

# 100 Valleys

*A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds*

Summer 2009

Issue #46

## WOPR DEFEATED!!!

The Bush era's "legacy" to unravel the Northwest Forest Plan on BLM lands has met its rightful end. The Obama administration is living up to its word to restore scientific integrity and common sense to forest planning. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar is to be commended for his leadership in retracting the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Western Oregon Plan Revisions (or WOPR). He also downed the scientifically fallacious spotted owl "recovery plan" into the round file it so deserved. Maybe there is still hope for the owl's recovery. In both cases Secretary Salazar acknowledged that these decisions were illegal and politically motivated.

We also thank Senator Ron Wyden. It was at his insistence that the Inspector General investigated and as a result uncovered rampant political interference in science regarding Bush administration endangered species decisions. Umpqua Watersheds new executive director, Cindy Haws knows this kind of immoral behavior directly as having been an agency scientist when the agency tried to undermine the aquatic conservation strategy and also salvage harvest in LSR with bogus science after the Spring Fire. These reversals make it a great day for Oregon communities all of which have suffered from unsustainable logging at the expense of our water, fish, wildlife and quality of life.

So, what is in the works? The message from the administration is that the WOPR would be replaced with "ecologically sound timber



sales". This means we are not out of the water. Remember budget bill Section 318 "protection of ecologically significant old growth"? We lost 1000s of acres of functioning, healthy old growth & mature forest since then. There is now a push by our local agencies and timber industry to do thinning harvest in mature unmanaged forest inside late successional reserves, riparian reserves, roadless areas and matrix lands all of which are critically

important to species conservation in the current climate conditions. While the Umpqua Forest and Roseburg BLM should be commended for some of their planning efforts that focus on thinning in over stocked plantations to reduce fire risk, huge timber sales are being put up like the Cow Creek TS and D-Bug that are bad examples of misapplied science to effectively "burn the village to save the village". Road decommissioning on these forests are also getting the back seat to more timber output.

Instead, mature and old growth forests must be preserved. As Dr. Mark Harmon OSU's climate and biomass scientist has said, removing trees or biomass from the forest generally punches holes in an already leaky carbon bucket causing additional loss in our forest's ability to sequester carbon. Spotted owls would agree. What is left of the stored and living biomass in public unmanaged forest's gives spotted owls food (e.g. the rodents they eat need the dead wood & canopy), and roosting

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## Our Mission

*Dedicated to the protection and restoration of the ecosystems of the Umpqua Watershed and beyond.*

## Board of Directors

Ken Carloni	President
Ed Cooley	Vice President
Jemma Crae	Secretary
Leslee Sherman	Treasurer
Chris Rusch	Fundraising

Karen Beesley	Dale Greenley
Thomas McGregor	Jim Ince

## Staff

Cindy Haws  
Executive Director

Betsy Dean  
Organizational Coordinator

Seth Kirby  
Outreach Director

## Conservation Coordinator

Francis Eatherington

## Hours

Monday-Thursday  
1:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.  
call for off hours

## Contact Us

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## From the President

### Message from the President: New and Old Faces at Umpqua Watersheds

Greetings from your returning President at Umpqua Watersheds! I'd like to take a few lines to re-introduce myself, and then to tell you about the strong board of new and veteran directors we've convened this year. Finally, I want to tell you about the exciting but challenging opportunities I see before us.

I was a member of UW in 1994 when Jim Ince, Penny Lind, Jim Kaupilla and I signed the Articles of Incorporation for Umpqua Watersheds. I served as President in 1996-7 and 1997-8, during the bad old days of the "Forest Wars", when social polarization and political acrimony ruled.

In late 1998 when Penny Lind took over the Presidency, I resigned from UW, the Watershed Council, and all of my other local obligations and went back to school in the College of Forestry at OSU. After that sabbatical and countless wee hours, I was awarded a PhD in forest ecology from the Forest Science Dept. in 2005. My work sheds new light on the effect of aboriginal land use practices on landscape patterns and processes in the Little River Watershed.

I rejoined the UW board in 2008 and am proud to be your President for another term. I also sit on the Douglas County Forest Council, a group convened about 2 years ago by Commissioner Joe Laurance to search for common ground on biomass utilization and other forest issues on the Umpqua.

I'm very excited to be part of an impressive Board of Directors. Our board ranges from Leslee Sherman one of the original wilderness defenders of the 1980's to Thomas McGregor, a young, thoughtful and energetic educator at Phoenix School dedicated to conservation education. Chris Rusch has also joined our board, bringing over 30 years of forestry and botany from her work in the Forest Service at the Tiller Ranger District, from which she recently retired.

Our board members embrace a broad spectrum of Douglas County life, with experience in accounting, ranching, healthcare, event promotion, small business, education and ecosystem sciences. And our history is deep: two members were active in the Umpqua Wilderness Defenders, a group predating UW, whose efforts lead to the first designated wilderness areas on the Umpqua in 1984.

I'm pleased to announce that Cindy Haws (Barkhurst), an educator and former wildlife biologist with the Umpqua National Forest, has moved from the President's position to Executive Director. She has been working tirelessly to keep grants and other sources of funding coming our way, and I'm thrilled to be working with her to move the organization in new and rewarding directions. I'm also delighted that Penny Lind has graciously been lending her institutional memory and insights to Cindy and me as we look for the most effective ways to meet our mission.

At both the staff and volunteer levels, the office has been getting lots of energy from former President Betsy Dean, Seth Kirby, Kathy Shayler and Deborah Michels. They have all put in many volunteer hours in excess of their modest pay, and for that we are deeply grateful.

While UW is widely known for its highly successful conservation program lead for many years by Francis Eatherington, the board and staff have recently completed a new strategic plan that will increase our focus on restoration and education elements of our mission.

An important educational and public outreach project is currently under way. Former Presidents Bob Hoehne and Gerald Wisdom have pulled together a great team of volunteers for the Wild On Wilderness (WOW) Committee. They are planning a conference called "Wilderness: Our Community, Our Future", which will take place at UCC Nov. 7, 2009. Guest speakers and panelists will explore the benefits of wilderness protection for local communities through a host of speakers, panels, and breakout sessions.

As I write this, news of the demise of the Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR) is hitting the front pages. We and our sister conservation organizations have been working hard to derail this deeply flawed, Bush-era plan to triple logging on BLM lands. This is good news, but what happens next is now unclear.

Local conservationists need to be at the table when the Obama administration evaluates pending BLM timber sales and develops a new plan for these widely mismanaged public lands. I believe that Umpqua Watersheds, with its depth of experience in forest science and public policy, is uniquely situated to be major player in moving regional ecosystem management planning into a new era of sustainability.

Climate change mitigation, a new Spotted Owl recovery plan, fire management strategies, pending changes to the Umpqua National Forest Travel Management Plan, stimulus funds for restoration, a political sea-change at the state and national levels... The opportunities are great and the challenges many. But with your help and support, Umpqua Watersheds will continue to live up to its motto: "Protect the Best and Restore the Rest"!

Ken Carloni, President  
Umpqua Watersheds, Inc.

# Wilderness: Our Community, Our Future

Umpqua Watersheds' Wild on Wilderness Committee (WOW) is in the process of organizing a wilderness conference to promote permanent wilderness protection for the remaining roadless lands within the Umpqua National Forest.

The conference, titled "Wilderness: Our Community, Our Future," is scheduled for Saturday, November 7th, 2009, and will be hosted on the campus of Umpqua Community College (UCC). This is a great opportunity for veteran activists, as well as newcomers, to get involved on behalf of defending our few remaining truly wild places on the Umpqua.

Our goal is to explore the benefits of wilderness protection for local communities through a host of speakers, panels, and breakout sessions. As the natural landscape faces new unprecedented threats, such as climate change and noise pollution, we also hope to educate legislators, business leaders, and local politicians about the need for permanent designation.

The wilderness conference will address numerous topics including:

- Economic benefits of conservation
- Effects of wilderness towards amelioration of climate change
- Effects of climate change on wilderness
- Protecting biodiversity
- Indigenous People and the Land Ethic
- Interfaith values of wilderness

On Sunday, November 8th, we plan to follow the Saturday conference with a day of group hikes into proposed wilderness areas.

The success of the conference depends on enlisting as much help from community members, activists, and other conservation groups as possible. If you would like to volunteer please contact Hudson Spivey, Wilderness Conference Chairperson, at [hdsipvey@gmail.com](mailto:hdsipvey@gmail.com), or Co-Chairperson Bob Hoehne at [oho937@hotmail.com](mailto:oho937@hotmail.com). Financial contributions should be made payable to Umpqua Watersheds, memo WOW Conference, PO Box 101, Roseburg, OR 97470

Wild On Wilderness Committee

If you are interested in getting involved with the Wilderness Conference, come to a Wilderness Conference Meeting. The Committee meets every Monday at 7pm at the Umpqua Watersheds Office (539 SE Main). For info call 541-672-7065 or email [uw@umpqua-watersheds.org](mailto:uw@umpqua-watersheds.org)

## Roadless Area Conservation Act of 2009 Original Co-Sponsor Drive Begins

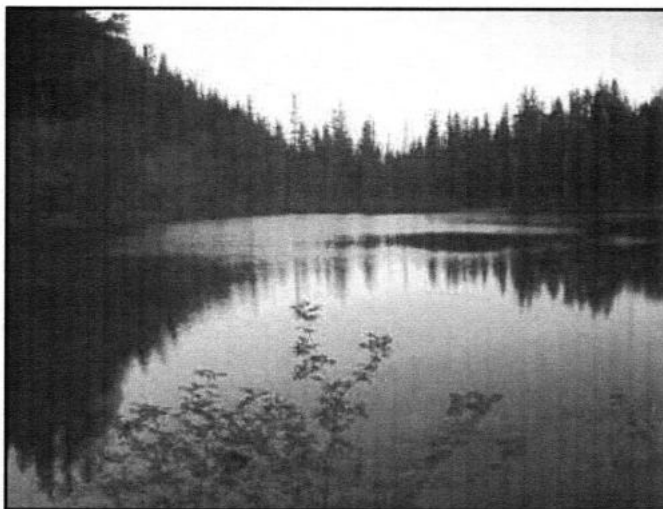
Members of both the House and Senate will be reintroducing the Roadless Area Conservation Act of 2009 in the near future. The legislation is identical to years' past (H.R. 2516, S. 1478) and as we all know, this legislation is important in our efforts to continue to secure & build support for the Roadless Rule in Congress that will in turn help the President & his Administration to move forward with defending and upholding the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule offering lasting protection to these wild forest lands.

Additionally, thanks to the help and support of all of you, Members of Congress, and many others, we now have an interim directive in place for one year that will ensure a 'time out' on development on these roadless lands while the President,

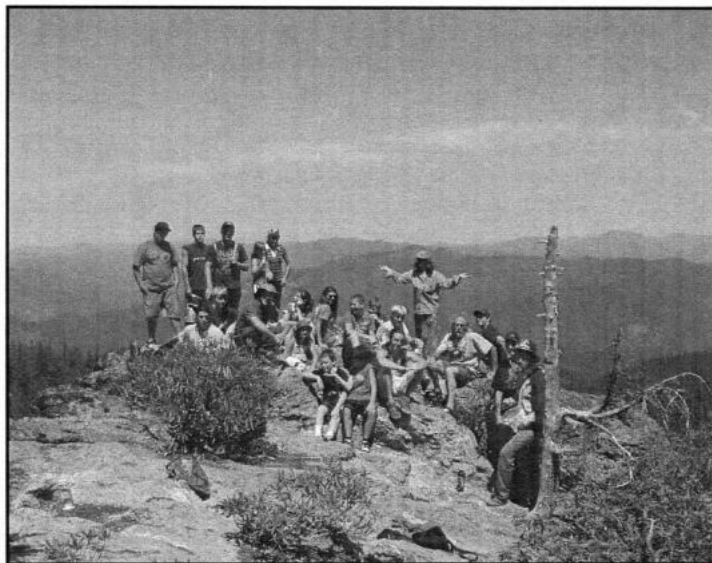
his administration and Congress can begin to reinstate national protections for IRAs - the 2001 Roadless Rule.

So, let's continue the good work everyone has done in protecting these areas and work together to reach out to Members of Congress.

Let the co-sponsorship drive begin! Thanks everyone for your help.



Twin Lakes at sunset in the Calf-Copeland Roadless area.



This summer's Youth Wilderness Campout crew. 16 youth and many adult volunteers descended on Twin Lakes the last weekend in July. They made it out of the area just before the Williams Creek Fire.

# Conservation UPDATE:

Cindy Haws, Executive Director  
Professional Wildlife Biologist

## Umpqua National Forest Travel Management Plan

The Umpqua Forest is proposing a Travel Management Plan (TMP) that would allow Off Highway Vehicles (OHVs) on virtually all but a few restricted roads in the Umpqua National Forest. Ultimately OHV use will increase and OHV recreation developed on trails currently used as hiking trails and dispersed campgrounds. OHV Hunting would also occur facilitating more roadside hunting with yet another technological tool. Below are some major issues:

- Illegally ignores an existing Code of Federal Regulation that closed ~1230 miles (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/umpqua/projects/plandocs/roads-analysis/01-road-analysis.pdf>) of roads classified as maintenance level 1. Therefore the proposed action violates the National Environmental Policy Act by claiming a false "existing condition".
- Congress mandated the Forest Service to establish a minimum road system. The purpose is to get out of an over developed and dense system of roads that they cannot afford to maintain and is a primary cause of our salmon declines. The proposed action moves in the opposite direction by a focus on development of a recreational activity on roads that must be removed from the system entirely.
- The USFS cannot afford to maintain all of the roads that would become OHV access roads and use. They already have a deficit budget item called "deferred road maintenance" that identifies 46 million dollars needed to maintain a backlog of roads on a redundant road system.
- The primary and secondary roads alone are a lofty 1610 mi. of access 34% of the road system. The remaining 66% is a huge 3200 miles. Stretching them out, it would be the same as driving from the Pacific to the Atlantic crammed in one small forest.
- The forest has high roads densities. A cursory look at the Forest's road density map indicates over ~60% of the forest's one million acres has road densities > 2 miles in every square mile and ~ 40% have >3 miles per square mile. For every one mile walked in any direction what is the probability of encountering a road? This has major impacts on the ability of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife to maintain security and necessary connections between habitats.
- The roads are a result of timber management not recreation. This was to get close to units for log load and haul. This condition is causing wide aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem damage and was never realistically affordable. For example the storms of the winters of 1996-99 caused landslides, floods, and debris torrents that costed over 11 million tax dollars to repair.
- The Umpqua is even using President Obama's stimulus dollars to pay for roads to support bad timber sales like D-Bug.

- We all recognize the importance of quiet wild land recreation. Our public lands are the last places where as a citizen we can seek "natural quiet". The economics and quality of life not only exceeds other values but is critical to our health.
- Many other resource damage issues come with OHV use. Wildlife populations compromised from past road development are at greater risk if motorized recreation increases its tentacles. Forest carnivore populations such as wolverine, fisher, pine martin, bear, and wolves, have been seriously impacted by roads with trapping, harassment, illegal shooting, disturbance affecting habitat use, and accidental mortality. Beaver population recovery and wetland restoration is prevented by required road drainage structures.
- Invasive non-native fish have been introduced illegally to ponds, lakes and wetlands because of motorized recreation access causing species populations such as the red legged frog, spotted frog, western pond turtle, and fairy shrimp to seriously decline or go extinct.
- There has never been adequate enforcement to protect species and to ensure public safety, a very costly burden for taxpayers. Look at the dunes OHV recreation area and the unforeseen problems and costs. Who pays?
- While the agency and OHV interest groups will argue they can cover costs of trail maintenance, the more substantive cost of maintaining the roads, public safety, and protection of the public's resources will be a huge burden for all taxpayers and particularly those who will lose quiet recreation from the noise pollution of OHVs.

## Cow Creek Timber Sale/ Hazardous Fuels Reduction

### *Another burn the village to save the village?*

The commercial thinning of 2700 acres of dense second growth plantations is scientifically sound. However, the remaining 6300 acres of unmanaged mature stands are not.

Studies such as the one published in the Journal of Conservation Biology this month confirm that there is no increasing threat of wildfires in the drier areas where the northern spotted owl lives. As a biologist who has spent years on the ground looking at these unmanaged mature stands with other scientists I am not surprised. This is not the first time this has been said.

The "mixed severity fire regime" identified is not well studied and by nature results in highly variable stand conditions. We humans still oversimplify our perspective of nature to the detriment of everything else besides us. Currently, there is no sound science with any degree of confidence or empirical data that supports the proposed timber sale "restores historic stand conditions" as stated in the scoping notice.

Further, the proposal ignores the cumulative effects of an already impacted landscape having low levels of key forest structure: *snags and dead wood*.

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THIS JUST IN... 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco reinstates the Clinton-era Roadless Rule!

# Richard Sommer: The Merry Winemaker



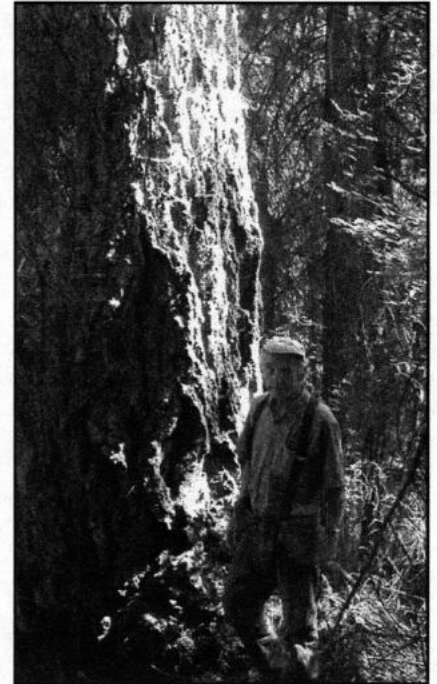
*Excerpts from Mike Anderson (The Wilderness Society) July 29, 2009 about his dear friend Richard Sommer*

"When I moved to Roseburg in 1974, shortly after graduating from college, I quickly became acquainted with a heroic and determined group of conservationists called the Umpqua Wilderness Defenders(UWD). Richard Sommer was one of the original members of UWD, along with folks like Marv Mizell, Digger Costello, and Dorothy Sherman. Wilderness was a dirty word in Douglas County during the 1970s, and the UWD members had to put up with boycotts, public criticism, and other forms of intimidation."

"Amidst this difficult social and political environment, Richard stood out as a beacon of hope, confidence, and joy. He never got discouraged, lost heart, or stopped appreciating the beauty and bounty of nature. Some of us called him "the merry wine-maker" because he almost always had a twinkle in his eye and a little smile on his face. In retrospect, he was a lot like Ferdinand the Bull, who much preferred peacefully enjoying the sweet-smelling

flowers in the countryside rather than dueling with the matadors in front of cheering crowds."

"Richard simply loved the outdoors." "To him, wilderness was not a cause to fight about; it was a gift from heaven to enjoy and appreciate. Thus, Richard was a source of cheerful inspiration for all the rest of us in UWD. He helped us to maintain a healthy perspective on who we were and what we were trying to accomplish. And, in the end, with Richard's steady support and encouragement, we succeeded in preserving Boulder Creek, Rogue-Umpqua Divide, and Mount Thielsen as wilderness areas for future generations. As we recall Richard's many contributions to this world, we certainly must thank and honor him for all that he did to protect these marvelous works of nature."



We will have another feature article on Richard in the next newsletter. Umpqua Watersheds invites all those who knew Richard to send in messages and or pictures. Please also mark your calendar for Saturday September 26th and join us on the 2009 Mt. Thielsen hike where we will forever dedicate this event to Richard knowing how much he loved going there. We will meet behind the Douglas County Courthouse off Fowler Street at 8:00. It will be a long day so bring plenty of water, lunch, proper clothing, and be prepared for a fun day on Douglas County's highest peak, and one of Richard's favorite places.

Conversely, natural fire in mature stands would recruit a variable measure of the existing trees into snags and logs while leaving others to grow bigger. Removing trees of any size by logging retards this important structural development process. Fire does not remove them it recruits them to do very important work!

The 6300 acres of unmanaged stands slated to be "managed" are structurally complex. They play a critical role right now to support the small amount of old growth interspersed with them in a landscape full of clear cuts and young tree plantations from practices still in place on private and public lands.

The proposal to harvest timber in the Late Successional Reserves (LSRs), or in Riparian Reserves (RR) runs directly counter to what scientists say who have a long history of study in this area. These structurally complex mature stands are used by the spotted owl in the proportion they are represented in their home range. The proposal is inconsistent with the intent and direction in the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan for LSRs and RRs.

The high canopy closure characteristic of these stands is important for protecting the owl against the barred owl and great horned owl. Spotted owls have been documented to forage and roost in this stand type. The project reduces canopy closure to 60% and less. This will eliminate this very critical habitat function at a time when spotted owls are fighting to keep some ground as the barred owls invade.

Not only does this proposal cause harm to spotted owl habitat and their protection it will render the stands unsuitable for 30 to 60 years. Which is worse? The perceived "risk of fire" by the agency or a certain risk by logging?

In addition to the timber harvest to "restore conditions" the agency is proposing *27 miles of new road construction*. I fail to understand the logic in making more roads and calling it a "restoration" project. The resulting ground affected by the roads will definitely not be the same after the soil displacement and complete elimination of the native vegetation not to mention other issues such as noxious weed invasions. More money and resources will be put into maintaining *88 miles of existing roads* to be able to haul timber on them. This in turn requires the agency to rip, blast and crush part of a mountain side (they refer to them as rock pit development) to get the rock they need to put on the roads so they can haul the timber.

Protection of unique habitats such as meadows, wetlands, and ponds which were directed to have a no harvest timbered buffer of 150 feet as per direction in the Forest Plan would also be eliminated.

As always more noxious weeds will be spread into the areas that will in turn cause the agency to have to increase their noxious weed treatments into the unmanaged areas that would be affected.

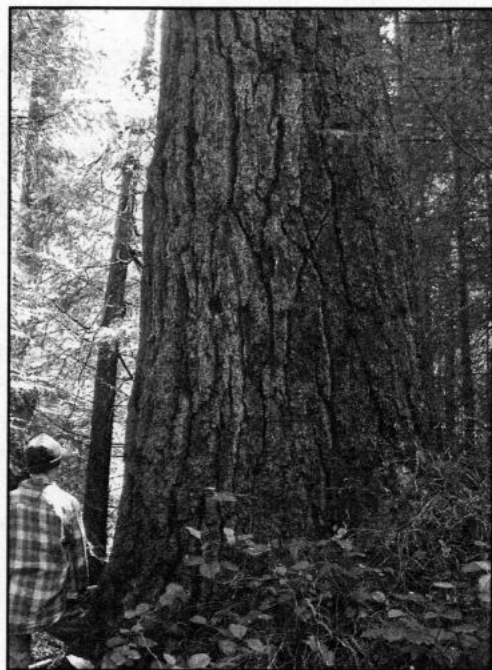
The Forest is planning to back out of protections put in place in their Forest Plan for a local visual corridor agreed upon with the local community of adjacent land owners for the sake of this project.

Hmm management? Is it better than Mother Nature?

Contact the Umpqua Watersheds office if you are interested in a field trip to the area.

## Other major Conservation work...

- The Elliot State Forest is still being harvested. We are working through legal channels to protect the endangered species and the vastly important old forest habitat all but gone in the Coast Range.
- D Bug Timber Sale final EIS has been issued. We will continue to work to stop this illegal sale.
- The Liquefied Natural Gas Pipeline proposal was brought for hearing to the Douglas County planning commission on Thursday July 30th at 7:00 PM. While the company and the very few supporters of the project were allowed to testify first, the remaining full audience of citizens and organizations against the pipeline had to wait until around 10:00 PM to begin to testify. The meeting went until 12:00. Substantive evidence as to why the project was inconsistent with the States land use law was presented by many including Umpqua Watersheds. The county has the authority to stop this project all together due to the fact that the project will cause irreversible damages and is obviously unnecessary since we certainly do not need more natural gas in implementing the Governor's renewable energy plan. Not to mention this proposal is a transmission line to California not a distribution line to supply the Coastal Management Zone area of Douglas County. If you did not already know, one important difference in this project versus past ones of its kind is that the process of "imminent domain" where a private land owner can lose their land to the State or Federal Government say for highway construction as an example, was changed by the Bush administration to allow PRIVATE INDUSTRY the likes of this one to take your land and then it is theirs to do what they will.
- Work on policy with our partners to permanently protect roadless areas and old growth forest continues with new bills in development. Keep vigilant and please continue to write your senators and congressman. Hand written and faxed letters work the best along with phone calls.



*Tree in the Cow Creek Timber Sale Area*

# Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. New Executive Director: Cindy Haws

## Greetings from Your New Executive Director

Spending the past year as your board president has been rewarding, full of great progress and ch... ch... changes. I introduced myself in our winter 2009 issue so I will spare you my bio. If you missed it come on in to the office M-Thurs. 1:30-5:30 or email and I would be glad to visit. I am excited to bring my wildlife, forest and aquatic ecology and teaching background with years of natural resource experience into the executive director position. The Friday before River Appreciation Day we had an open house. I met a bunch of folks both on Friday and at the very upbeat and successful River Day celebration.

Given the impacts of the economic down turn and transition over the past 2 years Umpqua Watersheds has been in a tight financial condition. This has limited our focus on priority "brush fires" to ensure we cover all of our primary conservation bases. We have done well but we cannot go on forever in this state and remain effective much less get proactive. We will be asking all of you to help us beef up our capacity to make real change of the long-term kind. We know it has to happen and we want to make sure it is effective since what we have now has certainly sold the ecosystem short and has had huge effects on people's lives. Think about laws and policy enacted that do what should be done to ensure ecosystem protection and restoration. Think wilderness designations of our last roadless areas before they are lost to yet another industry rationalization to "cut the forest to save the forest". As I said in the winter, it takes our vision, it



takes effort, lots of effort, it takes resources, lots of resources. We all can and should spend more time living the good life and handing it off to our children rather than holding our thumbs in the dams of destructive forestry and development and watching our salmon gasp for breath in 90 degree waters. Last words, Read Paul Hawken's below:

**from The Unforgettable Commencement Address to the Class of 2009, University of Portland, May 3rd, 2009 By Paul Hawken**

**"You are brilliant, and the earth is hiring..."**

"If you look at the science about what is happening on earth and aren't pessimistic, you don't understand data. But if you meet the people who are working to restore this earth and the lives of the poor, and you aren't optimistic, you haven't got a pulse. What I see everywhere in the world are ordinary people willing to confront despair, power, and incalculable odds in order to restore some semblance of grace, justice, and beauty to this world. The poet Adrienne Rich wrote, 'So much has been destroyed I have cast my lot with those who, age after age, perversely, with no extraordinary power, reconstitute the world.' There could be no better description. Humanity is coalescing. It is reconstituting the world, and the action is taking place in schoolrooms, farms, jungles, villages, campuses, companies, refuge camps, deserts, and fisheries." (even in Roseburg, Oregon the Timber Capital of the World. My addition)

Cindy Haws  
Your Executive Director

## Spotlight on New Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. Board Members

Chris  
Rusch



I have been a forest advocate all my life. I have been a member of Umpqua Watersheds for many years and have always supported the organization's mission

and work. My educational background (BS in Environmental Studies) and career (35 years in the Forest Service as a Botanist and Silviculturist) give me a good foundation to be a part of the UW board. I have a great appreciation for forest ecology and forest ecosystems. From my career with the Forest Service I know well the NEPA process and Public Land policies and politics.

I have lived in Tillamook Oregon on our 30 acre homestead for over 30 years. I am married to Kevin and we have two children; Mark just graduated from OSU and Julia is attending the U of O.

My goal is to promote the concept of community based ecological forest restoration projects. I believe the recovery and health of our forest ecosystems will lead to the sustainability of communities, cultures and economics

Thomas  
McGregor

My interests in Umpqua Watersheds as an organization are many. I came to Oregon 3 years ago from a teaching job in Japan and since that time I have made a special effort to be involved in conservation efforts. I was transplanted to Douglas County by a friend to lead the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps for the Phoenix School of Roseburg. There I made a special effort to instill a love of the natural environment we were working in every day along the North Umpqua River and the backwoods corners of the public lands.

I look forward to contributing to Umpqua Watersheds, a great asset to Douglas County.



## FUN IN THE SUN

On Saturday July 18th Whistlers Bend Park turned into the place to be as citizens from throughout the northwest gathered to celebrate the 23rd Annual River Appreciation Day Festival. With live music all day, kids activities, wonderful food, camping, and a cool river, how could anybody not enjoy a beautiful day at the river.

The stage overlooked the beautiful North Umpqua River and was the spot for terrific live music all weekend. The festival opened with the original songs containing great messages about the local area by The Sunny Peaches. Pacific Flyway treated the audience to some wonderful bluegrass and acoustic music covering an impressive array of songs and artists. Tony Kaltenberg dazzled the crowd with his amazing guitar prowess. Mark Barrata and Shannon Applegate treated the crowd to a little history of the Umpqua to celebrate Oregon's 150th birthday. The rockin' sounds of Loozin' Sleep closed out the day with some great classic rock songs. Nobody could sit still and the entire crowd was up and dancing by the time the festival ended.

The Giant Salmon, Wildlife Safari, and a wonderful kid's booth

## River Appreciation Day Festival Update

highlighted the family friendly nature of the event. Many wonderful stories were read inside the salmon while Wildlife Safari shared some crawling creatures with those who were brave enough to touch. Many thanks to our kids booth volunteers who had some excellent painting, coloring, and games for the kids who attended.

The Backwoods Barbecue was a great treat with some excellent local burgers and other tasty treats. Many hardworking volunteers worked in the kitchen to bring us some tasty homegrown burgers.

The cool North Umpqua River was the perfect backdrop and heat reliever all weekend long, with a large float on Saturday morning that arrived at Whistlers Bend just as the festivities were starting.

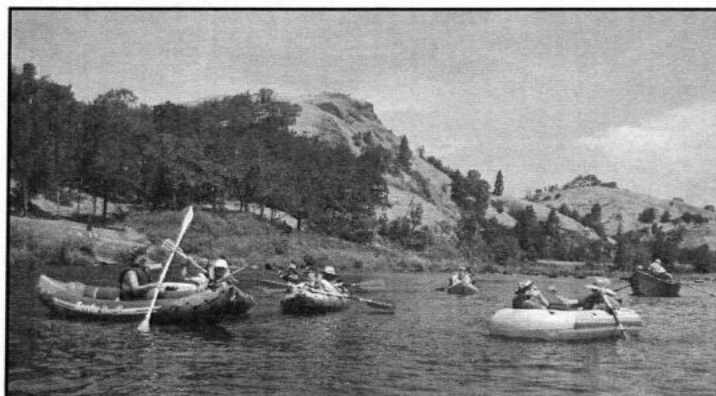
Over 100 people camped out on Friday and Saturday night creating a wonderful festival atmosphere for everyone. There was lots of music and campfire jams of all kinds.

This was a very successful River Day thanks to all who attended, ate some great food, and listened to the fabulous music. This year's River Appreciation Day Festival would not have been as successful without the dedicated volunteers. It is great that the community can come together for a day of River Appreciation to celebrate the importance of rivers to local communities.

### Thank You to River Appreciation Day Festival Sponsors:

Shannon Applegate - Bagel Tree - Mark Baratta - Karen Beesley - Midwife - Cascade Community Credit Union  
 Cascade Painting of Oregon - Commonwealth Garden Shoppe - Creative Images - Jemma Crae Productions  
 Richard and Terry Cremer - Crystal Falls Water - D's Magnolia - DiscGolfOregon.com - Douglas County Parks  
 Energy Independence Co. - EuroTech - F-3 Construction - Allen Goodwin, MD - Brian Higgins - James Hurley, RFP  
 Integrated Women's Health Care Associates - Jasmine's - Johnny's Fine Foods - Kaul Family Chiropractic - Innerspace Family  
 Labor Of Love - Mark 5 - Mehl Creek Farms - New Day Quality Grocery - Oregon Tool and Supply  
 O'Sullivan Distributing - Promise Natural Foods and Bakery - Pat and Treva Quinn - RiverSounds Music  
 Roseburg Firefighters Local 1110 - Spirit River Group - State Farm Insurance, Lindeen Brown, Sutherland - TMS  
 Umpqua Dairy Products, Co. - Umpqua National Forest - Umpqua Valley Audubon Society - Waldron's Outydoor Sports  
 White Oak Medical Center - Wildlife Safari

A HUGE THANKS TO THE TERRIFIC VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED PUT ON A GREAT RIVER APPRECIATION DAY FESTIVAL



habitat so as to avoid being eaten or killed by invasive barred & great horned owls. While actions to increase resilience through some types of thinning may be appropriate such as in young over stocked plantations, substantive science must come first before the agencies run an new round of misapplied management.

Lets focus on ecological restoration by thinning young fire-prone and biologically impoverished tree plantations, repairing and decommissioning failing and unneeded forest roads, and restoring fish habitat. This recipe has resulted in timber to local mills, family wage jobs, minimal controversy, and a healthier forest and fishery. There are several hundred thousands of acres of industrial plantations on BLM land that would benefit from such thinning, produce wood to local mills, reduce fire risk, and create jobs. And there are willing partners in both the conservation community and timber industry ready to support ecologically appropriate thinning and road removal in places like Roseburg and Medford where a restoration workforce could be created.

Umpqua Watersheds must be vigilant and proactive to identify where to go and what needs to be done to protect and restore our watershed. We must ensure the agencies do not misuse science for the wrong objectives in the wrong ecosystem types and/or for the wrong reasons. Take the new study published in the Journal of Conservation Biology that finds no increased fire threat in owl habitat. Take the fact that structurally complex mature forest

that is functioning as good owl habitat is slated to be turned into unsuitable habitat that would not likely become functional again for another 30-60 years at best when spotted owls need all they got right now for shelter and food to survive. We have our work cut out for us.

Meanwhile, Oregon's mature and old-growth forests should be enlisted as part of the solution to climate change. Studies from Oregon State University show that Oregon's coastal old-growth forests store more carbon per acre than almost any forest on earth. When these forests are cut down, up to two-thirds of the carbon they store is released to the atmosphere as carbon dioxide through the burning of logging slash and transporting and processing of wood products. More carbon dioxide is released by logging than even severe forest fires.

Keeping mature and old-growth forests on the chopping block would leave Oregonians with yet another false start. We call on our senators, congressmen, and local community leaders to step up to the challenge vacated by the trappings of the WOPR to lead us to a true finish. It is high time that these forests are legislatively protected so they can continue to do their part soaking up dangerous pollutants, providing clean drinking water, and salmon and wildlife habitat. Creating a restoration economy focused on restoring forests and watersheds, would give Oregonians a sustainable path forward and a true finish.

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# UMPQUA WATERSHEDS, INC. EVENTS

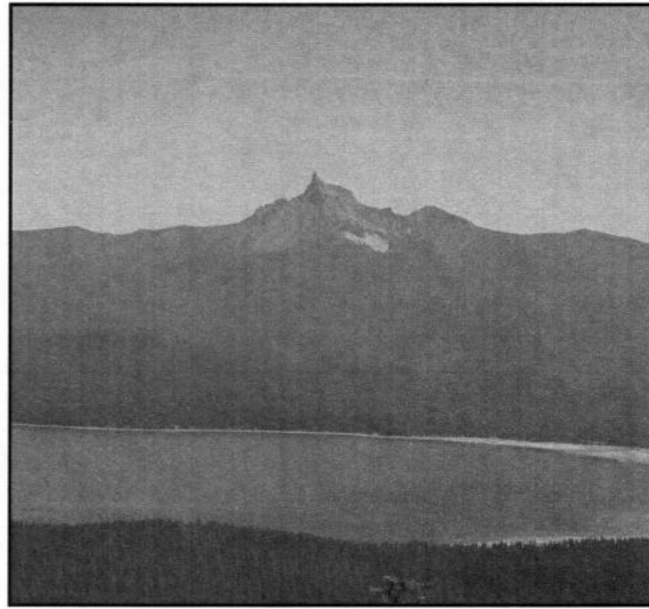
## September 26th - Richard Sommer Mt. Thielsen Memorial Hike

Umpqua Watersheds' leads an annual trek to Douglas County's highest point, and a favorite spot of Richard Sommer. We will Meet at the Douglas County Courthouse parking lot off Fowler St. at 8am. Be prepared for a long day with plenty of water, food, appropriate hiking gear, and expect to share fuel expenses.

## October 10th - Tingstad and Rumbel in Concert

Umpqua Watersheds is pleased to welcome Grammy Award winning duo Tingstad and Rumbel back to Roseburg. More info TBA.

## November 7th - Wilderness: Our Community, Our Future Conference (See article page 3 for more) info.



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