Umpqua Watersheds Welcomes New Executive Director

A new Executive Director took the helm of Umpqua Watersheds on April 1st. Judith Osborn brings a wealth of experience and a ton of enthusiasm to Umpqua Watersheds' leadership team. After living in Douglas County, Judith moved to Eugene where she spent 20 years in the organic and natural food business as owner of Sundance Natural Foods, and then in the production and distribution of organic produce. She attended the University of Oregon and completed both a B.A. and an M.A. in history to satisfy her desire to better understand the world in which we live.

Judith’s job as our new Executive Director will be to continue and expand on the work we are already doing to preserve and protect the forests and rivers of our region. She understands not only the importance of this work, but also the difficulty of the times and territory in which this work is being done. Judith says, “I love this beautiful land and I’m grateful for the opportunity to continue the work to protect and enhance it. It will take all of our best efforts to save what is essential to us and I look forward to working with you.”

Judith worked as a tree planter with the Golden Rockets, as an entrepreneurial manager of a start-up retail food store, a developer of ecological housing, and a community college instructor. Her breadth of experience and dedication to environmental ethics will serve her and us well as she leads Umpqua Watersheds into its exciting future.

Please help me welcome Judith back to the Umpqua conservation community. You can call her at: 541-672-7065, email: judith@umpqua-watersheds.org or stop in at Umpqua Watersheds office in downtown Roseburg at 539 SE Main St – upstairs.

By: Chuck Schnautz, UW Board President

Please allow me to introduce myself...

I came to Oregon in 1969 and moved to the end of Rice Creek Road. That’s when I first met John and Penny Lind. In 1973 I bought Sundance Natural Foods in Eugene. Sundance was a tiny store front then. By the time I sold the store in 1986, it had grown to its present size. For the next several years I traveled across the US and to the Caribbean, Europe and Africa. When I returned, I farmed for a few years and then went back to school. I studied history (Latin America), got an MA, taught at the University of Oregon and at Lane Community College. I spent a year in Mexico researching pre-Columbian art sites and decided I needed a job where my experience, education, skills and strengths could be integrated with my desire to do work that contributes to the health and beauty of our world. It’s a wonderful gift that I found the job of my dreams in the Umpqua River Watershed, and can once again make it my home.
NEW Heights for Umpqua Watersheds

Dear Supporters,

Personally, I get to thank you over and over again in my last letter to you as Umpqua Watersheds executive director. I also get to tell you over and over again how much work there is to do to keep the Umpqua protected.

... and finally, I get to ask you over and over again to help out with your financial and volunteer support during leadership change at Umpqua Watersheds.

It's with enthusiasm that I prepare the way for the NEW director. Also, I take a strong look at where we are and where we need to go to achieve continued conservation gains in our 100s of watersheds: your neighborhood - your water source - your forests and rivers - a legacy of conservation work in the Northwest.

What I realize is that your support will be critical as Umpqua Watersheds takes these big steps during unusual and exciting times.

Each year we attract new board members who help us take leaps to NEW heights in our work - however, this year with my retirement we also get to experience a NEW challenge with excitement and enthusiasm. The Umpqua Watersheds board has fulfilled their responsibility to hire a NEW executive director who will without a doubt take leaps to NEW heights for the Umpqua.

The Northwest region is getting to be known as the 'New West' a place that can nurture people, families and the future. To make that so we must work together to secure NEW wilderness, strengthen environmental laws, protect endangered species, develop strong habitat plans for our state forests, and keep conservation voices alive and growing.

Education, legislation, partnerships, legal victories and coalitions all contribute to outcomes that can turn our communities into vital parts of the New West. Your NEW director will want and need your support to do all that work.

What a better way for each of us to greet Judith Osborn, our NEW director, than sending in financial support and words of welcome. I will begin that trend with a special membership donation to help us reach those NEW heights and face NEW challenges.

Take the envelope provided in this newsletter and join me today to do just that.

Thank you so much for all the support you gave me during my time working with you to protect and restore the Umpqua and beyond.

Sincerely,

Penny Lind, Executive Director
Retired March 31, 2007

P.S. Together we will continue to reach NEW heights, and celebrate with our community.

A Special THANK YOU to the many volunteers who have been on the Umpqua Watersheds Board of Directors during my time as executive director. Your encouragement, leadership and support have made my favorite job worthwhile for me and for the Umpqua.

THANK YOU to 2007 retiring board members Gerald Wisdom, Ted Swagerty, Kathy Shayler and Mike Fisher.
Sincere thanks,

Penny Lind, Executive Director
CONSERVATION UPDATE:

BLM TARGETS OLD-GROWTH FOR LOGGING

Boney Skull Timber Sale

The Glendale Resource Area of the Medford BLM is proposing to log old-growth forests in the South Umpqua River watershed. While many federal land management agencies are working with the public to develop responsible thinning projects in managed plantations, Medford BLM is continuing to log old-growth forests.

The Boney Skull timber sale calls for logging 1,654 acres of native forest in the Middle Fork Cow Creek Watershed of the South Umpqua River. 858 acres of this logging would be accomplished through what they call "regeneration harvest" which is essentially clearcutting, leaving as few as 6 trees per acre. Ancient forests are cut down and replaced by even-age fiber plantations for the benefit of the timber industry. Almost 5 miles of new roads are proposed, even though the agency cannot afford to maintain the roads they already have.

780 acres of the logging are in "connectivity" blocks for the Northern Spotted Owl. Connectivity blocks are forests that allow owls to move across the landscape between logging sites. Worse, the BLM hopes to log 230 acres of old-growth forests that serve as "critical habitat" for the survival and recovery of the spotted owl.

The future of Coho salmon in Cow Creek also hangs in the balance. These salmon are even more at risk now that the counting of hatchery fish has removed the Coho from protections under the Endangered Species Act. The proposed clearcutting, tractor yarding and road construction will harm the waters on which remaining wild Coho depend.

Please take a moment to write a letter to the Glendale Resource Area opposing the Boney Skull old-growth timber sale. Your letter will be most effective if you also send a copy of it to Representative Peter DeFazio. Don’t forget to include your name and address.

Katrina Symons, Field Manager
Glendale Resource Area, Medford BLM
2164 NE Spalding, Grants Pass, OR 97526

Honorable Peter DeFazio
U.S. Representative
612 SE Jackson St., Rm 9,
Roseburg, OR 97470

Tell the BLM:

- The old-growth forests of the Middle Cow Creek Watershed are more valuable standing than cut. This watershed has already done its part for our nation’s fiber needs. The Cow Creek Watershed has been heavily degraded and fragmented by private industrial and federal management.

- The BLM is out of step with the social consensus that demands the focus of timber management on stands that have already been logged, rather that creating more young, flammable, fiber plantations on the landscape.

- The Middle Cow Creek Watershed is worth saving. Tractor yarding, "regeneration harvest" and new road construction will further harm the watershed.

Old-Growth in Boney Skulls

UW Conservation Associate Deborah Michel measures the tree on the right.
Wild On Wilderness: Protecting Our Lands

The Wild On Wilderness (WOW) Committee has been working diligently the last several months. The committee continues to meet on the final Wednesday of the month at McMenamin's (700 SE Sheridan St.) at 7pm. The goal of permanently protecting roadless areas as wilderness keeps the committee involved with research in the woods and community outreach and education. We invite any interested community members to join the WOW community and share your ideas to better protect wild areas.

The committee will be taking the Wilderness Slideshow on the road to Salem and Portland in April. This is an excellent opportunity to share the beauty of the Umpqua with the rest of the state. We will invite state and local politicians to view the future wilderness areas of the Umpqua and encourage you to contact friends and family in these areas to help promote Umpqua Wilderness Presentation.

Many activities are planned for Wilderness Week this summer. The WOW Committee will kick-off Wilderness Week with a Wilderness Slideshow and Presentation to the public on June 20th at 7:00pm at the Douglas County Library. Hikes will also be led to some special areas on June 23rd, 28th, and 30th (see Spring Event Calendar for more info). To get involved or to learn more about the WOW Committee call the Umpqua Watersheds office at 541-672-7065.

41st Annual Glide Wildflower Show
April 28th and 29th

Preparations are underway for the 41st Annual Glide Wildflower Show, scheduled for 9am-5pm April 28th and 29th, at the Glide Community Center. Last year nearly 2,000 people attended the largest display of native flora in the Pacific Northwest.

Participants and volunteers for event preparation, plant collecting, set-up and clean-up, and many other tasks are still being recruited. If you wish to volunteer in support of the event contact Dorothy Terry at 459-5916.

Jeanne Moore, the show’s chairperson and long time North Umpqua resident, is this year’s plant collector coordinator. She will be conducting a Collector Workshop on April 7th. If you are interested in attending or need more information please contact Jeanne at 498-2268.

There will be special presentations this year including:

“Botanical Discoveries of the Lewis and Clark Expedition”, presented by David Shea. April 28th, 1:30-2:20pm; April 29th, 10:30-11:30am.

“Low Lives of the Forest”, presented by Ron Hamill. April 28th, 3-4pm; April 29th, 2:30-3:30pm.


Outreach Corner
by Seth Kirby
Outreach Coordinator

The first months of 2007 were busy and productive. We had some great hikes snow-shoeing at Diamond Lake and enjoying the mist at Fall Creek Falls, and a very successful Wilderness Slideshow with Mark Harmon from OSU. We also hosted students from Phoenix School at the office for a day of forest management history and education.

The outreach program is also beginning to gear up for the busy Spring and Summer seasons. There are some great hikes planned for all ages and skill levels. Invite your mother out for a nice hike to Susan Creek Falls or join us in the remote Last Creek area of the Umpqua National Forest.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED...

We always need volunteers to lead a hike to your favorite spot, volunteer at Earth Day, take pictures, write for 100 Valleys, answer phones, assist the conservation team, read and edit conservation reports, file newspaper clippings, assist with errands, and the list goes on.

To volunteer contact Seth at 541-672-7065.
The largest wildflower show in the Pacific Northwest!

**Founded in 1965**

# Glide WILDFLOWER Show

April 28 & 29, 2007
9 am – 5 pm

- Roving botanists to answer questions
- Photographs of rare & endangered plants
- Photographers' hours: 8 – 9 am, Saturday & Sunday
- Noxious weeds, natural dyes and edible plant displays
  - Flora books & guides for sale
- Homemade pies plus food & beverages for sale

**Special Presentations**

**SATURDAY**
1:30 – 2:30 pm  Botanical Discoveries of the Lewis & Clark Expedition — David Shea
3:00 – 4:00 pm  "Low Lifes" of the Forest & Why We Should Appreciate Them — Ron Hamill

**SUNDAY**
10:30 – 11:30 am  Botanical Discoveries of the Lewis & Clark Expedition — David Shea
1:00 – 2:00 pm  Landscaping with Native Plants — Erik Baxter & Richard Helliwell
2:30 – 3:30 pm  "Low Lifes" of the Forest & Why We Should Appreciate Them — Ron Hamill

Presenting over 600 species of Southwest Oregon wildflowers, trees, shrubs, grasses, ferns, lichens, mosses & liverworts

Suggested Donation: $2
Wheelchair Accessible

Glide Community Center
Rt 138 • Glide, Oregon • 541.677.7113 • glidewildflowershow.org
Spring 2007 Events and Hikes

April 14th - Penny Lind’s Retirement Party
You are invited!! Friends and family will be gathering together at the Umpqua Valley Art Center (1624 W Harvard) to celebrate Penny’s retirement after 9 long years as Executive Director of Umpqua Watersheds. Festivities begin at 6pm with a viewing of “Image from a River” which has artists’ interpretations of the Umpqua River. At 7:30pm there will be an Old Country Irish Potluck Dinner. Guests are encouraged to bring foods within the theme if possible. Contact 541-672-7065 for more information.

April 21st - Earth Day
Join Umpqua Watersheds at Douglas County’s largest Earth Day Celebration. From 10am-4pm at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. There will be activities for kids, composting and organic gardening, hybrid and alternative fuels displays, and much more. Umpqua Watersheds needs individuals to volunteer at our booth to help educate the public. If you are interested in volunteering at this event contact Umpqua Watersheds at 672-7065.

April 28th - Mott Trail Wildflower Hike
Wildflowers should be out in full swing along this section of the North Umpqua Trail. The group may offer a side hike up the McDonald Trail. Both trails have wonderful flowers at this time of the year. The hike will be moderately difficult between 5-6 miles. Meet behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler St. at 8:00am or at the Glide Ranger Station at 8:30am. Wear appropriate clothing and footgear and bring water, lunch, raingear, and expect to share fuel expenses. Call 672-7065 with questions.

April 25th & May 30th - Wild On Wilderness (WOW) Meetings
Join local wilderness enthusiasts in an ongoing community discussion about protecting the last remaining roadless areas in the Umpqua. Discussions include working towards more wilderness areas, expanding roadless areas and statewide outreach. Meet at McMenemy’s Roseburg Station (700 SE Sheridan St) at 7pm. Call Umpqua Watersheds office 672-7065 for information.

May 13th - Mother’s Day Waterfall Hike
Invite your mother out on a nice waterfall hike with Umpqua Watersheds. Susan Creek Falls is a wonderful short hike, under 2 miles and for people of all ages. The trail is well maintained and can have a wonderful display of wildflowers and also offers great photography opportunities. Meet behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler St. at 9:00am. Wear appropriate clothing and footgear and bring water, lunch, raingear, and expect to share fuel expenses. Call 672-7065 with questions.

June 2nd - North Umpqua River Campground Clean-up Hike
The first week in June is National River Clean-up Week. Umpqua Watersheds will be leading a group to the campgrounds along the North Umpqua River. Come join us and help keep the Umpqua River a beautiful place. Meet behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler St. at 9:00am or at the Glide Ranger Station at 9:30am. Wear appropriate clothing and footgear and bring water, lunch, raingear, and expect to share fuel expenses. Call 672-7065 with questions.

June 20th - Wilderness Slideshow
Wilderness Week kicks off with a wonderful slide show showing the beauty of the Umpqua National Forest’s roadless areas. Learn about why these areas are a crucial part of the Umpqua and the wild areas we enjoy. The slide show will be held at the Douglas County Library in the Ford Room at 7pm. Call 541-672-7065 for more information.

June 23rd - Hike Cougar Bluffs
Cougar Bluffs is one of the closest roadless areas to Roseburg and one of the most utilized. We will be visiting a secluded waterfall and learning about the importance of protecting the Umpqua’s last remaining roadless areas. Meet behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler St. at 8:00am or at the Glide Ranger Station at 8:30am. Wear appropriate clothing and footgear and bring water, lunch, raingear, and expect to share fuel expenses. Call 672-7065 with questions.

June 28th - Hike Last Creek
Umpqua Watersheds leads a rare weekday hike to one of the largest roadless areas in the South Umpqua River drainage. We will be visiting one of two nearly 5000 foot buttes and possibly an 850 year old tree. Meet behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler St. at 9:00am or at Promise Natural Foods in Canyonville at 9:30am. Wear appropriate clothing and footgear and bring water, lunch, raingear, and expect to share fuel expenses. Call 672-7065 with questions.

June 30th - Hike Bulldog Rock
Located next to the Boulder Creek Wilderness area, Bulldog Rock is a wonderful example of the Umpqua’s roadless areas. Come see why Umpqua Watersheds is campaigning for Wilderness Protection for this area. Meet behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler St. at 8:00am or at the Glide Ranger Station at 8:30am. Wear appropriate clothing and footgear and bring water, lunch, raingear, and expect to share fuel expenses. Call 672-7065 with questions.

Idea for a hike? Call the Umpqua Watershed office at 541-672-7065.

For more information, call 672-7065 or email outreach@umpqua-watersheds.org. Hikes are weather dependent, please contact the UW office on the Friday before a hike between 10a-5p to confirm.
Umpqua Watersheds 11th Banquet a Success

By: Seth Kirby

It is hard to believe that another banquet has already come and gone. Over 350 supporters gathered from around the state to celebrate Umpqua Watersheds and our conservation successes over the last year. This year we returned to the Douglas County Fairground. Their hospitality is terrific and we look forward to working with them at next year’s banquet on February 9th, 2008.

Pacific Flyaway provided excellent acoustic music during the social hour. Their sounds rang through the entire hall from the Year in Review slideshow to the Wild Wetlands bar. Many people tasted some excellent wine and the gourmet hors d’oeuvre pairings while browsing the Silent Auction. With well over 100 items there was something for everyone to bid on and enjoy. We wish to send a big THANK YOU to all of the individuals and businesses who donated to the Silent Auction. This event could not have been as successful without your generosity.

We were also privileged to hear Bob Freimark’s vision for Oregon’s Wild Future. Bob joined us from The Wilderness Society, based in Seattle. Bob discussed his time working in the Umpqua and shared his optimistic thoughts about more protected wilderness areas in our watershed.

Umpqua Watersheds honored several people throughout the community who have been integral in protecting our public lands. Francis Fatherington was given a thank you from the board, staff, and community for surviving 10 years at Umpqua Watersheds. Francis has done tremendous work as Conservation Program Director and is critical to many of the forest and wild-victories that Umpqua Watersheds has had.

This year’s Lifetime Achievement Award went to two people who have championed conservation for many decades within the Umpqua, Frank and Jeanne Moore. The Moores opened the Steamboat Inn in the late 1950s and soon began working to keep the North Umpqua River wild and clean. They have achieved positive results through education, filmmaking and their tireless efforts. They have also been involved in the Glide Wildflower Show almost since its beginnings. Umpqua Watersheds is honored to recognize Frank and Jeanne for their dedication to protecting and restoring the Umpqua.

Several volunteers who have spent many hours devoted to protecting the wild Umpqua were also recognized. This year’s Counting on You award was awarded to Robin Wisdom. Robin has been a very valuable resource to Umpqua Watersheds for several years. Weather working with the WOW committee or helping around the office, Robin was there and a great asset. Lois Eagleton was given the Environmental Activist Award. Lois has worked to enhance Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park over the past several years. She is always more than willing to educate and to share the park’s beauty with the community.

Umpqua Watersheds sends our Thanks to our volunteers, team leaders, board of directors, staff, and members for such a wonderful event. Mark your calanders, we look forward to seeing you all again on February 9th, 2008.

DO YOU HAVE A BICYCLE???

We still have a full bicycle tune-up from the Rainey Peak Cyclery in Elkton left from the auction. It has a retail value of $60 and is well worth it. A nice tune-up can improve performance and help keep your bike in top shape. If you or someone you know is interested, feel free to stop by or call the office 541-672-7065 to inquire.
Ode to LNG

Ted says he has a “Green Dream”
That it’s part of his ideal
But the current LNG scheme
Demands more than verbal spiel
It’s already been rejected
Twice by California’s folks
When the populace reflected
Saying No - we won’t be coaxed!!
Yet another corporate merger
Adding muscle to Big Bucks
Let’s prevent it going further
And we’ll halt the greedy shmucks
I can visualize them sitting
At the planning table now
Did they think we’d sit home knitting
And not even raise a brow??
Just convince those local yokels
Of the Safety and the Need
For this large and risky pipeline
Through their rivers, fields, and trees
Clear-cut thousands of fine acres
Just erode those unnamed creeks
We’re the Doers and the Makers...
Country folks are always meek
Go to spots like Indonesia
Liquefy their Natural Gas
Fill those huge expansive tankers
Ship it back and pump it fast
Pump it all to California
Where they have the bucks to pay
So we tear up Southern Oregon
They’ll get over it some day...
Well, I’m sure you get the message
And I hope you’re fuming too
As you learn of all the reasons
Why this pipeline can’t go through
Since I’ve listed but a few of them
I’ll share some more right now
For its vital that we make it known
To leaders with the power
Why do the “global shuffle”
New approaches are at hand
Yet we currently are shipping gas
From Alaska to Japan
And what about the dangers -
The location on the coast
One explosion at the terminal
Coos Bay could just be toast
Ah yes, the airport’s right next door
Ever heard of pilot error?
And another point we should explore
The thought of focused terror
So we must all pick up our pens
Outrages must be shared
With politicians and with friends
And neighbors everywhere
And especially with FERC right here
As we gather in our group
Our messages they must ring clear
The power point is YOU!

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All Contributions are Tax Deductible, Call Seth at 541-672-7065.
Support for County Payments and Old Forests

Conservation Groups Offer a Plan

By: Penny Lind

Umpqua Watersheds continues to support re-authorization of "county payments" for rural Western Oregon counties. Unfortunately, with today's administration politics, war expenses, and budget games, that outcome looks gloomy.

Attempts by historically timber-dependent counties and the administration to relink logging with county needs and public land sales, keep making this difficult.

Umpqua Watersheds, in a coalition of conservation groups, has unveiled a plan that supports renewal of important county payments legislation in Congress.

The Western Old-Growth Protection and Rural Investment Fund would create an endowment to support Oregon counties that rely heavily on federal payments for schools, libraries, roads, and other programs.

Conservationists' investment fund plan would clear the way for a resolution of these shortfalls and the barriers to funding sources. The plan creates an endowment to provide at least six years of additional funding for Western Oregon counties. Funds to create the endowment would be drawn from two sources:

A. Administrative savings gained by consolidating management of nearly 2.6 million acres of federal forestland in Western Oregon presently under the control of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) by transferring management to the National Forest System. This proposal, first suggested by the Reagan administration, would reduce bureaucracy and waste, creating an annual savings of approximately $55 million.

B. The federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), a program created to fund environmental protection and restoration efforts, would be tapped to provide an additional $300 million. National political support for such a measure would be contingent upon providing a greater level of protection for old-growth forests, clean water, salmon, and other values on the federal lands listed in Part A.

These Western Oregon BLM lands contain some of the last unprotected old-growth forests in Oregon. These are the forests the Bush administration keeps putting at risk. Our plan would provide funding for rural education and other programs in Western Oregon, and protect these important natural resource values.

With the federal spending crunches and increased concern for the health of watersheds, water quality, and salmon runs, there are compelling reasons to transfer Western Oregon BLM lands into the National Forest System. Although not perfect, the Forest Service is the caretaker to over 193 million acres of our public land in America.

Umpqua Watersheds does not want you to be forced to choose between funding education and clear cutting our last old-growth forests. The Western Oregon Old-Growth Protection and Rural Investment Fund would provide a balanced approach to fund rural communities and protect our natural heritage.

This simple two-step solution to keep our forests, rivers and wildlife whole while delivering services to the public would help southwestern counties where the ratio of federal forests to private land is high.

To view the details of the plan go to: www.oregonheritageforests.org

Reauthorization of Safety Net Still Possible

Umpqua Watersheds is pleased to hear about the multi-year proposal from Western Democratic Senators, led by Oregon's Senator Ron Wyden to secure funding for rural schools and counties. This plan would re-authorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act and fund counties across Oregon and the nation. The proposal's new formula will provide full funding in 2007 with 10% reductions for the following 4 years. These gradual adjustments will give counties valuable time to develop a long range plan to keep county services in place.

This re-authorization sets a better standard than the Bush Administration's controversial scheme to sell national forest lands to fund county payments. Please ask your Senator and Congress person to consider their support of re-authorization if they have not already endorsed this balanced outcome that supports rural communities in an equitable manner. To learn more about Senator Wyden's plan see: http://wyden.senate.gov/media/2007/03202007_countypayments.htm

Umpqua Watersheds, and our conservation partners, will stay involved in the development of a solution that reaches beyond short-term funding.
You are invited!!!

Penny Lind’s
Retirement Party
APRIL 14th

You are invited to join us in celebrating Penny Lind’s retirement from Umpqua Watersheds. Penny has dedicated her career to the preservation of Umpqua’s natural environment and we are honored to have her as a member of our team. Penny has worked hard and we want to thank her for her many years of service.

You are invited to join us in a special retirement party for Penny Lind. Penny has dedicated her career to the preservation of Umpqua’s natural environment and we are honored to have her as a member of our team. Penny has worked hard and we want to thank her for her many years of service.

Thank you, Penny!