

100 Valleys

Summer 2003

A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds

Issue No. 23

Greenpeace Comes Home to the Umpqua

Umpqua one of nation's 10 most endangered forests

The Umpqua's wild forests provide communities with clean air and water, wilderness treasures, habitat for plants and animals, renewal of our souls, economic and recreational benefits. The Umpqua National Forest was selected by Greenpeace and National Forest Protection Alliance as threatened because those values are at risk in the Umpqua.

Greenpeace's publication, "*Endangered Forests, Endangered Freedoms*" includes the Umpqua National Forest's 984,000 acres some of the finest remaining old growth forests in Oregon that continue to be threatened by deforestation.

Commercial logging in roadless areas and old growth forests remain the primary threat to the Umpqua. Green timber sales such as the **Warm Springs, Upper North, Lemolo, and Fish Creek** projects in the Diamond Lake Ranger District, total over 5,000 acres of logging with over half in clearcuts.

Salvage logging is another threat due to the 2002 fires and the associated hysteria that has given the timber industry and the Bush administration a smokescreen while they rapidly strip resources from our watershed and key habitat areas.

Well over a 100 million board feet of old growth forest were logged after the last 1995 Salvage Rider. Last year's fires have already produced almost one million board feet which will be (or is already) removed from the fire zone in the Umpqua.

The post-fire logging that the Forest is planning today will add greater damage to sensitive soils and already recovering habitat. The majority of the alternatives for these forests include more clearcutting and road building in our upland forests.

Today, many of the Forest Service's timber sales are disguised as forest health initiatives, post-fire logging, and even restoration projects.

The broadest threat to our unique forests, as well as forests across the nation, is the Bush administration's attempt to undermine our landmark environmental laws and influence the nation that logging is a cure for what ails the forest. The Whitehouse wants to throw our legacy (public forests) on the table as political pay-back to industry by exaggerating fire effects, economic pressures and even recent tragedies and conflicts in the world.

These attacks on our environmental laws and policies can't be ignored as they would also take away the public's right to participate in our democracy while diminishing our forest's ability to maintain the vast array of plant and animal life that depend on them for survival.

What our forests need today is not more over-management but recovery . . . recovery from decades of clearcut logging and road building. Recovery will take time after these years of loss and lack of care for these large scale treasures.

The Bush administration attacks on the Roadless Conservation Protection Plan is another threat to the Umpqua. After millions of public comments to uphold the Plan the Whitehouse chose to put this plan in jeopardy again by turning it over to States. That is a real loss to the lifeline for our forests.

Greenpeace has come to the Umpqua and other American forests after many years on the international frontier. The threats to our own forests brought Greenpeace home. Umpqua Watersheds is pleased to have the focus on the Umpqua National Forest where rugged peaks, deep canyons, razorback ridges and lush temperate rainforests need protection.

Penny Lind, Executive Director

Find a copy of "*Endangered Forests Endangered Freedoms*" America's 10 Endangered National Forests at:

www.greenpeaceusa.org

Or at: Umpqua Watersheds' 630 Jackson Street, Roseburg, OR

JULY 19 - River Day

Stanton Park in Canyonville

Rafting-Camping

Live Music - 1 to 8pm

Kelly - Kemp - Wakefield

4 Shillings Short

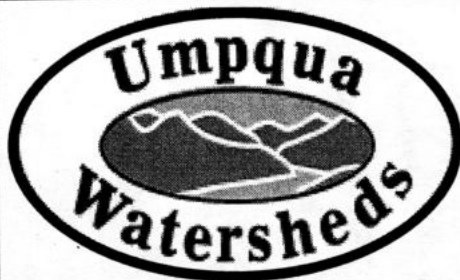
"Fat Chants"

Rafting & Camping Reservations Call: 672-7065

Look Inside!

Summer Hikes and Events: Schedule for July, August & Sept.
Umpqua's Wilderness Youth Camp Out Application
Umpqua Salvage Update and other News by Francis
Book Reviews and Umpqua Interviews by Jim Long

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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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Come Visit the UW Office!

Call First: 672-7065 630 SE Jackson

Downtown Roseburg, OR

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

Visit Our Website!

www.umpqua-watersheds.org

Email us:

uw@umpqua-watersheds.org

Keeping you informed – and ready to ACT!

Dear Supporter,

Oregon's summer of 2003 in the Umpqua is starting to form . . I predict a busy season for conservationists in the northwest.

Umpqua Watersheds will keep you informed of the many threats to our old growth forests, roadless areas, and the waters of the Umpqua.

*The Whitehouse has developed their **A-List of Threats** ("A" for awful) to undermine our environmental laws and policies at the behest of well-paid-for industrial donors. This **A-list** is designed to deliver radical changes to how our public lands are abused, not cared for. Your voice needs to be heard to guarantee that our land managers are caretakers of our public forests, not instruments of industry at the public's expense.*

Follow Congressman DeFazio's lead and tell the Whitehouse you don't appreciate their fast track, false promise, pseudo-fire policy that takes away our rights and allows more damage to our forests and rivers without adequately protecting communities.

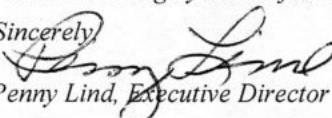
*Our work is cut out for us this summer as the **A-List of Threats** include:*

- One more challenge to the overwhelmingly public supported Roadless Area Conservation Rule,
- Warm Springs/Upper North and Elliot State Forest timber sales that will allow Old Growth logging in our Wild Forests,
- Fire hysteria in the media,
- Post-fire logging in our Wild Forests,
- Northwest Forest Plan attacks that undermine environmental laws,
- Industry campaigns that stir up controversy,
- North Umpqua Hydro Projects early implementation delays, and
- Inadequate funding to allow critical recovery to our watershed.

Umpqua Watersheds will need your help with this long list. We keep our supporters informed twice a week on our email listserv. If you would like to be included in our alerts, please call 541-672-7065 or email us at uw@umpqua-watersheds.org. Please send us your email address changes.

*Umpqua Watersheds will also keep you informed about Wilderness Week, River Appreciation Day, Outdoor Education hikes forums and opportunities to volunteer. Please join Umpqua Watersheds this summer to protect our Wild Forests and Mighty Rivers from this **A-List of Threats**.*

Sincerely,


Penny Lind, Executive Director

Please Thank

Congressman Peter DeFazio

for his voice in Congress . . .

Supporting Common Sense Fire Policy for our Forests

CALL: 1-800-944-9603 or EMAIL: peter.defazio@mail.house.gov

Why Umpqua is Endangered

Old growth logging could begin immediately on Upper North & Warm Springs projects

Hundreds of acres of old growth forest could be clearcut in the Umpqua this summer.

Umpqua Watersheds lost their lawsuit for these two timber sale projects in the critical headwaters of the North Umpqua River. In total, both projects propose to log 2,252 acres of native forests, including **476 acres of clearcutting**, along with an additional 20.5 miles of new logging roads and 16 acres of new helicopter landings (2 acre clearcuts per landing).

A regional lawsuit temporarily stopped most Northwest Forest Plan sales late in 1999 because the Forest Service had failed to survey for rare species (Survey & Manage Lawsuit). Following that lawsuit, Umpqua Watersheds and Oregon Natural Resources Council brought **Upper North** and **Warm Springs** to court individually because the federal government failed to evaluate the cumulative effects of both logging proposals on the upper North Umpqua watershed. Since units from both sales are so close together, and the decisions were at the same time, the government was required to consider the combined effects on the N. Umpqua watershed's environment.

Based on a technicality, Judge Hogan in Eugene gave us a negative ruling, and in May of 2003 Hogan's ruling was made final by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Since these sales had been included in the regional lawsuit regarding Survey and Manage species (that included hundreds of sales), Judge Hogan ruled we could not take each sale to court for other reasons (no matter how illegal the sales are today). Even though Upper North and Warm Springs sales break the law in a number of ways, this technicality stopped us from having the court hear the merits of our case. The outcome is that the court refuses to hear our cumulative effects argument.

The Umpqua National Forest divided the Upper North and Warm Spring's projects into 10 separate timber sales. Three of those were already sold. Those 3 sales include most of the old growth clearcutting. Seven sales remain unsold, and include most of the logging inside 1,000 acres or more roadless areas. The good news is that the 9th circuit said we could continue to pursue our challenge to the 7 sales that remain unsold.

The 3 sales that have already been sold could be cut at any time. They include — **311 acres of clearcutting** in White Mule Creek and Warm Springs Creek in the north east part of the Diamond Lake Ranger District.

Stay tuned as this complicated path to protection continues. For more information on this very devastating news, following a long fight to protect these old trees see:

www.umpqua-watersheds.org/unf/un_ws.html

Francis Eatherington, Forest Monitor Program Director

JULY 12 TAKE-A-HIKE

Visit Warm Springs Falls
below the timber sale near Lemolo Lake.
(see blue HIKE insert)

ELLIOT STATE FOREST Logs Old Growth Soon

*Governor Sells Old Growth
to Roseburg Forests Products*

This summer began with Oregon selling rare, old growth trees from the Elliott State Forest. This beautiful, biodiverse, public forest is 93,000 acres between Reedsport and Coos-Bay. In 1868 much of this area burned, so the forests on the Elliott today have mature, big trees but very few trees over 200 years old -- the most valuable habitat for the Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet.

On June 18, the Oregon Department of Forestry auctioned off some of the oldest trees left on the Elliott (and on any state lands). The **Lone Surprise Timber Sale** contains old trees, critically important to the rapidly declining Northern Spotted Owl population in the Elliott. This is in spite of Governor Kulon-goski's campaign pledge not to cut old-growth.

Two other sales were sold on the same day, **Howell Ridge** and **Larson Headwaters**. All three sales (totaling 164 acres, removing about 2,000 log truck loads) convert old, native forests, even old-growth trees, into new tree plantations, by clearcutting and herbicide spraying. The sales contain important nesting habitat for the Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet, and are upstream from Coho Salmon habitat.

The **Lone Surprise** sale contains very rare old-growth, hundreds of years old, that survived past fires. These beautiful trees are rarely found on the Elliott because, after the 1868 fire, the remaining old-growth were the first to be logged. A recent study on the Elliott found that these few remnant old-growth forests are vitally important to the survival of owls in this region, and recommended that they not be logged.

The **Larson Headwaters** sale has additional problems threatening Coho Salmon. The Oregon Department of Forestry rated this sale as "High Hazard for slope stability". The "probability" of a slope failure to enter a stream is rated as "High", and becoming a channelized debris flow is also "High". Larson Creek still supports endangered salmon downstream. But a NO tree-buffer (zero feet) will be left on the small tributaries flowing into Larson Creek, in spite of the landslide risk.

Roseburg Forest Products was the high bidder on all 3 sales.

This month, July 16, Oregon will put up for sale more of our old forests, the **Fish Headwaters timber sale**, also rated as a "High Landslide Hazard Location" above Coho Salmon streams. It will be clearcut and herbicide sprayed on 41 acres. Unfortunately, the State will just keep selling these forests unless you tell them to stop.

Francis Eatherington

For more information, see:

www.umpqua-watersheds.org/local/elliott_state_forest.html

In Memoriam
of artist and friend of nature
Ronald Eugene Chaddock

President's Message

Dear Supporters,

This is my opportunity to introduce myself as the new president of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. First, I want to say "thank you" to the Board of Directors that chose me for this position.

In 1976, the Umpqua became home to my family. I began as a tree planter and now I am a small woodland owner. After retiring recently from the fire service, I hope to have more time to enjoy the true natural resources that we have around us. I have developed a deep appreciation of the value of clean water that is so precious to our community.

We have an awesomely beautiful river system with water quality among the best in the world. The protection of the remaining roadless areas may be one of the best ways for us to continue to enjoy the beautiful drink of water that we share in this watershed.

My family has adopted a roadless area in east lower Steamboat Creek area known presently as Bulldog Rock. Anyone can do the same to advocate for protection of a special wild place. Many places continue to be threatened. In the Diamond Lake Ranger District we face a foreboding threat to the aquifers of the headwaters of our famous wild and scenic North Umpqua River, the source of our drinking water and fishing fame. Even though the majority of Americans have said (over and over) to protect these roadless areas for beauty and recreation, these special places, these old growth forests are on target for greed and destruction.

We all need to remain diligent in our fight to save the last remnants of old growth and the integrity of our river systems. Join us now by renewing your membership, making a donation, or writing letters to the newspapers and contacting your elected representatives. It is time to speak out.

Sincerely,

Gerald Wisdom

THE 3RD ANNUAL **WILDERNESS WEEK** JULY 19-27, 2003



SPONSORED BY THE OREGON WILD FOREST COALITION

JULY 18 & 19 - River Day Campout (see blue insert)

JULY 20 - "Healing the Fragmented Web"

In celebration of **Wilderness Week**, Jenny Young Seidemann, Umpqua Watershed's member, will bring a message of hope for the interdependent web of the Umpqua of which we are all a part. Bridget Wolf and Bob Hoehne will offer music inspired by wild places. At **10:30am** Umpqua Unitarian Universalist Church - 2165 NW Watters

JULY 23 - Wild Umpqua Slide Show

Join Umpqua Watersheds for an evening of slides on the beautiful ancient forests of the Umpqua, the fire ecology of these places, and the threats that are facing them. Meet at **7pm**, Douglas County Library, 1409 Diamond Lake Blvd. Free admission.

JULY 24 - Cougar Bluff Hike

Visit this beautiful Wild Forest of the Umpqua. (Easy hike suitable for kids and seniors.) Meet at 9am in Roseburg behind the Douglas County Courthouse to car pool or meet at the Colliding Rivers park in Glide to pick up east side hikers at **9:30am**.

JULY 26 & 27 - Twin Lakes Campout (beginners)

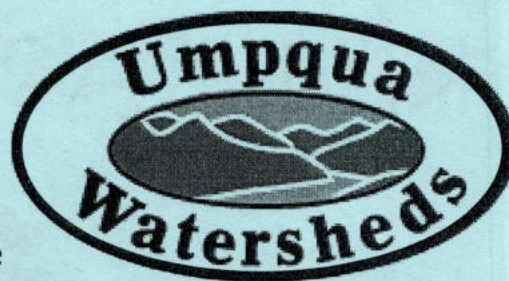
Youth from ages 12 to 21 may fill out application (see green insert enclosed) to experience their first backpacking adventure. Limit of 25 campers; apply immediately.

JULY 26 & 27 - Wassen Ck. Campout (advanced)

Two days and one night in one of the most rugged and wild places in western Oregon. Spectacular waterfalls, creek carved into bedrock, and diverse coastal forest. Some of the hiking will be off trail. Bring very sturdy boots and your sense of adventure. (Strenuous, both hikes approximately 12 miles round trip.) Eugene and Roseburg car-pools available, please call. Sponsored by Umpqua Watersheds and Oregon Natural Resource Council. RSVP to Jeremy Hall, 541-344-0675, jh@onrc.org

For more **Wilderness Week** events info call:
672-7065 or email: patrick@umpqua-watersheds.org

Summer Hikes 2003



uw@umpqua-watersheds.org

672-7065

July 12 - Warm Springs Falls & Sale

Saturday, visit this spectacular 70 ft. waterfall which is one of the most accessible by seniors and young children. Then above the falls visit the headwaters of Warm Springs Creek to learn about the clearcut threats to the Umpqua's high elevation old growth forests when hikers will walk the proposed Warm Springs Timber Sale. Carpool will meet in Roseburg behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler Street at **9am** and then meet at the Glide Ranger Station at 9:30am.

July 19 - RAFTING to River Appreciation Day

Saturday, rafters will float from Stanton Park on the South Umpqua to Douglas County's Whistler's Bend Park and then drive back to the celebration of the mighty Umpqua. Enjoy live music, booths, fresh food and drinks along the banks of the South Umpqua. Rafters will be responsible for their own equipment. Carpool will meet at Stanton Park Boat ramp off I-5 exit #99 north of Canyonville at **8am**.



AUGUST 16 - Last Creek Roadless Area and LSRs

On Saturday, hikers will learn about the Last Creek Roadless Area. This beautiful Roadless Area is home to important Late Successional Reserves (Old Growth Reserves) where the Tiller Fires underburned last Summer. Meet in Roseburg behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler Street at **9am**, or at the Promise Foods Store in Canyonville at 10am or at the Tiller Ranger Station at 10:30. The hike is **rated mild** and hiker's should bring small backpack with lunch, water and sunscreen.

August 24 - North Umpqua Trail Dread & Terror Section (see page 4)

Sunday, discover the beauty of moss-covered basalt columns along the North Umpqua Trail and learn how the **Upper North Timber Sale** plans to log just above this famous recreation area (near the Umpqua Hot Springs). Carpool will meet in Roseburg behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler Street at **9am** and then meet at the Glide Ranger Station at 9:30am. Rated Moderate.

September 21 - Medicine Mountain (aka Mount Bailey)

Saturday, climb the second tallest peak in the Umpqua watershed and enjoy awesome views from the middle of the proposed National Monument. From its height of 8,363 feet one can see Diamond Lake, Mount Shasta, Mount Thielsen and Crater Lake National Park. Hikers will meet behind the Douglas County Courthouse at **8am** or the Glide Ranger Station on Highway 138 at 8:30am or the Diamond Lake Lodge at 10am. Takes three hours to reach the top and is rated doable yet difficult.

September 28 - Mount Thielsen

Saturday, climb the tallest peak in the Umpqua watershed and enjoy the grandest views of southern Oregon. From its height of 9,182 feet one can see down into the crater of Crater Lake National Park! Hikers will meet behind the Douglas County Courthouse at **8am**, the Glide Ranger Station at 8:30am or the Thielsen trailhead #1456 at 10am. Day long hike is most difficult hike of the year.

RIVER APPRECIATION DAY

**JULY
19**

2003



**1pm
to
8pm**

at

STANTON PARK in Canyonville
FREE!

Rafting

Saturday Morning
FREE! 8am - 1pm

*From Stanton Park
to
South River Boat Ramp*

Bring your own equipment:
Life jackets, oars, and
floatation device.

Spaces may be available in
others rafts, for more info:

672-7065

Live Music

Saturday Afternoon
1pm - 8pm

at

Stanton Park

TR Kelly
Laura Kemp
Mare Wakefield
4 Shillings Short
"Fat Chants"

Camping

Friday & Saturday
July 18 & 19

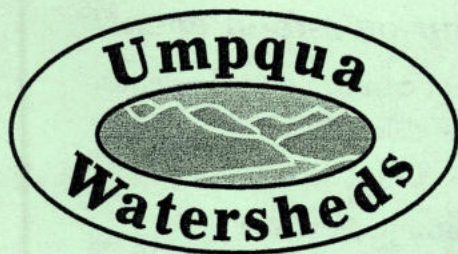
Stanton Park
along the river

\$5 each site
Limited to 40 campsites so...

Call soon to
RESERVE your space:

672-7065

Umpqua Disc Association will give a demonstration.



Wilderness Youth Camp Out 2003

Umpqua Watersheds, Inc., invites youth (ages 12 to 20) to a magical trek to wildlands in Douglas County on our annual Wilderness Youth Camp Out. On July 25th, Friday, we'll meet at the downtown office, where we'll depart from and travel up the North Umpqua highway to Twin Lakes. We will camp for 2 nights on a small picturesque lake and explore the area. Our goals are to respect and explore the wildlands, to revere in its tremendous beauty and to **leave no trace**.

The biggest requirement for this camp out hiking adventure is the ability to pack in and out your supplies, enough to last you 2 whole days and nights. We will hike out *everything* we hike in.

The camp out is free to Umpqua Watersheds' members; for non-members the cost is \$10 per child. Your child will receive 2 days of wilderness education, a t-shirt, a log book and much more. Just completely fill out and sign both sides of the registration sheet and waiver below and return it to the Umpqua Watersheds' office by **July 16th**. Reservations will be confirmed by July 18th by phone. **It's first come, first serve**, with a limit of 25.

Drivers are also needed for the caravan both ways to Twin Lakes and down a gravel road for about 10 miles. And please, NO pets. Please call Maryjane or Robin for more information.



One of the Twin Lakes

Departure time is set for July 25th at Noon from the Umpqua Watersheds' office. We will arrive at the #1511 Trailhead near 2 p.m. If you cannot depart at that time, you must arrange an alternate plan with the campout planners by July 20th. Once we arrive by vehicle, we will hike to the south side of Twin Lakes. We ask that you make arrangements to go with the group and commit to that general principle, to be part of the group, throughout the weekend.

Your contributions and inspiration make this all possible. Thank You!

Maryjane Snocker, Education Committee Chair
849-2389

Robin Wisdom, Education Committee
672-6982



Wilderness Youth Camp 2003

Please fill out and mail or fax this Registration Form ASAP to
Umpqua Watersheds

P.O. Box 101, Roseburg, OR 97470
630 SE Jackson, Roseburg, OR

email address: patrick@umpqua-watersheds.org phone: 541-672-7065 fax: 541-672-7652
and visit our web site: http://www.umpqua-watersheds.org/camp_out_03.html



Participant Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (if participant is under 18): _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Phone: _____

Known allergies, special needs, physical condition: _____

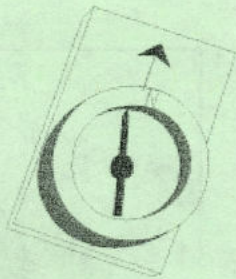
Please fill out reverse side also. First come, First Serve. Reserve by July 16, 2003.

Things to Bring

First of All! Remember!

YOU are hiking in **everything** that you may need. Please label your belongings.

- * Good hiking shoes
- * Sleeping bag
- * Sleeping pad
- * Small day pack
- * Mosquito protection
- * Sunscreen
- * Flashlight
- * Jacket
- * Swim suit
- * Towel
- * Eco soap
- * Toothbrush, floss
- * Water to drink!**
- * Musical instrument
- * Trash bag
- * Food*
- * Bandanas
- * Rain gear
- * Pie pan (plate), silverware & cup
- * Snacks***
- * Backpack foods
- * Camera
- * Compass (if you have one)



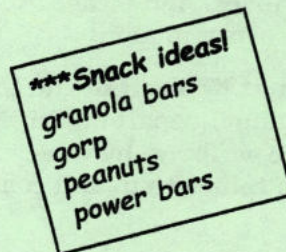
* This is a bring-your-own-food event!

Bring lightweight items that can be cooked or eaten raw. We'll be staying in a group camp where there is a large table and firepit.

You will need to bring enough food for:

- Dinner on Friday night.
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner on Saturday
- Sunday breakfast and lunch

Come prepared for fun with wilderness experts as your guides. Enjoy hiking, camping, tree identification, fun in the lake, cliffs, orienteering, a nature scavenger hunt, smores, fun in the woods!



It may be warm during the day and cold in the evenings. We suggest a longsleeved shirt or jacket for evenings and shorts for day time. Always bear in mind: we live in beautiful rainy Oregon, so watch the weather around the time we're going and pack appropriately and lightly. And don't forget mosquito protection and sunblock!

**** Umpqua Watersheds will provide water filter pumps to use.
Bottled water is the responsibility of each person going on the camp out.**

Permission Slip



I give my permission for my child or myself, _____, to participate in the Umpqua Watersheds, Inc., Wilderness Youth Camp Out 2003 on July 25 through 27, 2003. We will return to Roseburg by 5 pm on Sunday, July 27, 2003.

I hereby waive any claim against Umpqua Watersheds, Inc., for any injury suffered by my child or myself in connection with my child's or my participation. In case of a medical emergency, please contact _____ at (phone no.) _____. If I cannot be reached, I authorize a representative of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc., to consent to all necessary medical treatment for my child.

Date: _____

Signature: _____
(Parent or Guardian)



Please fill out reverse side also.

UMPQUA Salvage Update

The Umpqua National Forest is proceeding with the environmental impact assessments (EIS) of three proposals to salvage mature and old growth trees that burned in the 2002 fires. So far there are three proposals to consider.

Baked Apple in the North Umpqua District
Ash Creek Salvage and **Acker Fire Salvage**
both in the Tiller Ranger District

Baked Apple is the largest and furthest along in the process. We are disappointed to see that the Forest Service's proposed action is to **clearcut 1,075 acres** while leaving only **6 to 12 trees per acre** for "shade, large wood, and snag habitat." Two out of the six trees would be cut down and left to "maintain soil productivity." Clearly, two trees per acre for the soil is not enough. Nature usually provides hundreds of trees per acre to replenish burnt soils. Science says more trees need to be left.

The Ash Creek and Acker Fire Salvage projects are even worse. They will only leave 2 to 6 trees per acre. The Acker sale is south of the South Umpqua River, and South Umpqua Falls and has developed into more clearcuts of mature forests in this watershed. The Forest Service will be asking for your opinion on this project before **July 18th**.

Ask the Forest Service to consider an alternative that leaves more of the burned trees **WITHIN** the harvest units instead of just **WITHIN** the larger planning area. This is in accordance with the best available science for post-fire salvage because it helps the soils **WITHIN** the harvest units replenish their nutrients.

PLEASE write to your local Forest Supervisor at:

Umpqua National Forest
Jim Caplan, Supervisor
PO Box 1008
Roseburg, OR 97470
(541-672-6601) to provide input.

For more information on fires see:

www.umpqua-watersheds.org/umpqua_fires.html

Beschta Report at:

www.umpqua-watersheds.org/umpqua_fires_02.html#Beschta.html

Francis Eatherington, Forest Monitor Program Director

Black Bear Update

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Wildlife Services and the timber industry are still threatening Black Bears in western Oregon. Unfortunately, on April 11, 2003, the federal government decided to continue killing all bears and their cubs suspected of peeling bark from trees on private land tree plantations. Umpqua Watersheds along with a coalition of conservation and animal protection organizations filed a lawsuit to halt these killings. But the issue may not be resolved through the judicial process for months or even years. In the meantime, Wildlife Services continue to kill bears. You can contact Dave Williams at Wildlife Services' 6135 NE 80th Ave., Suite A-8, Portland, OR 97218. (503/326-2346) and urge Wildlife Services to cease its bear killing program. *Francis Eatherington*

For more information see:

www.umpqua-watersheds.org/local/bears.html

Mr. Wilson Timber Sale Update

Herbert Lumber is logging healthy, ancient trees (450 years old) in the West Fork Cow Creek watershed (a tributary to the South Umpqua River), in the Medford BLM District's **Mr. Wilson timber sale**. While defending their actions in court, Herbert Lumber representatives said, *"The immediate award of Mr. Wilson may be the last chance for our small company to survive."* The Mr. Wilson sale will provide them with about 1,280 log truckloads (6.4 million board feet).

Of the 200 some mills in the northwest, only 6 mills are completely dependent on old growth and two are in Douglas County.

Herbert Lumber cannot accommodate small diameter logs. The public will have to continue to sacrifice our oldest, most ancient forests to their mill, simply because they have not used any of their profits to retool their old mill.

When Herbert Lumber sued the US Government over protections for the endangered Marbled Murrelet (a coastal bird dependent on old-growth forests) in March 2002, they documented they employ 45 people, but need 12 million board feet of "larger logs from mature and old-growth" forests every year. That's double the Mr. Wilson sale.

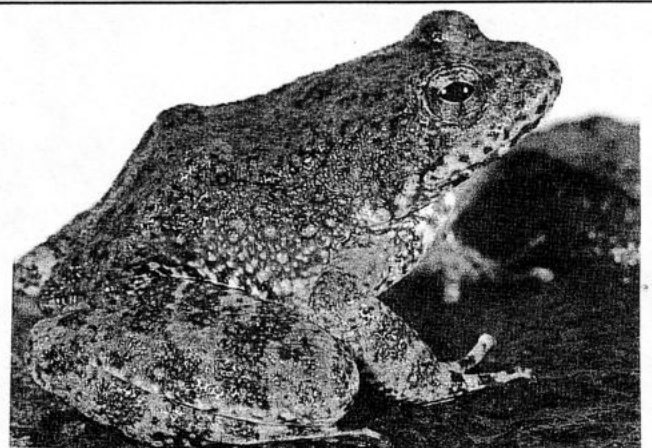
If the Mr. Wilson sale was their last chance to survive, what will they need next year and the year after that?

Workers and communities deserve better -- at the very least Herbert Lumber could upgrade their mill to provide more reliable, sustainable work that does not depend on our old growth forests.

Francis Eatherington

For more information see:

www.kswild.org/Sales/sales_mrwillson.html



Have you seen this frog?

The Foothill Yellow-legged frog is disappearing from the Umpqua basin. It has been found in sunny locations in large creeks with bedrock pools. Rock Creek, Canton Creek, Steamboat Creek and Little River are most likely to provide suitable habitat. Many historic sites no longer support this species. This frog lays masses of eggs in shallow pools and tadpoles hatch in mid-June. The tadpoles can be identified by their size (up to 2") and the way they attach themselves to the surface of the rock with their mouths. Adult frogs are about 3" long and are brownish-grey; the undersides of the **hind legs are yellow**.

If you see this frog, or own property that contains suitable habitat and would like it surveyed this summer, contact Nancy Duncan at **464-3338**.

Business Members and Advertisers Policy

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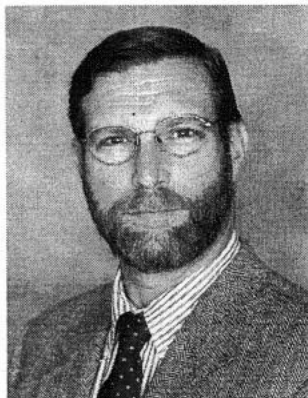
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Holism on the Range

Two long-time friends rumbled along in a 4 X 4 on their way home from fishing in Montana. They talked about resource management in the brittle environments of Eastern Oregon. Umpqua Watersheds past president Dale Greenley pumped out provocative questions. His friend, cattle rancher John Hyde from near Klamath Falls, responded thoughtfully.

They talked about water. Rancher, John Hyde, calculated that an inch of rain drops over 27,000 gallons on an acre. That's enough water to fill a swimming pool 5 feet deep, 14 feet wide and 50 feet long. John said, "These figures smacked me on the head. If we manage the land so precipitation stays *here* longer, look what we can do for the soil, plants, animals, ground water and fish downstream."

Also, John described how he changed his cattle grazing. Now, his pattern is much more intense with more rest between grazings. With healthier grasses, he sees healthier soils that hold more water. With better soils, moisture and grass he's doubled his herd and still continues to improve his land.

John is the son of Gerda and Dayton Hyde. His Dad, Dayton, wrote several books about ranch life, including *Don Coyote*, *Sandy*, *Yamsi* and *The Major*, *the Poacher* and *the Wonderful One-trout River*. John and his mother, Gerda, are members of "Oregon Country Beef." OCB is a cooperative started a couple decades ago with leadership from Connie and "Doc" Hatfield near the tiny town of Brothers, Oregon. Each week, the forty-member co-op sells about 350 carcasses of consistently high quality lean beef raised with *no* antibiotics and *no* growth stimulants. The co-op markets natural beef from Seattle to the Bay Area. OCB members often fetch a premium price for their product.

Their profit, however, is not in just the bank. It's in the health of the land, the well being of their ranching families and communities and a trusting relationship with feeders, processors, retail outlets and consumers.

John said their trust grows, in part, because of an annual exchange in which ranch families invest a weekend a year meeting customers in grocery stores and, in turn, retailers, processors and feed lot managers enjoy a tour and BBQ at an OCB ranch.

The Hyde's successes on the land and in the market prompted John to learn more about the principles underlying the family's new management system. He studied Allan Savory's Holistic Decision Making Model. Now, he and his neighbors are experimenting with the model to improve 120 acres in the Upper Williamson Catchment. John emphasized "*catchment*"—not *watershed*. For an objective is to keep more water on the land.

The experiment includes neighboring ranchers, Tribal representatives and government agency professionals. They start by defining the whole under management. The whole includes all life forms affected by their decisions. People affected by decisions hammer out a holistic goal. The written goal is a statement of purpose based on individuals' deep-seated values, resources available to generate products that honor those values and an image of the landscape they want to leave as a legacy for future generations.

Then the group reviews all their tools, such as the new grazing pattern John uses, and applies testing guidelines to assess each alternative; they monitor whether the chosen option moves them closer to their holistic goal.

John's enthusiasm for this experiment, he said, is based on a commitment that team participants will "believe *their* science, will believe what *they* discover themselves."

(Allan Savory's 1999 book *Holistic Management, a New Framework for Decision Making* is available from Island Press. I can summarize my evaluations of education related to Holistic Decision Making in four Western states. J.L.)

We Can Do Better

Mary O'Brien believes we can make better environmental decisions by changing *how* we make decisions. She admits we may have moved beyond cronyism. But we're still hung up on "risk assessment" when readily we could move toward "alternative assessment."

In the middle 1900s, federal agencies, businesses and scientists adopted risk assessment as *the* way to decide how much of a practice the environment might accommodate. For example: Just how much of a synthetic chemical can we pump into the environment and stay below a "negligible risk"?



O'Brien argues that such a question is unfathomable: For whom might the chemical be harmful—infants, elderly, diabetics? Might a chemical lead to multiple affects? Might one additional chemical interact with others in ways we cannot yet predict? Might they accumulate over time and across species?

A much simpler—and far more effective—question is: Can an alternative preclude the practice in the first place? This question leads us into "alternative assessment"—a much more favored way to engage the *public*—and its intellect, emotions, customs, commitments—in making public decisions that influence our common environment.

Vividly, writer O'Brien illustrates the application of this "precautionary principle" to a whole host of issues—synthetic chemicals permitted in infants' foods, for example, but also pesticide policies, logging regulations, wetlands management, septic systems, air quality, grazing regimes, ozone depletion, global warming, disposition of radiological wastes, paper manufacturing, international trade, worker safety. Encouragingly, she sites others' experiences—Massachusetts and Sweden, for instance.

Eugene resident, Mary O'Brien, brings her PhD in botany, consulting experiences and policy analysis to her book: *Making Better Environmental Decisions, An Alternative to Risk Assessment*, published in 2000 with Environmental Research Foundation by MIT Press, Cambridge.

One of her brief phrases summarized this complex book for me: "It (risk assessment) was asking how much damage was safe, rather than how little damage was possible."

Her book also prompted me to reconsider research priorities: A. try to discover to the nth degree how much environmental damage is safe or B. invent alternative technologies more in keeping with the natural environment and all "living creatures, great and small."



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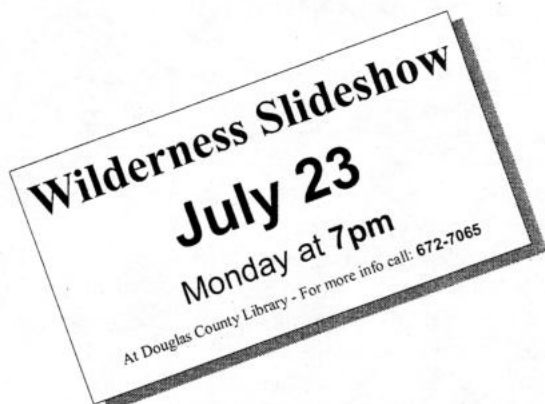
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Look Inside!

Summer Hikes and Events: Schedule for July, August & Sept.
Umpqua's Wilderness Youth Camp Out Application
Umpqua Salvage Update and other News by Francis
Book Reviews and Umpqua Interviews by Jim Long

BLUE insert
GREEN insert
page 7
page 9

JULY 19 - River Appreciation Day

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Saturday Morning

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*From Stanton Park
To*

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Bring your own equipment:
Life jackets, oars, and
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