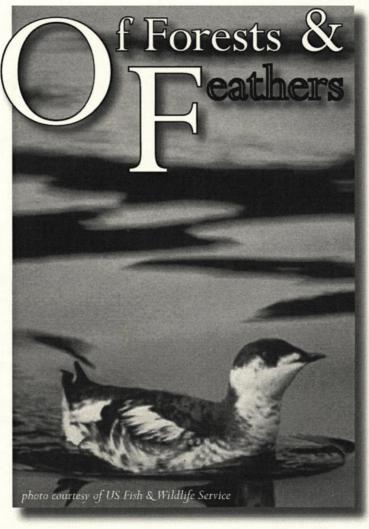
IOO Valleys A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds Spring 2006 Issue #34

Bush Administration to Remove Protection For Marbled Murrelet and its Old-growth Forest Habitat

t the end of 2004, the **Bush Administration** announced that the marbled murrelet no longer qualifies for protection as a threatened species under our nations strongest wildlife protection law-the Endangered Species Act. Were the murrelet recovered and its habitat protected, this might be great news. Rather than being recovered, however, the murrelet continues to decline in the face of ongoing loss of the coastal oldgrowth forest it requires for nesting. The Bush Administration instead argues the murrelet no longer qualifies for protection because of a never before used legal technicality.

The marbled murrelet is a robinsized seabird that during the breeding season makes a daily migration from the ocean, where it feeds on small fish, to old-growth forests as much as 50 miles inland,



where it nests on the broad branches of large, old trees. Because of its close association with old-growth forests and widespread habitat loss from logging, the murrelet was listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act in 1992. The Administration's effort to strip the murrelet of protection fits into a broad effort to undermine protections for oldgrowth forests provided by the Northwest Forest Plan, which was largely predicated on a need to protect the murrelet and the northern spotted owl.

Although the marbled murrelet occurs from central California near Santa Cruz, to the Aleutian Islands of Alaska, it receives the protection of the Endangered Species Act only within its range in California, Oregon and Washington. The murrelet can be protected in a portion of its range because the Endangered Species Act extends protection to not

(continued on page 5) only recognized species,

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Join us for lunch! Noon the second Tuesday of each month at Chi's Garden Restaurant.

TAKE ACTION!

Walden Bill (HR4200)

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Endangered Species

cover story



Our Mission

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

Board of Directors

Sally Browne Chuck Schnautz Treasurer
Dale Greenley Vice President
Mike Fisher Secretary

Jim Ince Kathy Shayler Gerald Wisdom Jim Wolfe Ed Cooley Bill Black

Staff

Penny Lind Executive Director

Francis Eatherington
Conservation Director

Nelli Williams Outreach Coordinator

Summer Stephanos Conservation Assistant

Contact Us

Umpqua Watersheds, Inc.

PO Box 101 539 SE Main St. Roseburg, OR 97477 Ph: 541-672-7065 Fax: 541-672-7652 www.umpqua-watersheds.org uw@umpqua-watersheds.org



From the Executive Director

Dear Supporter,

Civil Society . . . you - and me.

We are a critical part of a movement that is built to protect our environment. People across America are doing this work just like you, me, and our neighbors here in the Umpqua.

We are all standing up to speak out for what is important to us and the future generations of men and women who will depend on the air, water and multiple treasures of our natural world.

Keep it up! All participants - don't let words go unsaid or actions untaken to protect and restore your own watershed. There will be a lot at stake over the next decade as forest, water, air and wildlife policy is discussed and choices are made.

Be the biggest part of those discussions with your voice and actions. The current administration of our country, along with special interest lobbyists and industrialists, has dictated a damaging conservation agenda for our future. Continue to move society to civil outcomes.

As a citizen or resident of this country, you have the right to speak up to this narrow agenda that does not have our, or our environment's, best interest in mind.

When Old Growth or Roadless forests are threatened by clear cut timber sales like the ones reported on page 4,7 & 10; Speak Up! Contact the Forest agency nearest you and let them know your concerns. Don't leave out your elected representatives either, as policy will try to trump science and good sense too, see Page 7.

When landslides, toxics and waste spills diminish water quality in our rivers and creeks, Speak Up! Contact the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency nearest you — make your government agency listen.

When wildlife like the Marbled Murrelet reported on Page 1, fish and plants are put at risk of extinction – step up boldly and let the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and US Fish and Wildlife representatives know your feelings and concerns.

You will see people recognized for their courage and hard work to protect and restore the watersheds of the Umpqua River basin and beyond throughout this, and all of Umpqua Watersheds' '100 Valley' newsletters. Each of us can make a difference.

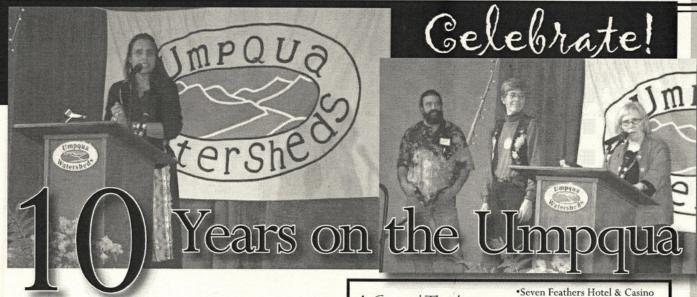
Thank you to all of you who continue to stand up and speak out for conservation values. Keep dictated threats and crippling fear tactics out of Society with voices that honor our Earth and one another.

Sincere thanks, Penny Lind Executive Director

Thank you 2005 foundation supporters! We greatly appreciate your generosity; through you, we are empowered to create positive change in the Umpqua river basin and beyond.

Biodiversity Northwest Mckenzie River Gathering Foundation Oregon Community Foundation Wilburforce Foundation Patagonia

Maude Kernan Fund Charlotte Martin Foundation Wal-Mart Brainerd Foundation Lazar Foundation



ver four hundred supporters helped us Celebrate a decade of conservation success at our 10th Annual Banquet and Silent Auction on February 11th at the Douglas County Fairgrounds' New Community Building. Thanks to all of our new and long-time supporters who joined us at the celebration!

Guests had the opportunity to sip wine, drink beer and eat gourmet hor'devours while conversing with other conservationists and browsing hundreds of auction items generously donated by local artists, crafters, businesses, and individuals. While enjoying a delicious dinner with a native flair, speeches from Sally Browne, board President, Penny Lind, Executive Director, and Francis Eatherington, Conservation Director, inspired reflection, thought and

Dedicated conservationists were recognized during the evenings festivities. These generous individuals have spent hours and energy in helping the environmental movement in Douglas County move forward. Richard Sommer was given Umpqua Watersheds' first ever "Lifetime Conservationists' Award" for his involvement in natural resource issues in the Umpqua region for over 45 years. Jeff Havener and Carol Gale received the "Counting on You Award" for their many hours of volunteer service. Stuart Liebowitz was given the "Activist of the Year" award for his efforts with the Douglas County Global Warming Coalition and much more!

The highlight of the evening was a poignant, but motivational speech by Winona LaDuke that touched the hearts of many and prepared us for the challenge of making the world a more sustainable and just place to live.

We are already gearing up for next years event by recruiting auction donors and coming up with new exciting ideas. If you, or someone you know, would like to be involved please let us know! Check out one of our new donors for 2007 at www.kwytzakraft.com. We are grateful for the continued support from so many!

by Nelli Williams Outreach Coordinator

A Special Thanks to...

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•Pollyanna Lind •DeNino Vineyards •Jo Lynn Murphy

·Crystal Falls

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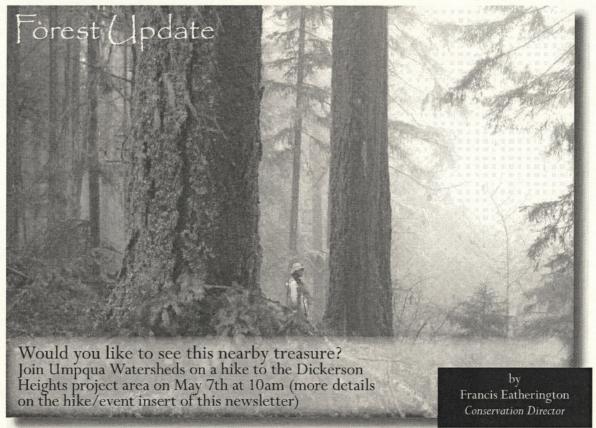
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- ·Beyond Barber
- ·Grateful Day
- Headwaters
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Unique local treasure proposed for harvest...

The Dickerson Heights project area, on Bureau of Land Management land, has some of the oldest and most beautiful forests available to the public in the Winston and Olalla residential areas for hiking, bird watching, and having fun in. The public has already made a trail in timber sale unit A. This 200+ year-old forest has both massive Douglas fir and Ponderosa Pine trees and a diversity of other, smaller species.

The BLM has proposed to clear cut the Dickerson Heights Timber Sale, 150 acres of mature and old growth forests just west of Winston Oregon, in the Olalla watershed south of Hoover Hill. The BLM will leave as little as 6 trees per acre.

These forests are in the northern most reaches of the Klamath Mountain Province, supporting a wide array of species such as pacific madrone, golden chinquapin, myrtle wood, Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, canyon live oak, black oak, incense cedar and more. Turning this unique and diverse place into an even age, virtual monoculture, is an irreplaceable loss.

Dickerson Heights forests also support a great diversity of rare wildlife, such as marbled murrelets, Del Norte salamanders, and northern spotted owls. A red-tailed hawk nests in unit H. These forests also have habitat that could support a variety of rare bat species, northern goshawks or great gray owls. Also, above Olalla Creek are the Dickerson Rocks, a mysterious and unique rock formation.

The BLM only manages about 28% of the forests in the Olalla watershed for the public. It is time for the BLM to stop logging old-growth here. The public wants forests left

for other public uses, such as clean water, soil protection, to increase residential land values, wildlife viewing, and more.

At the time this newsletter goes to press, the BLM has not yet made a final decision to log it, so you can still write to the BLM and let them know your concerns.

Email to or100MB@or.blm.gov, attention William Haigh.

Or write a letter to William Haigh, Roseburg BLM, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470

Make sure you say you are writing concerning the Dickerson Heights Timber Sale. If you give BLM a return address, your comments will have more weight.

For more information or to see pictures, go to: http://www.umpqua-watersheds.org/blm/dickerson.html

Beyond Big Timber

The Future of BLM Forests in Western Oregon

Saturday May 20 9am - 4pm

Main 1 Center for Arts, 821 N. Riverside - Medford OR

Join concerned citizens to discuss the BLM's Western Oregon Plan Revisions. As the Bureau of Land Management prepares to remove environmental protections from nearly 2.5 million acres of public land, scientists, business owners, restoration foresters and community members will discuss the ecological, economic and social importance of BLM land. Call Umpqua Watersheds for more details.

Of Forests & Feathers (Continued from page 1)

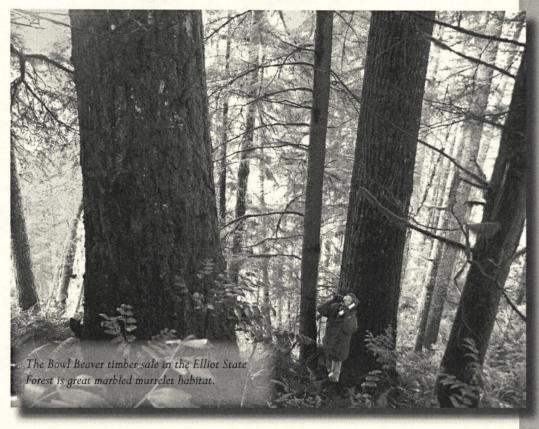
but also to "distinct population segments" (DPS) of vertebrate species. Protection for DPS was included in the Act based on a recognized need to protect species such as, bald eagle, grizzly bear and gray wolf, that are fairly common in Canada and Alaska, but highly imperiled within the continental U.S.

In 1996, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service adopted guidelines for determining when they would protect a population of a species as a DPS. Under these guidelines, a population must be both discrete from and significant to the species as a whole to qualify for protection. To be considered discrete, a population must either be geographically separate from other populations or separated by an international border where there are differences in "control of exploitation, management of habitat, conservation status,

or regulatory mechanisms." To be considered significant, a population must, among other things, occur in a unique ecological setting, have unique genetic characteristics, or its loss would create a significant gap in the range of the species.

In the case of the murrelet, the Bush Administration has, for the first time, argued that a species, which is clearly imperiled within its entire range in the continental U.S., does not qualify for protection because it is not discrete. The Administration primarily bases this conclusion on the fact that the murrelet is listed as a threatened species under Canada's recently passed "Species at Risk Act" (SARA) and thus that there are not significant differences in management between Canada and the U.S., meaning that the Administration is in the curious position of arguing that the murrelet is not threatened in the U.S. because its threatened in Canada

Unfortunately for the murrelet, protection in Canada is far from equivalent to protections provided in the U.S. under the Endangered Species Act. Although SARA prohibits killing of murrelets in British Columbia, it provides little to no protection for the old-growth forests required by the murrelet, failing to include firm protections for critical habitat on Provincial lands, where the majority of murrelet habitat occurs in Canada. Likewise, British Columbia provides little protection for the



murrelet, specifically prohibiting any protection from impacting the timber base by more than 1%. This means no more than 1% of productive mature forest that is suitable for harvest (e.g. doesn't occur on steep slopes, etc.), which comprises the bulk of remaining murrelet habitat, can be protected.

Although the estimated murrelet population in British Columbia is nearly triple the estimated U.S. population, old-growth forests are rapidly being cut in British Columbia and the species is believed to be experiencing sharp declines. In other words, if the Bush Administration successfully removes protection in the U.S., this unique seabird will be at risk of extirpation from California to the Alaska border. To date, the Bush Administration has not followed its conclusion that the murrelet does not qualify for protection with a required proposed rule to delist the murrelet, so it may not be too late. Please write the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service you Congressional Representatives and Senators and express your support for retaining protection of the marbled murrelet under the Endangered Species Act.

Noah Greenwald Conservation Biologist Center for Biological Diversity

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

- Margaret Mead

EARTH WEEK 2006



Impqua Watersheds is gearing up for a fun-filled week of events to celebrate the 36th annual Earth Day. On April 22nd, 1970, Gaylord Nelson, then a US Senator from Wisconsin, established this day "to shake up the political establishment and force this issue [the environment] onto the national agenda." That day changed the future of the United States as the modern environmental movement was born.

We have come a long way from the burning rivers, smoke belching factories and unrestricted pollution that was taking place in the mid 20th century. The Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and others that we have in place today are all a result of this national movement that spread across political, ethnic and economic lines.

Today much of the progress made by this era is being undercut. Our air, water, and the basic ecosystems that support us and the things we enjoy are in jeopardy. As members of a local, regional and global community let us use Earth Week 2006 to learn about the important issues that effect our way of life, our health and the ecosystems that we depend on. Let's use Earth Week 2006 to refresh and reinvigorate the environmental movement and make a positive difference that future generations will look back on and celebrate.

We hope you will join us at the following events and the many others happening around the area to celebrate, learn, be inspired, and take action!

EVENTS

Tuesday April 18th

Umpqua Watersheds presents

A Night Out at McMenamins

5pm-close

McMenamins Roseburg Station

Looking for an excuse to go out? This is it! Enjoy an evening of food, drink and fun! The best part? McMenamins is generously giving half of the evenings proceeds to Umpqua Watersheds. What better way to spend an evening...dining for a good cause! To go orders are applicable too!

Thursday April 20th

Umpqua Watersheds & Web Weavers present

Wild Slide Show

7-9 pm Umpqua Unitarian Universalist Church 2165 NW Watters

Take a visual journey through the Umpqua's most wild and pristine places with Bob Hoehne, a local wilderness advocate and musician. With intriguing stories and music by Bridget Wolf highlighting these precious places, the evening is sure to be inspiring and entertaining! Refreshments will be provided.

Saturday April 22nd (day) Douglas County presents

Earth Day Fair

10am-4pm

Douglas County Fairgrounds

Be sure to stop by Umpqua Watersheds' Earth Day Jeapordy Booth to learn about the wild areas of the Umpqua and win prizes! Many community organizations and businesses will be there, along with music, speakers, and much more! To volunteer please contact Nelli at Umpqua Watersheds.

Saturday April 22nd (evening)

Dorris Corrado, Vance Faber & Umpqua Watersheds present

Earth DANCE

4-11pm Glide Community Center

Join Glide residents for an evening of foot stomping fun, dance and music! Dance to "Strange Attractor" and "Hotqua String Band," snack on goodies, bask in good company and enjoy earthly inspiration. Proceeds go to Umpqua Watersheds' 20th Annual River Appreciation Day. \$5 at the door. Family rates available. More information: 541-496-3577

Spring 2006 Events and Hikes

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Lunch w/ UW	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 McMena mins Night	19 Global Warm Spker	20 Wild slide show	21	Earth Day Fair & Dance
23 One Less Car Day	24	25	26	27	28	29 Glide Wildflr Show
30						

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Cooking w/ Con- science	3	4	5	6
7 HIKE	8	9 Lunch w/ UW	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Beyond BIG timber
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

June

Mon	Tue	Wed	Th	Fri	Sat
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	10 Kanipe Park Hike
12 Lunch w/ UW	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24
26 erness \	27 Week	28 (stay	29 tuneo	30	info!)
	12 Lunch w/ UW 19	5 6 12 13 Lunch w/ UW 19 20 26 27	5 6 7 12 13 14 Lunch w/ UW 19 20 21 26 27 28	1 1 5 6 7 8 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 2 5 6 7 8 9 12 Lunch w/UW 19 20 21 22 23

Apr. 11th, May 9th, June 14th -Community Connection Campaign Luncheons

Join Umpqua Watersheds staff and supporters for a tasty casual lunch at Chi's Garden Restaurant in Roseburg. Get questions answered, learn about upcoming issues, events and opportunities, and have great conversations with your fellow Umpqua Watersheds' members! **Noon** at **Chi's Garden**.

April 16-23rd - EARTH WEEK 2006!

Join the Douglas County communities in celebrating this landmark day! Educational events, music, slideshows, parades, dances, and much more are in store. Join us in the celebration! See page 6 & 9 for a detailed list of events. Umpqua Watersheds events include:

A Night Out at McMenamins April 18th
Wild Slide Show
Earth Day Jeopardy Booth
Earth Day Dance
April 22nd
Upril 22nd

May 2nd - Cooking with Conscience

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo! Learn the "how to" behind several authentic Mexican treats like chile rellenos, enchiladas, enchilada sauce, and spanish rice. Complete instruction, demonstration, recipes, and dinner are included. Class will be held in 1st Presbyterian Church kitchen. Begins at 6pm. Cost: \$35. Call Umpqua Watersheds at 672-7065 to reserve your space.

May 7th - Hike to Dickerson Heights

Become immersed in the sights and sounds of an enchanting 200 year old forest! Unique geologic features and its proximity to Roseburg, will captivate you! Learn about the issues threatening this old-growth forest and how you can use your voice to impact how your public lands are managed. *Meet at 9am behind Douglas Cty Courthouse or 9:30 at Lookingglass Store.* Bring weather appropriate clothing, a lunch, a small backpack, and water. Rated Easy/Moderate.

May 20th - Beyond Big Timber

The Future of BLM Forests in Western Oregon 9am-4pm, Main 1 Center for Arts, 821 N. Riverside - Medford OR Join concerned citizens to discuss the BLM's Western Oregon Plan Revisions. As the Bureau of Land Management prepares to remove environmental protections from nearly 2.5 million acres of public land, scientists, business owners, restoration foresters and community members will discuss the ecological, economic and social importance of BLM land. Various field trips will be offered on Sunday, May 21st. Visit www.oregonheritageforests.org/beyondbigtimber for more information.

June 10th—Mildred Kanipe Park Picnic and Hike

Explore this nearby beauty with an expert! Lois Eagleton, President of Friends of Mildred Kanipe Park, will share her extensive knowledge of the parks' history. We will take a short hike on one of the parks most distinctive trails. There is a beautiful picnic area so be sure to bring your lunch, appropriate footwear and raingear. Meet behind the Douglas Cty. Courthouse at 9:30am or at the day use entrance of the park at 10am. Rated Easy.

June 24th-July 2nd WILDERNESS WEEK

Stay tuned for more information regarding wilderness speakers, hikes, slideshows and much more. Stay updated at www.umpqua-watersheds.org.



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SLIDESHOW LECTURES

The History of Botanizing in Douglas County

by **Dr. Daniel Luoma** April 29 - 2:30 pm

Fungus-Feeding Wildflowers that Lurk in Our Woods

> by **Dr. Daniel Luoma** April 30 - 11:30 am

OREGON CHAUTAUQUA

Helen M. Gilkey: the Art of Botanical Illustration

> by **Sharon L. Rose** April 29 & 30 - 1 pm

Oregon Chautauqua programs are made possible by the generous support of the Oregon Council for the Humanities, an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Open 9 am - 5 pm
Photographers' Hour 8 - 9 am
Glide Community Center
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Art by Peter Anderson

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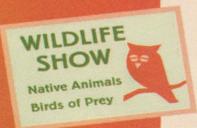
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APRIL 22 10am-4pm

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Keep Those District Phones Ringing: Walden Logging Bill Delayed but Expected to Move again soon . . .

Representative Greg Walden's controversial bill (HR 4200) sweeps aside protections for forests, fish and wildlife in order to rush logging and road building after natural events, such as fires, insect outbreaks and windstorms that occur in National Forests.

Walden's Bill:

- Cuts Americans out of decisions that would impact the public's forests.
- Shortcuts endangered species protections HARMS wildlife.

Science continues to question this type of management on our forests.



The scientific study released by Oregon State University (OSU) sheds important light onto the debate over how to best manage forests following wildfires. The study published in the nation's top scientific journal, Science, concluded that logging burned forests increased the risk of future fires and hindered forest recovery.

TAKE ACTION - CALL or WRITE:

Congressman Peter DeFazio 151 W 7th Rm #400 Eugene, OR 97401 1-800-944-9603 **Senator Ron Wyden** 700 NE Multnomah #450 Portland, OR 97232 **503-326-7525** Senator Gordon Smith 121 SW Salmon #1250 Portland, OR 97204 503-326-3386

Let them know Walden's approach is FLAWED.

Thank you Congressman DeFazio!

Your critical work in asking key questions, expressing concerns and supporting sound scientific evidence is very much noticed and appreciated. We value your continued support for America's forests, waters, and species.

Thank you Umpqua Watersheds' Business Members! If you are a local business member interested in advertising in 100 Valleys please contact Umpqua Watersheds for details.

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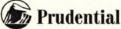
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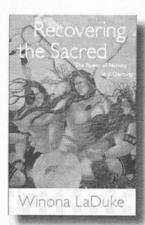
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Recovering the Sacred: Insight and Inspiration

I want to thank Winona LaDuke for sharing her insights and stories on the shared concerns of environmentalists and the Native Indian cultures of America. Her deep commitment to the indigenous Indian cultures was obvious. Her book, "Recovering the Sacred," documents in detail the struggles of the Native Americans for the survival of their land, food supply and cultural integrity.

Through stories and historical discussions, she shows the devastation and genocide brought on by the coming of the Europeans to North America. Included in this, are stories from all over the country, including the Northwest. The Klamath Tribe has a cultural history dating back 14,000 years and have oral history depicting the explosion of Mt Mazama 7,000 years ago. Yet, the US

government had the audacity to declare them nonexistent in the 1950's!

Reading this material broke my heart and made me realize how little I know of the complete history of our country. As difficult as this is to learn, Ms. LaDuke leaves us with an inspiring message, providing numerous details on the return of the sacred orientation to many tribes in the form of land, native foods, culture, and more. And in doing so, she is serving all Americans in seeing all of life as interrelated and therefore sacred. In a world dominated by the materialist, "ownership" point of view, it couldn't be more timely or relevant. I highly recommend this book for all interested in a sustainable and sacred environment.

Sincerely, Tom Tryon Umpqua Watersheds Member

Eight Degrees of Separation

A FREUDIAN ANALYSIS OF GLOBAL WARMING

"Vell Mr. Liebowitz, lie down on see couch."

"It's just terrible. Dr. Jane Lubchenco is actually coming to Roseburg on Wednesday, April 19th at 7pm at Roseburg High School's Rose Theater. She will talk about the latest Science on Global Warming."

"Sounds interesting."

"Interesting, Dr. Freud? It's my worst nightmare, I feel so inferior. She's got 8 honorary degrees including one from Princeton. And a doctorate from Harvard. The only time I have more degrees is when I'm running a fever."

"Perhaps, zen, I can take your temperature."

"You don't understand. She's a Professor of Marine Biology and a Distinguished Professor of Zoology. As for me, my Marine life is limited to the beaches at Coney Island - though I did visit the Bronx Zoo once."

"Zis sounds like a clear case of 'Lubchenco Envy'"

"Can you blame me? She served as President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the International Council for Science. I ran for class president and came in third."

"Zat's not bad."

"There was only one other person running."

"Zat is bad."

"Her resume is the one my mother wanted for me. And there's the MacArthur Genius Fellowship and the...Doctor, where are you going?"

"I am sorry to cut zee session short, but Dr. Lubchenco vill be on NPR and I don't vant to miss it."

"Oh Doctor...."

by Stuart Liebowitz Douglas Cty Global Warming Coalition

Other Earth Week Events

Tuesday April 18th Mountain Lion Foundation & UVAS presents

Living with Lions

7pm Ford Rm Douglas County Library

For more information please contact: Karen Cotton, Mountain Lion Foundation (916) 442 2666, Mary Ann Wilcox 440-9917 or al_mawilcox@msn.com.

Wednesday April 19th

Douglas County Global Warming Coalition

Dr. Jane Lubchenco "The Latest Science on Global Warming"

7pm Roseburg High School Theater

Get the most recent information on global warming, including its effects on the Pacific Northwest. Call 541-672-9819 for more information.

Sunday April 23rd

The Second Annual

One Less Car Day

3pm starts at Douglas County Library

Come one come all no car parade! Social gathering at McMenamins to follow at 5pm. T-shirts available now. Contact Barbel Valenkamp 673-3385, Christy Cutting 673-1977 or visit the Earth Day Fair Booth on April 22nd.

Old-growth needs your help again...



A round the Umpqua Watersheds office these days, there is a lot of talk about "sold/unawarded timber sales". We are facing an uphill battle for 1,261 acres of BLM old-growth timber sales that were sold in the late 1990's. These sales were atrocious- they were the worst of the old growth liquidation sales, and stopped by court injunctions. Some of you will remember the victory laps we took in 1999 and 2000 when Judge Rothstein ruled that it was illegal for the federal agencies to further degrade our watersheds - that lap was for these timber sales. These sales that clear cut old-growth forests were stopped because the watersheds they were in supported coho salmon. Coho were protected under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

But those were the days of the Clinton administration. The Bush Administration cut the wild coho salmon ESA protections because they found there were plenty of coho in cement-lined fish hatcheries. Then, in 2004, the legal teeth were removed from the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) of the Northwest Forest Plan. It was the ACS that protected watersheds on BLM from further degradation, while the ESA protected fish. Without the ACS and the ESA protections, the BLM is able to bring these thought-success-story sales alive again.

When federal agencies, such as BLM, plan to take some sort of management action on their public lands, they must first disclose their plans in an "Environmental Assessment", with an opportunity for public comment. After considering comments, the BLM proceeds with making a decision. In the case of these sales, the decision was to sell the forests; advertising the old growth, auctioning the trees off to the high bidder, and finally, awarding the timber sale to the highest qualified bidder. "Awarding" means signing the contracts and locking in a price for the trees. The contracts usually require the timber industry to have the trees cut and removed within three years.

If the contract is not awarded within three months of the auction, the purchaser has the option to back out of the deal. The BLM can not simply "award" the sale if, for instance, a court ruling found the sale to be illegal. However, this is what happened with the 1,261 acres of old growth timber sales that Judge Rothstein found to be illegal in the late 90's.

With all the barriers removed, these sales can now be awarded to the industry groups who have been patiently waiting for them for almost a decade while undermining environmental laws.

The sales of concern include:

- Diamondback, which Umpqua Watersheds led hikes to, just west of Sutherlin. Roseburg BLM will award it to DR Johnson Lumber Company.
- Christopher Folly, which would allow Herbert Lumber to log 215 acres in the "key watershed" of Canton Creek, east of Glide.
- South Myrtle Creek, 585 acres of old growth that DR Johnson Lumber company would clear cut.
- Remote Control, 202 acres north of highway 42 near Remote that Coos Bay BLM would award to Roseburg Forest Products.
- E-Mile, 135 acres up Little River Road that Lone Rock Timber would log.

These, and other smaller sales, would total 1,261 acres of oldgrowth clear cutting, most of which would be taken from the Umpqua watershed, degrading our native fish habitat simply because there are enough salmon in fish hatcheries. Almost 10,000 log trucks would be needed to haul this timber to the mill.

The BLM has indicated they will re-do the Environmental Analysis for the sold sales, so **you will have another opportunity**. **to comment**. When we email you that the BLM is asking for your comments please add your voice to those who oppose this destruction of our natural resources for the benefit of the industry. Instead, the BLM should thin in the thousands of acres of managed plantations that need to be treated, producing wood products and jobs from public lands for our local communities.

Alice Parker, Saving Places for Discovery

It had not been seen in Oregon for eight decades. But Alice Parker spotted it at Limpy Rock in June 1976. "It" is *Pityopus californicus*, a very rare plant with no chlorophyll. And how did Alice find herself up there in the first place?

For years, Alice's friends, Jeanne and Frank Moore, wanted to preserve Limpy Rock because of its populations of Kalmiopsis, a wild ancestor of the Rhododendron we enjoy today. The Moores asked Alice to help survey plants on this piece of rock near Steamboat on the North Umpqua River. Alice spotted it; Mildred Thiele, volunteer lead botanist at the Douglas County Museum, verified it.

Together, Alice, the Moores, and Yvonne Knauss, worked to establish this piece of landscape in the North Umpqua National Forest as a Research Natural Area (RNA). They achieved that goal in the late 1970s, after collecting two volumes of data-"enough for a doctoral dissertation," one ranger concluded. To identify plants, they used Peck's Manual of the Higher Plants of Oregon. Peck used Latin exclusively to identify plants and the metric system to measure them. "Thank heaven for my high school Latin," Alice exclaimed.

The team's success in establishing the Research Natural Area also entailed intense consultations with professors Ken Chambers at OSU and Frank Lange at Southern Oregon University, a long rigorous letter writing campaign with key Congressmen, innumerable phone calls, periodic on-site study tours with legislative staff, and meetings galore.

Since then, others have discovered the Area's treasures. One was Dan Luoma, now a research professor at Oregon State University. As a student, Dan was inspired by the volunteer group's botanical report on Limpy Rock. For his thesis, he studied the Area's rich concentration of mycotrophic plants—those with no chlorophyll--fed by some of the same fungi that form mushrooms and truffles. Since the plants have no chlorophyll they reflect white, pink, yellow, orange or red light—sometimes stunning blends of colors.

In addition to helping establish Limpy Rock Research Natural Area, Alice and her husband, Fred, were also key players in the Umpqua Wilderness Defenders during the 1980s that eventually won approval from Congress to set aside Boulder Creek Wilderness.

Alice not only helped secure real estate for others to explore, she preserved other evidences in "thousands of photographs" she and Fred composed over their years as Roseburg residents. Fred, a veteran, died in 1991. With even greater fervor, Alice pursued her passion for conservation.

She and her fellow "bird ladies"—including Meredith Jones and Elaine Porter-- volunteered to regularly monitor birds on 11 routes through the Diamond Lake Ranger District. Beginning in the early 1990s, each spring and summer the crew has driven some 200 miles weekly. They identify some birds by sight, others by sound. Alice estimates she's observed a "lifetime list" of 600 species of native birds.



The bird ladies first volunteered to monitor birds when the U.S.

Forest Service, in planning its management, was called upon to consider forests also as homes for other plants—like the rare Pityopus californicus--and for birds, amphibians, wildlife, fish. All this information, Jeff Bohler, wildlife biologist said, helps the U.S. Forest Service consider a much more comprehensive set of data to improve management of public resources.

As a participant in the long standing Glide Wildflower Show, Alice contributed photographs of "rare and endangered" plants, important specimens no longer picked, preserved and exhibited. With help from a "techie," Alice implanted her wildflower photographs onto another of her striking quilts now displayed each spring at the premier Wildflower Show in Glide.

After 15 years teaching at the Robertson School of Business in Roseburg, Alice "retired" but continued to teach. Starting in the 1970s, she taught four bird ID classes annually—two in the spring and two in the fall; for each class she offered an afternoon and an evening section. Among her students were USFS staff who integrated her birding lessons into their resource management plans.

Alice also helped write a plan to restore Thorn Prairie to its fruiting shrubbery habitat for the rare calliope hummingbird and the green-tailed towhee. The plan calls for harvesting encroaching conifers, control burning small sections one at a time and replanting with service berry, goose berry, currant. The plan won support from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and a livestock producer who agreed to redirect spring water.

We acknowledge Alice Parker, Conservation Pioneer. She helped save places for discovery, lands like Limpy Rock Research Natural Area, Boulder Creek Wilderness and Thorn Prairie. Her "savings" also include thousands of photographic slides—some mounted for display, some preserved on fabric for quilts, some donated to the OSU Herbarium.

Perhaps, most importantly, these places and their intricate diversity of life are etched in the minds—and hearts--of professionals and volunteers who cherish and manage our Umpqua wild lands for generations more to discover.

Join us during Earth Week for...

A Night Out

April 18th

Roseburg Station

5-11pm

McMenamins is generously donating half of the evening's proceeds to Umpqua Watersheds! So eat, drink and be merry while helping local conservation efforts.

See you there!

McMenamins Roseburg Station (541) 672-1934 700 S.E. Sheridan St. Roseburg, OR 97470 www.mcmenamins.com

Explore... Be Informed...

Be Activated!

Umpqua Watersheds bi-weekly list-serve will:

- Notify you of upcoming events, hikes and volunteer opportunities
- Keep you updated on current conservation issues and news stories.
- Inform you about ways to take action on items of importance to life in the Umpqua River basin.

Sign up today! Send an email to outreach@umpqua-watersheds.org with "List-serve" in the subject line.

See page 6 for Events!

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