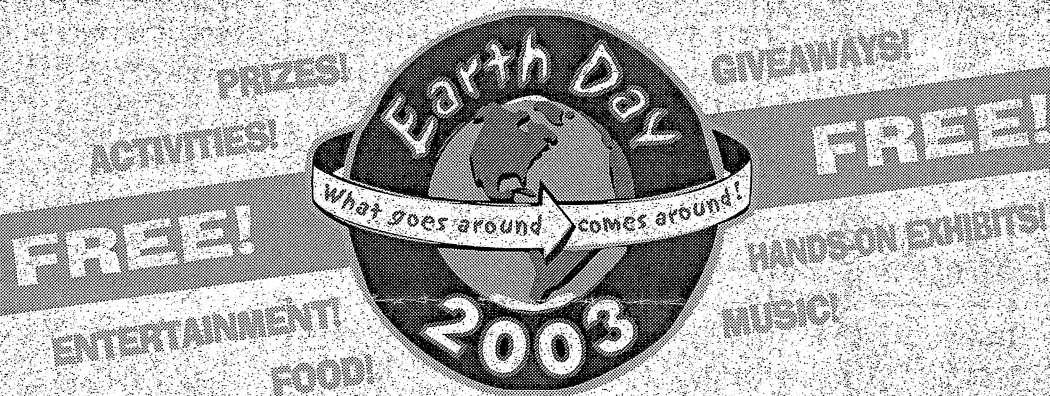
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EARTH DAY FAMILY FAIR and ALTERNATIVE ENERGY FAIR



APRIL 26 ■ 10am-4pm
Douglas County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall

FEATURING: native plants & wildlife • crafts • outdoor recreation • papermaking • skits • used clothing fashion show • storytelling & costumes • stream enhancement • activities for kids • reusable/recyclable/recycled products • facepainting • composting • organic gardening!

PRESENTATIONS THROUGHOUT THE DAY ON: off-the-grid homeowning • renewable energy • fuel cells • solar power • energy conservation • electric & hybrid cars • solar-powered bicycles • hydro generators • wind power • your power company energy options • & a whole lot more!

• KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Richard Perez, editor of Home Power magazine •

WIN!

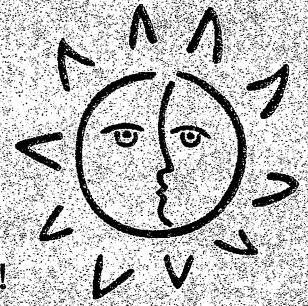
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The Alternative Energy Fair Schedule of Events



Join an impressive slate of alternative energy experts who will share their knowledge with you in informative presentations!

Lectures will be held at the Douglas County Museum throughout the day. Umpqua Regional Transit buses will be on-hand to transport fair goers to and from the Museum and the Fairgrounds.

Time	Speaker	Topic
10:30	Al Walker	an off-grid home owner and UCC instructor speaks on "Home Owner Concerns"
11:15	Christopher Dymond, Oregon State Energy Advisor	"Our Next Power Plants Could Be Our Roofs"
12:00	Richard Perez, editor, Home Power Magazine	Keynote Speaker "Renewable Energy & Freedom"
1:00	Todd Munsey, Douglas Electric	"Conservation of Energy"
1:45	Steve King, PNGC Power Company	"Fuel Cells"
2:30	Joe Litzinger, Pacific Power	"Your Energy Options in Plain English"
3:15	Mike Parker, IE Engineering for ATT RND Electric Car Company	"Electric Cars"

Visit the "Energy Corner" of displays in the Exhibit Hall along with the rest of the Earth Day Fair booths and activities. Don't miss the fun and wonderful learning opportunity. And it's FREE!!

Sponsored by Umpqua Community College and Douglas County Public Works

Justice in the Umpqua



BOOK REVIEW

Here's what he says: Earthjustice "*lawsuits clarified the law and produced court orders that have enabled the (agency) scientists to do the work they were hired and trained to do*"—to preserve forest habitat for wildlife and fish: the northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, Umpqua cutthroat trout and the Coho salmon.

He introduces fish biologists in the Umpqua, Don Rivard of Roseburg Bureau of Land Management, and Jeff Dose of Forest Service. Both served on a Level 1 team of scientists; they believed selected public timber sale proposals were not consistent with the Pacific Northwest Forest Plan's Aquatic Conservation Strategy. Turner describes how the Level I team forwarded its recommendation to a Level 2 team—"made up of administrative personnel"—who found no inconsistency. Turner also describes how Dose and Rivard responded to that finding and how their agencies responded to *their* response!

Turner reports on Eatherington's monitor and photo records that provided convincing "evidence" of inconsistencies to obtain emergency relief from the courts.

Justice on Earth acknowledges the persistence of 20-year veteran, Cindy Barkhust, Umpqua National Forest wildlife biologist, throughout this odyssey to save a treasured "island" of our last big trees.

Among the other stories around the country:

- * Mining problems just north of Yellowstone
- * Proposed uranium enrichment plant in Louisiana
- * Water returned to taro farmers on the windward side of Oahu
- * Made gold mining stream in northern California safe for salmon again
- * Restored public access to Lake Okeechobee in Florida
- * "A Tale of Two Rivers" in our nation's capitol
- * Forest management reform in the Tongass around Juneau

I loved all these stories. Turner placed the issues within context—historically, biologically, constitutionally. His stories helped me connect scattered news items, hiking places and people I've met. He illustrates key ideas with maps, sketches and photographs. The book has a thorough index in the back.

I'd like to add another contribution: Earthjustice—and Umpqua Watersheds—not only supported public service scientists to do what they're hired to do but also encouraged residents of small communities, neighbors, churches, clubs—ordinary citizens—to take action on scientific, organizational and legal fronts to conserve the integrity of our natural environment.

Retired Agriculture Professor, Jim Long is a regular writer and book reviewer for "100 Valleys"

Where you can find this book:

EARTHJUSTICE
416 17th St., 6th floor
Oakland, CA 94161
800-584-6460
www.earthjustice.org

Umpqua Watersheds has a few copies for sale for \$40.00 or you can come by the office and read about the Umpqua at 630 SE Jackson, Roseburg, OR

YOU and Global Warming

I'VE GOT HEAT WAVES BY THE NUMBER

"Welcome to emissions control where we meet all your service needs. Would you like to lease that car to go to the Eugene airport? Let's figure the charge—From Roseburg, that's 160 miles round trip times 30 miles per gallon—that's not exactly our hybrid model—the cost comes out of 100 pounds of carbon dioxide."

"Say, while you're here, why don't we take care of your monthly bills? A \$60 electric bill—no green power purchase, I see—at 1.4 pounds per kilowatt hour comes out to 918 pounds of carbon dioxide. Your natural gas bill of \$75 works out to a cost of 1,048 pounds of carbon dioxide. And let's not forget your 3 cans of unrecycled garbage—a mere 333 pounds of CO₂.

So totaling up the charges, today's cost to the planet comes out to 2,399 pounds of carbon dioxide. Thank you sir, and have a nice vaca—Oh, there is one last charge. Your round trip plane ticket to New York. Charges total 6,000 pounds of carbon dioxide, but, hey, it beats walking.

One last thing, sir. Emissions control is sponsoring a petition urging President Bush to sign the Kyoto Treaty. After all, without that treaty, there's not much we can do about global warming. Is there? Thank you sir.

Stuart Liebowitz

Volunteers Needed Assist with Forest Protection

If you love to tour and hike the Umpqua and have free time during the week, please consider becoming an Umpqua Watersheds **Field Assistant**.

Lend an extra hand while learning more about our Wild Forest and Mighty River Protection Program in the field.

For more information call: **673-7649**

ANWR Victory

Thank Senator Barbara Boxer (D) CA 202-224-3121 for saving the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge one more time.

Thank Oregon's Senators:

Ron Wyden **503-326-7525** and Gordon Smith **503-326-3386** for voting for Senator Boxer's amendment.

Mother's Day Benefit Concert

May 11 @ 6pm

Annie Rapids

at the Arts Center on Harvard - exit #124

Call Umpqua Watersheds for more ticket info: 672-7065
Or email: uw@umpqua-watersheds.org

Got Grasshoppers?

Birds & Salmon love them

Visitors to the Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) are accustomed to viewing tens of thousands of geese and waterfowl during the peak of their spring and fall migrations. This summer, a lesser known but equally amazing wildlife spectacle awaits visitors to the Klamath Marsh NWR. This year's refuge focus "spotlight species" will be the Klamath Marsh's clear-winged grasshopper (*Camnula pellucida*). The Klamath Marsh, the most northern unit of the Klamath Basin's six refuges, could truly be a viewing "hot spot" for this native wildlife invertebrate.

Not seen on the Klamath Marsh in close to "Biblical" proportions since the early 1990's, insect and other wildlife enthusiasts may thrill again to the sight of clouds of grasshoppers flying just ahead of you as you stroll through refuge grassland meadows. In 2003, it is forecast by the refuge and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) that thousands of grasshoppers may be viewable after middle to late summer. This largely "once-in-a-decade" opportunity is only possible, however, if refuge managers do not seek to destroy this species, which hasn't reached impressive numbers since 1993. Unfortunately, in 1994, under pressure from livestock interests, refuge managers sprayed grasshoppers with malathion, after first feeding young grasshoppers poison carbaryl baits. Area ranchers are permitted to graze non-native cattle on this and other National Wildlife Refuges.

Please call or write the refuge, to ask that this wildlife spectacle not be diminished, and ask the refuge to identify the best "wildlife viewing spots" where the largest masses of grasshoppers may be seen.

Klamath Marsh NWR,
HC 63 Box 303,
Chiloquin, OR 97624
541-783-3380;

and/or
Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges
Route 1, Box 74
Tulelake, California 96134

Phone: 530-667-2231
Fax: 530-667-3299

Disturbance Ecology

Workshop at UCC

He asked us for recommendations. In two and a half days, we gave him 20 pages worth!

Jim Caplan, Umpqua National Forest Supervisor, asked us March 11 to recommend forest management practices that better reflect our growing understanding of the dynamics of "disturbance ecology." Disturbance ecology, we discovered in morning lectures, included forces that change the forest: fire, floods, disease, insects, landslides and human-caused changes—roads, logging and alterations in streams.

The "us," above, included over a hundred USFS and BLM representatives, a half dozen industry folks, a few environmentalists and several Douglas Small Woodlands Association members. Participants were given a notebook with summaries of all presentations and additional research papers.

In the afternoons, we broke into small working groups to develop possible recommendations. We "voted" on the most important recommendations and categorized the top five. The categories that emerged were: Fire, Salvage, Aquatics & Fish, Old Growth-Related, Forest Health, Public Interactions, Local Economy and Employment, Agency Actions, Planning-Related, Research and Development and Northwest Forest Plan-Related.

These categories could be used also to integrate quite a number of lower ranking recommendations to reflect the groups' discussions. Some recommendations were not compatible with others. A proposed "next step" is to convene a community forum to re-examine how proposals fit each other and how they match agency capacities, the Northwest Forest Plan and additional research.

Among the morning speakers were: Steve Mealey, Boise-Cascade Corp.; Jack Ward Thomas, former USFS director and now professor at University of Montana; Gordie Reeves, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Corvallis; Gregg Walker, Collaborative Learning designer from OSU; Ken Carloni, UCC biologist; Tom Atzet USFS Ecologist for Rogue-Umpqua; and Ellen Goheen, plant pathologist, Southwest Oregon Forest Insect and Disease Service Center, Central Point. Our concluding speaker was former Congressman, Les AuCoin, now with Southern Oregon University.

The agenda for the Southwestern Oregon Disturbance Ecology Workshop at UCC, March 11-13, 2003, quoted Lucretius from the first century B.C.: "*Time does change the nature of the whole wide world; one state develops from another; not one thing is like itself forever; all things move; all things are nature's wanderers.*"

We wandered fruitfully through the workshop, learning again—for the first time—to apply to our public forest the wisdom of the Roman poet's *The Nature of Things*.

Retired Agriculture Professor, Jim Long is a regular writer and book reviewer for "100 Valleys" who also writes for the Douglas County Small Woodland Owners Association.

"I see in Nature a magnificent structure... that must fill a thinking person with a feeling of humility..."

Albert Einstein

Important Wild Jewels



A Visit Worth Re-visiting

Five years ago Bob Hoehne, long time UW Member, and Jeff Dose, Umpqua National Forest fisheries biologist, recorded an interview about the importance of roadless areas in the Umpqua. I believe the visit is worth reconsidering.

Bob: What kind of habitat do anadromous fish need?

Jeff: Anadromous fish, such as salmon, spawn in fresh water and, as juveniles, migrate to the ocean; there they mature and then return to the stream they were born in to spawn. Our native salmon and trout need year round streams that are cold, clean, supplied with ample food and free of fine sediments that suffocate fish eggs and reduce food supplies.

Bob: Why are roadless areas important?

Jeff: Often, roadless areas contain the best remaining habitat for native fish and are the source of clean, cold water anadromous fish require. Research shows that extensive logging and road building reduce fish habitat quality. The acreage of roadless areas may not reflect their ecological significance: the volume of water the area contributes to downstream spawning and rearing is the important factor.

For example, the 6,000 acre Bulldog Rock area contributes a large portion of the summer water flow of Big Bend Creek. This stream represents about 15% of Steamboat Creek watershed but provides as much as 50% of the summer flows into Steamboat Creek, a critical habitat for several native fish. The flow from Big Bend Creek is essential for over-summering adult steelhead and cutthroat trout. Big Bend Creek is an area of "exceptional value" in the Umpqua National Forest.

Additional critical areas include Donegan Prairie, Calf-Copeland, Last Creek, Upper Canton, Williams Creek, Quartz Creek and Castle Rock.

Roadless areas with old growth forests hold water longer for release of cooler water during the summers; they hold the soil and, thereby, reduce sediments; they supply organic matter that feed macroinvertebrates—like insects—that, in turn, feed fish.

Bob: What can we do to save roadless areas?

Jeff: I think of several things: Hike these areas; get to know them. Support credible monitoring and research for science-based decisions. Save existing roadless areas and strive to strategically extend roadless areas—as in the Donegan Prairie area—to enlarge watersheds that so markedly influence downstream habitat for fish.

Be aware of other influences on fish habitat: agriculture, industrial development, and urbanization that take water from streams, remove streamside vegetation, and compact soils that do not absorb water. Think about other natural trends, such as ocean temperatures and food supplies. Reckon with our growing dependence on hatcheries to sustain fish runs.

Devise preservation and restoration strategies more in harmony with natural cycles, such as fire and plant succession. For, in the long run, these practices are more likely to succeed. Go beyond short term "techno-fixes."

Learn from other professionals employed by the Forest: those who monitor grazing; persons who study wetlands and their contribution to water cycles; people who plan recreation; others who help manage wildlife and fisheries.

Recall the full range of values the public attributes to old growth forests in roadless areas—their biological and hydrological significance, yes, but also their aesthetic and spiritual values crucial to many members of the public.

Call on people who can further inform the larger public to those values, people like Jim Hunt, in the Tiller Ranger District, who prepared a slide show about the Rogue-Umpqua Divide Wilderness Area.

In sum, recognize the importance of these "nodes" of exceptional value in complex eco-systems; for their significance far exceeds their size. They are gems important in themselves and important to all life downstream

Retired Agriculture Professor, Jim Long is a regular writer and book reviewer for "100 Valleys."



President's Message

Iwould like to tip my hat to all the volunteers and staff for their incredible team work in putting on such a successful 7th Annual Banquet and Silent Auction. Also, I want to extend a big thanks to all the individuals and businesses in the community have provided such an incredible outpouring of support and energy. The banquet is Umpqua Watersheds' big event of the year. The fellowship and networking is very important and helps us stay connected with each other.

This year there are two board members, besides myself, that are stepping down from the Umpqua Watersheds board of directors. If you see Geoff Niles or Madrone around town please thank them for volunteering and for their dedication to the Umpqua.

Currently, the Outreach Committee is working on the Tingstad and Rumbel Concert and Umpqua River Appreciation Day. Please call **672-7065** if you have ideas or want to volunteer.

There has been a lot of disinformation going around about the fires in the forest. We have been consulting with different groups, going to fire meetings and calling bull! when we need to. It is a complicated issue and the public needs the facts.

If anyone has any questions, comments or ideas remember that we are a very open organization and feel free to stop by UW's office or call **672-7065**.

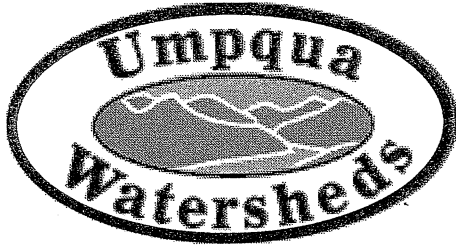
After I step down from UW's Board, I am going to be focusing on a slide show of the Roadless Areas in the Umpqua National Forest. This will be part of the Oregon Wild Forest Campaign to permanently protect 4.8 million acres of forest Roadless areas left in the state of Oregon. It has meant a lot to me to be a volunteer with UW for the last 10 years.

Second only to family, there is nothing more honorable that I could have been involved with than taking part in protecting this special place on the planet, my home, the Umpqua. See ya on the trail.

In Friendship,

Robert Hoehne

Bob is retiring UW President and Board Member.



PO Box 101 Roseburg, OR 97470

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HIKE the Umpqua Fires

Baked Apple
on the South Umpqua
Timber Sale
APRIL 12

Wildlife Biologists will discuss,
*Leave how much deadwood
for wildlife and where?*

Ash Creek
on the North Umpqua
Timber Sale
APRIL 19

see blue insert for details
or Call: 672-7065

Pacific Lamprey

Petitioned for Listing

Conservationists in Portland, Roseburg and Ashland held press conferences on January 28 to announce steps to protect various species of fish called "lampreys," ancient jawless fish that resemble but are not related to eels.

Lamprey are vulnerable to habitat losses caused by reduced river flows, water diversions, dredging, streambed scouring, channelization, loss of streamside vegetation, chemical pollution, and impeded passage due to dams and poorly designed culverts.

Conservationists have petitioned the US Fish & Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act to list Pacific, Kern Brook, River and Western Brook Lamprey.

The government must respond within 90 days with a plan to study this problem or dismiss the petition. If it is dismissed, the petitioners must then consider a lawsuit.

Two of the ten organizations are from the Umpqua: Umpqua Watersheds and Umpqua Valley Audubon Society.

Bob Allen is a former President of UW.

Mother's Day Benefit Concert

**Sunday
May 11
at 6pm**

Annie Rapids

at the
Umpqua Valley Arts Center
on Harvard exit #124 off I-5

Call for more ticket info:

672-7065

Or email:

uw@umpqua-watersheds.org