



# 100 Valleys

*A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc*

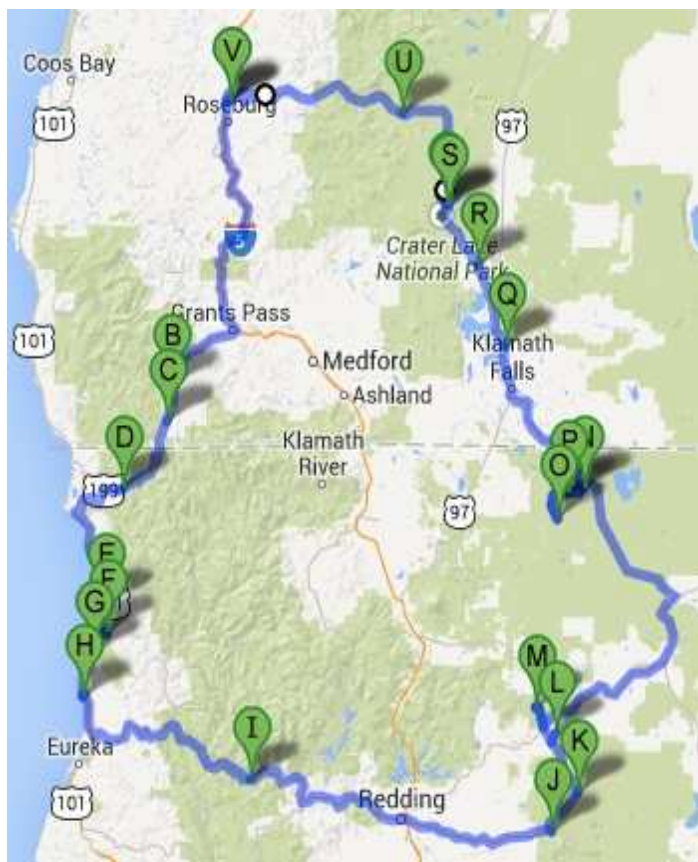
An Oregon 501(c)(3) Non-Profit

Summer 2014 | Issue 61

## UMPQUA WATERSHEDS STORIES IN PICTURES: This Issue's Color Insert

Umpqua Watersheds has many stories to tell about our successes as an organization and about issues of concern in our region. While we try hard to paint pictures of our conservation, education and restoration initiatives with words, some stories jump to life when attached to images – and some can only be told in color (e.g. the Douglas Complex fire). Three stories featured below are examples:

**The Douglas Complex – Fire is Not the Enemy:** There have been a number of articles in the News Review and elsewhere decrying the “destruction” of the forests burned in the 2013 fires in the Glendale area last summer. Those sympathetic to the Timber Industry are calling for aggressive snag removal and for the conversion of old growth forests to tree farms to supposedly prevent such fires in the future. The “mini-poster” presented on one side of the insert shows this thinking to be *exactly the wrong approach* to creating and maintaining healthy forests.



Fire intensity maps (the amount of heat generated from the fires sensed by satellites), Google Earth images, and photos of the burned areas tell quite a different story from the Industry's line. Anecdotal evidence and common sense tell us that dense, even-aged plantations with their continuous, highly flammable fine fuels are far more likely to suffer high mortality crown fires than uneven-aged, multi-canopied primary forests. The pictures agree: rather than contributing to the spread and severity of the fire, old growth forests *did just the opposite* by “knocking down” the flames and turning them into ground fires. These low to moderate intensity under-burns create valuable habitat for fire-dependent species while removing built-up fuel to create more fire-resilient future landscapes. The majority of the Douglas Complex fire *increased* the ecological health of unmanaged public land, but *decreased* the health of plantation stands.

Replanting damaged plantation stands with another monocrop will simply set the stage for another dangerous conflagration. The 1987 Bland Mt. Fire that burned mostly in young second growth near Canyonville was replanted in closely spaced soldier rows only to burn hard again in 2004 with two smaller fires between then and last summer.

The call for systematic snag removal doesn't make sense either - snags don't “attract” lightning. The strikes that started the Douglas Complex hit on the ridges (the highest points on the landscape) in both primary forest and plantations. In a heavily

**Our Mission:** *Dedicated to the protection and restoration of the ecosystems of the Umpqua Watershed and beyond through education, training and advocacy.*

managed landscape, snags are more likely to be hit simply because the surrounding trees have often been logged and they are now the tallest objects on the landscape. Felling snags that are burning and/or are a serious danger to firefighters is necessary for safety reasons. But aggressive pre-fire snag removal will do little to prevent future fires and will remove a critical ecological resource: burned snags are home to cavity nesting birds (who feed on tremendous numbers of potential pest insects) and a myriad of other animals and fungi that play important roles in maintaining a healthy ecosystem balance.

## The Natural Resources Technology Youth Crew:

After two successful field seasons with our Natural Resources youth program, we've hired a third crew of bright young men and women to carry on the great work of their predecessors. UW is proud to announce that we have been awarded a highly competitive National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant to continue our Natural Resources Pathway for youth again in 2015.

Members of last year's *Learn, Earn, and Serve* initiative are looking out at you from sites around the region as we traveled through southwestern Oregon and northern California in 2013. This year's crew is currently enrolled in the online Field Botany class, learning botanical terminology and plant family characteristics in preparation for our upcoming Green Tortoise tour where we'll apply new knowledge to hone new skills. Once trained, this crew will again work with agency biologists to gather data that will be used to guide management decisions.

Want to come along on this year's tour? There are still *4 seats left* for community members who want to tour this magical part of the world and be inspired both by the grandeur of the landscapes and by the dedication of our youth. Your \$675 pays for all travel, food and park fees, and most importantly, it will help us break even on the cost of the bus making this a viable hybrid class that will continue on for many years. Please consider supporting this vital program by joining us June 17<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup>. For more details, go to <http://www.greentortoise.com/adventures/oregon-california-botany.php> and/or contact Ken Carloni at [ken.carloni@umpqua.edu](mailto:ken.carloni@umpqua.edu).

## "101 Wildflowers of Crater Lake National Park"

The long-awaited new edition of Grant and Wenonah Sharpe's 1959 classic was just published in March! It is now fully updated and contains detailed color photographs to compliment the

Sharpe's classic pen and ink illustrations. This book is copyrighted and published by Umpqua Watersheds, Inc., and **all proceeds go toward supporting our mission.** It is available at *While Away Books*, the *UCC Bookstore*, the *UW Office* at 539 SE Main St., the *Steamboat Inn*, and we've just entered into an agreement with the *Crater Lake Natural Heritage Association* to sell the book at Park Headquarters and at Rim Village. So when you're getting ready to head up to Crater Lake this summer, pick up a copy to help you appreciate even more the special geological *and* botanical gem in our backyard!



## Save the Date! River Appreciation Day in Elkton July 19<sup>th</sup>.

UW Board Member Ben Erickson and his committee are working hard to prepare for the Umpqua Watersheds grand celebration 28<sup>th</sup> River Appreciation Day. Join your favorite conservationists for music, fellowship and special times at Fort Umpqua in Elkton.



## Board of Directors

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## From the President...

The sun is warming up and things are ready to take you outdoors with Umpqua Watersheds. Please dig into newsletter and uncover the multiple ways you can be involved with your community. River Appreciation Day, multiple hikes, youth campouts, agency field trips, and the celebrated Wilderness 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities will keep you busy this season. Please be sure to subscribe to the Watershed Moments to stay up to date on the fun happenings!



Also with this warmer weather, our board and staff invite you to come indoors and help update our office to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We will be rolling up our sleeves and polishing 539 SE Main St, an office which has been the headquarters for conservation in the Umpqua for over a decade. Please call in or drop by and find out how you can help make a difference to upgrade this important facility in our community.

This newsletter also stands tall and proud as a lone voice of courage for the wild and the necessary ancient stands of trees in our community forests that are constantly badgered with replayed ideas and untenable answers for the future. I invite you to strike now by echoing the ideas and ample solutions we continue to purvey. Whether it be by calling on our local decision makers or joining a committee with our organization. You can make all the difference!

It is your time, financial support, and passion needed now more than ever to assist in a future for our community we all desire. Thank you!

Thomas McGregor

President, Umpqua Watersheds, Inc.

### Help needed:

Our partners at the Douglas County Global Warming Coalition are looking for people with vans that will seat 12-15 who can drive participants on their Green and Solar Home Tour. The tour will be held on Saturday, October 4th and generally runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can help out, please call Stuart Liebowitz at [541-672-9819](tel:541-672-9819).

## Get Involved! Join a Committee.

### Education Committee Meetings

When: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month, 5:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: Ken Carloni - [ken.carloni@gmail.com](mailto:ken.carloni@gmail.com)

### Restoration Committee Meetings

When: 3rd Tuesday of Every Month, 5:00pm

Where: McMenamin's Roseburg Station Pub

Contact: Stan Petrowski - [Stanley@surcp.org](mailto:Stanley@surcp.org)

### Outreach Committee Meetings

When: Last Wednesday of Every Month, 5:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: Kasey Hovik - [kasey@umpqua-watersheds.org](mailto:kasey@umpqua-watersheds.org)

### Wild On Wilderness Committee Meetings

When: Last Wednesday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: Susan Applegate - [susan309@centurytel.net](mailto:susan309@centurytel.net)

## UW 18th Annual Banquet

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, Umpqua Watersheds held its 18<sup>th</sup> annual membership banquet at Umpqua Community College. Students in the culinary program at UCC prepared a wonderful meal for us and our keynote speaker, Ernie Niemi, gave a fantastic presentation entitled "There is No Free Lunch." It focused on the proposed O and C land distribution legislation and made a very convincing argument of why the legislation doesn't represent the best interests of Oregonians when the true costs related to the legislation are exposed.



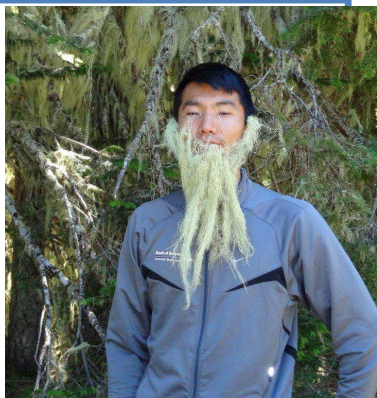
Umpqua Watersheds recognized several individuals for outstanding contributions to the organization and our community. Bob Allen received the Lifetime Conservationist award and the Friends of Mildred Kanipe Park was recognized as the Conservationist of the Year. Jenny Carloni received a well-deserved Volunteer of the Year award for her work throughout the year including the Silent Auction for the banquet. While attendance was down because of conflicts with several other community events the auction was a major success primarily because of Jenny's efforts and the tremendous support we received from members and organizations who donated items for the auction. Board Member Cheyanne Rico did an outstanding job as our master of ceremonies and represents our desire to engage the next generation of conservationists.

## VISTA Voice

Roland Wang

It was a year ago that the McGovern Elementary School Principal, Ms. Erika Pinkerton, asked me during our 2013 Annual Banquet if I would be interested in developing an educational program for her school, to which I enthusiastically said "Yes!" – after waiting for a few months to hear back from other schools in Douglas County about their interest but to no avail – and thus the "Science Friday" program was developed. For six weeks during the fall 2013 term and six weeks this spring term, we have been piloting a forest stewardship curriculum with a small group of 6<sup>th</sup> graders on lessons such as water chemistry, water cycle, weather, compass navigation, biochar, and forest ecology.

With the piloting stage complete, much of my time now will be developing a sustainable Science Friday program. While there are many ideas in mind, one idea suggested by the participants themselves has stuck with me: to reserve the Science Friday program for the 6<sup>th</sup> and even 7<sup>th</sup> graders where they will be trained on the week's lesson and activity. The students will then teach the lesson to the younger 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at McGovern. This "train-the-trainer" model is a great idea that shows strong student support



in the program. (While the participants this term will be heading to middle school, they still expressed interest in participating in the program, hence their reason for offering the program to 7<sup>th</sup> graders.)

Yet the McGovern Science Friday program is one of many educational achievements. Just recently, UW was awarded two grants; the first is a \$45,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to support the 2015 Umpqua Natural Resources Pathway program in which we are part of a multi-agency partnership – USFS, BLM, UCC, Cow Creek, and Phoenix Charter School – to train and educate 12 youth in technical skills in Natural Resources Management through the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps program and UCC Field Botany course. The second grant is a \$5,500 award from the Gray Family Foundation to fund three field trips of the Umpqua Basin, from Crater Lake to the coast, for 5<sup>th</sup> graders at McGovern during the 2014-2015 academic year as part of a larger watershed curriculum that I will be working on with the school.

We have also been approved of our application for an AmeriCorps State/National member to start in August 2014. This member will be taking over my tasks when my VISTA term is complete at the end of November this year. During the three month overlap, the member and I will be refining and formalizing the programs that I have been developing over the past year, including Science Friday and the Wilderness Education literary

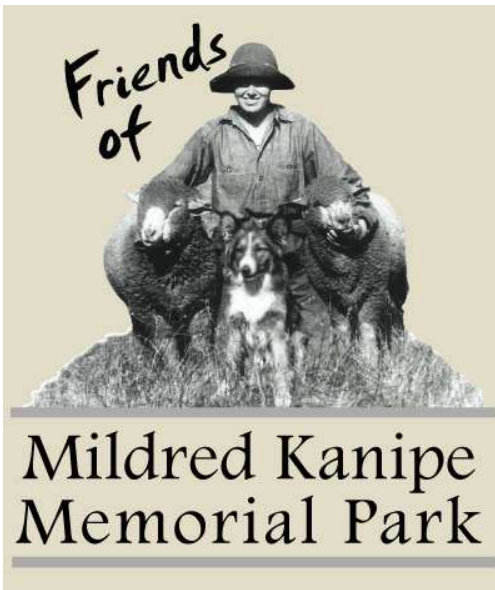


arts curriculum. While I woe to think that there is only six more months left on my VISTA clock, I feel that the "educational program ball" has finally started to move and that we are on roll towards a strong future.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW WITH FRIENDS OF KANIPE PARK?

Hello from The Friends of Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park Association, Inc. to our



many Umpqua Watershed friends and supporters! We have entered what is essentially "Phase Two" of our commitment to coordinating with Douglas County to build a quality campground at Kanipe to make the Park financially self-sufficient. We want to keep you informed every step of the way.

Many thanks go to the over 200 individuals and more than 75 businesses, organizations, and foundations who helped raise \$65,000 in a little less than three months—an amazing feat. Friends is especially grateful to the Whipple Foundation Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation for its very generous grant of \$10,000. We continue to collaborate with the County in the design, funding, building, maintenance and development of the campground project, taking on the task with a keen sense of responsibility to ensure all donations are well used.

### ***County Budget Issues:***

The immediate and very concerning issue is the Parks Department's proposed budget. In the 2012 General Judgment dissolving the Mildred Kanipe Trust, the maintenance for the park was estimated at \$22,000 per year. In the audited 2012-13 budget figures for the park, the actual cost was \$24,498. The December 13 current year-to-date actual costs are \$20,689. The September 11, 2013 budget the Parks Department used during the Mildred Kanipe Planning Committee focus group process estimated the annual costs to be \$36,600, with an estimated income of \$42,600. Puzzlingly, however, the Parks Department proposed budget for 2014-15 states the expenses are \$50,405 with an estimated income of \$11,484. Why the huge increase in expenses, with an equally huge drop in estimated income?

A representative of Friends attempted to attend the Parks Department budget hearing on May 12, 2014 at 3:40 pm, and arrived at the scheduled time only to learn that the Parks Department budget had already been heard by the budget committee.

The Friends group has asked the Parks Department to meet to resolve some of these budget questions. In response, Parks Director Gary Groth plans to hold a meeting on June 9, 2014 at 3:00 pm in Room 310 of the Courthouse, to which he has invited some stakeholders, such as the Park Advisory Board members, the original Mildred Kanipe Planning Committee (which the Park Advisory Board disbanded at its December 2013 meeting), and Friends. At this meeting on June 9, Mr. Groth will also give an update on the construction of the campground.

We'll continue to work with the County to reduce budget expenditure figures proposed for 2014-15, in keeping with the goal of making Kanipe Park self-sufficient (thereby avoiding having to use County general funds).

### ***Campground Construction***

Umpqua Community College Instructor, Clay Baumgartner, who also owns Integrated Consulting Services, has not only included his survey students in the hands-on survey experience of the campground project, but has also provided substantial in-kind donations in the form of plans and design work for the project. We are very grateful to Clay. He continues to advise the County in many aspects of this project.

Friends is working hard to ensure that the completion of the campground project will be timely and be one of which members of Umpqua Watersheds and other Douglas County citizens can be proud. We're committed to working hard to make sure Kanipe Park's campground will be a sought-after destination in Douglas County, one which will attract tourism and recreation dollars, support existing businesses, and help diversify the County's economy. To achieve this goal, there are many intervening steps, one of which is rezoning to allow a campground in the Park. On May 27, 2014, five members of the Friends' board attended the North Douglas County Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting when it considered the project's Conditional Use Permit application. The PAC approved the application with a condition there be a "fire siding covenant" to address fire concerns of one of the adjoining land holders. And as the project proceeds, we of the Mildred Kanipe Friends group will continue to work hard to make sure the campground will be a sought-after destination in Douglas County, attract tourism and recreation dollars, support existing businesses and help to diversify Douglas County's economy.

### ***Ongoing Grant Work***

After receiving the Whipple Foundation grant of \$10,000, the Friends of Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park began researching for other useful grants for the Park. We held a post-fundraising grant meeting in late May to discuss grant requests for a Master Plan for the park as well as grants to eradicate invasive and noxious weeds; restoration of historic buildings; and encouragement of tourism, educational and recreational use of the park.

Friends has just recently received a grant from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's State Historic Preservation Office to use Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to determine the location of a known but unmarked cemetery at Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park. This project will provide more useful and interesting knowledge about the Park's history.

### ***Closing Thoughts***

Thanks are due Kasey Hovik of Umpqua Watersheds, who conscientiously reminds us of approaching deadlines for submitting updates to the Newsletter. We want to keep you abreast of what is going on in the exciting world of Kanipe Park, and this is an ideal way to do it. And continued thanks to all of you who helped not only with monetary donations, but also with encouragement, good ideas, and unlimited emotional support for this Kanipe campground project. We'll keep in touch!

We will try our best to answer any questions that you might have. Contact Landa Baily at [landabailyfarm@hotmail.com](mailto:landabailyfarm@hotmail.com). Our website address is: [www.mildredkanipepark.org](http://www.mildredkanipepark.org)

## Umpqua Watersheds' Comments on the Coastal Multispecies Management Plan

First let me say thanks to all of you who have responded to our call to participate by commenting on the State's Coastal Multispecies Management Plan (CMP). It is critically significant since this document will set the stage for fisheries management for the next ten years. Your input is greatly appreciated and most definitely impacted the decision making process.

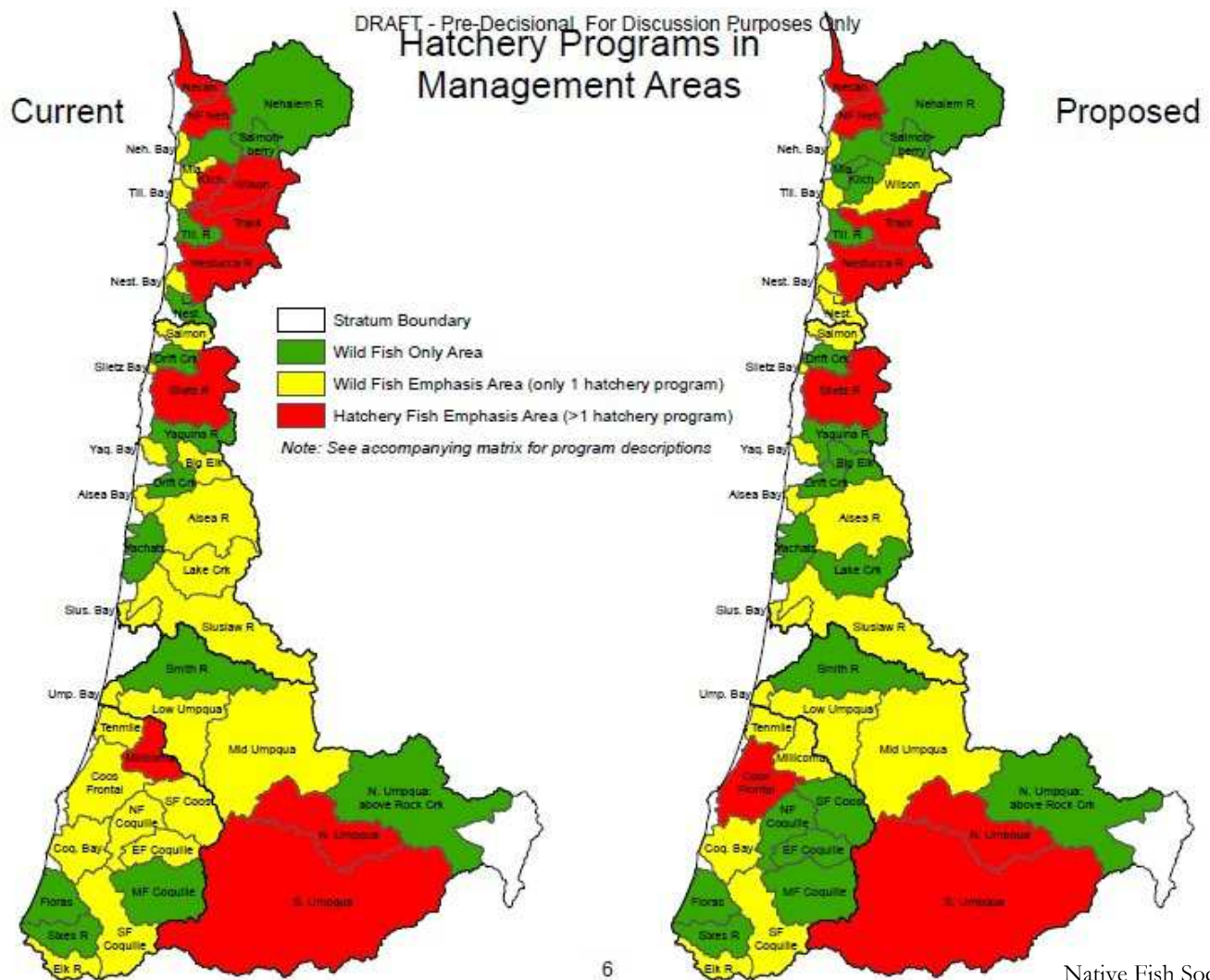
The CMP by and large strategically reflects the opinions reflected in the issues that were declared in the various surveys that were taken and the input of the various *Strata Stakeholders Groups* helped craft the policy. Apart from the various venues to get the public's ideas the economics and politics of ODFW have played a huge role. There's an enormous budget shortfall in the agency. Jobs are being cut and there's a big push to sell various wildlife and fisheries licenses. This directly influenced the hatchery fish release program.

The process now goes into the public comment period. The final draft is now available on line at [http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/coastal\\_multispecies.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/coastal_multispecies.asp) on line. If you are interested in the comments previously made and their impact you can find them also on the same internet page.

From the perspective of Umpqua Watersheds Restoration Committee there is a glaring weak point in this draft policy. It pertains to the Spring Chinook harvest in the Umpqua basin. If have been following our input on this subject you'll recall that the South Umpqua Springers are in a dire straight. On average 270 fish are returning of that run. The State has recognized this and it is acknowledged in the CMP, along with the Elk River Spring Chinook run, as vulnerable to extinction. Other large watersheds, although not recognized as being in this tenuous condition, have been allocated to harvesting fin clipped (hatchery) Spring Chinook. Go to the Rogue River or the Columbia and you will find it so. Yet in the Umpqua basin the wild Spring Chinook will be harvested on a "sliding scale" basis on the main stem and north fork of the river. If the State really wished to minimize the impact of angling on the very small Chinook run of the upper south Umpqua river they could fine tune their policy by allowing take of fin clipped Springers on the main stem of the river and perhaps open the North Fork of the Umpqua to wild take where the run is considered fairly strong. Please let ODFW know that this is a much more viable solution to helping this once noble fish run.

Apart from this enormous issue Umpqua Watersheds is thoroughly pleased that there will be no wild take of Winter Steel

(Continued on page 8)





## Generational Amnesia

Humans have a tendency to observe current landscape conditions as though what they are seeing it as it has always been. Even within the context of the naturalist and conservation community, whose constituents seek out the joys of time spent in the untamed wilds of our region, there is often a lack of a true perspective *born of experience*. Our ecosystem has been drastically altered over the last 300 years. Though we may intellectually grasp what our Pacific Northwest forests and streams were like prior to the European incursion, there is something to be said about the powerful



influence of experience to motivate and clarify the human psyche. We sense what it must have been like but don't really know. The shadow of what once was lures us and calls us to itself. As a society we so live in the present that historic conditions play a very small role in our every day decision-making. I call it generational amnesia. Even with the historic record written both in text and scientific discovery, we still may not have a true picture of what primal and pristine natural ecological function looked like.

During one enlightening session of an American Fisheries Society lecture some years back, I discovered how radically ecology can change in a short time. During the Little Ice Age of the 1700's French trappers came to the "New World" en masse to harvest the millions of high-quality beaver pelts. The Pacific NW in particular was a source of wealth in this regard. It is why we have a golden beaver on the Oregon flag. The "Oregon Country" at that time geographically extended far into what is now known as British Columbia. The diaries of French trappers of that time gave a description of the landscape that is hard to fathom. Beaver dams existed in the vast majority of the tributaries of our river networks. Streams were described as a succession of pond plateaus with water flowing in abundance. All but the steepest stream reaches were of a meandering type, well connected to, and enriching, the flood plain. Beaver ponds were well stocked with all manner of fish and wildlife. The vast majority of streams were perennial, flowing year-round with an abundance of clear cool water. Today our streams are muddy and "flashy" by nature. A lot has happened. A lot has been lost.

With the trapping out of the vast majority of beavers through the policies of the Hudson Bay Company, new resources were targeted for exploitation by the newly formed government of the United States. Land was offered as an incentive for pioneering and settlement of the west. In the short period of 50 years since the Hudson Bay beaver elimination policy the landscape changed drastically. The diaries of the early settlers give us an incredibly amazing description of our watersheds that cannot compare to that of the French trappers' memories. The record of the types of wildlife and river conditions of that time seemed like a surrealistic shadow of what once was, only a short 50 to 75 years earlier. The West was being "tamed".



The removal of one keystone species out of a very high level of stable ecology in Oregon gutted the system and caused it to cave. More species went missing as years passed. Various acts of congress over time have sought to preserve that which remains. These acts are failing because some of the fundamental pillars of strength that uphold ecological function are standing in the way of the well-oiled wheels of economic "progress" built around exploitation of natural resources and consumerism. Beavers are a prime example of this. The humble beaver is now the nemesis of our farms, road systems and industrial plantation stands. For reasons of expediency they are considered "predators" and a nuisance



species in our State. They are seen as getting in the way, when in fact they are part of the foundation that built up the natural wealth of this land in the first place.

It is difficult to reach back into history and say, "Here is where I want to go." Umpqua Watersheds wonders what has been lost that we will never know existed. Our passion is to restore some of that which once was. Not only in the preservation of wilderness but also in the context of the world of our everyday lives. We hope that by "putting our shoulder to the wheel" of restoration we might be instrumental in staunching the trend toward greater damage. It will require a spirit of innovation, sensitivity and discovery, since we are fully aware of the fact that those places that were the richest in life are now where our homes and farms are located. Our goal is to learn to live **with and in** the rhythms and flow of nature. To support them since they support us. Our desire is to forge a path of harmony and high ecological function within the context of our everyday world. It will require a huge investment of heart and resources. There has been wisdom lost and there is so much knowledge to learn. It will require a strident rejection of the status quo and a conscientious effort to supply an equitable path out for all. We will all be considerably impacted one way or the other in our near future regardless. Join us in our hope.

*(Continued from page 6)*

head in the Umpqua Basin. The public and professional fisherman of the State spoke loud and clear on this issue. ODFW took it seriously and responded accordingly and made the right decision and resisted the temptation to place license fees over a world class recognized fish run. Preserving this wild run will benefit ecology all the way around and will support the agencies



mission in the long run. Let them know you appreciate their wise decision. If opportunity arises, be sure to let them know that this decision making process has been very difficult and that you support what is right in this important policy.

Don't forget to harvest your limit of invasive predatory Small Mouth Bass this summer. Do you part to save our salmon and the South Umpqua Chub by radically reducing the bass population? It's legal and important.

Stanley Petrowski, Restoration Committee Chair

## 5th Annual Umpqua Brew Fest



Only 22 weeks and counting until the Umpqua Valley Brew Fest, our autumn celebration of clean water, craft beer, and sustainable living! The planning committee is very busy lining up breweries, recruiting sponsors, donors and vendors, selecting bands, negotiating contracts, and generally trying to stay organized and on schedule, because it all has to happen October 19.

Great craft beer knows no borders, so as the steward of beer synergy in the Umpqua Valley, the UBF will not only continue to be the premier expo of local brewers, but will also seek out beers from Portland, central Oregon, and the Rogue Valley. How about joining us? If you have a passion for beer or for local events, the planning committee could always use another member. Contact Thomas McGregor at [tmcgreor.uw@gmail.com](mailto:tmcgreor.uw@gmail.com) or call the UW office at 541/672-7065. Also, over 100 beer servers and other volunteers will be needed, so at the beginning of July, please sign up for one of the fun shifts.

Visit the UBF website: [www.umpquabrewfest.com/](http://www.umpquabrewfest.com/)

Also visit and like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/UmpquaBrewFest>





## Hikes into proposed Crater Lake Wilderness Areas sponsored by Umpqua Watersheds

### LAST CREEK

Umpqua Watersheds will lead a hike to the top of Vision Mountain. The hike will feature the proposed Crater Lake Wilderness area. The moderate hike climbs 2000 feet through beautiful wild flowers and old growth forest to the top of the 5000 ft butte.

**When:** Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>

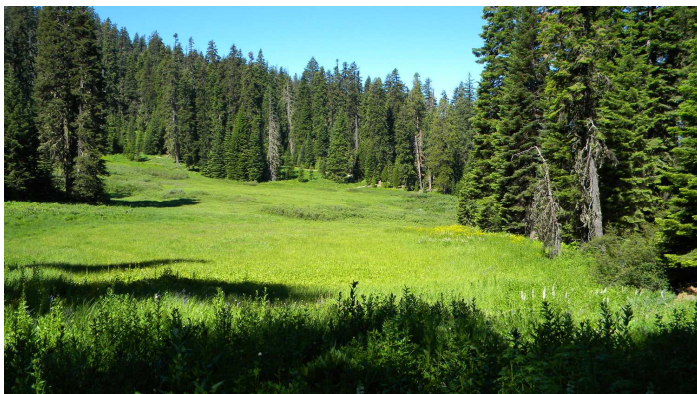
**Meet-Up:** 9:00 am -- Douglas County Library parking lot

9:30 am -- Canyonville Promise Health Store

10:00 am -- Tiller Ranger Station

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### DONEGAN PRAIRIE



Umpqua Watersheds will lead a hike through a beautiful area of subalpine meadows near the Rogue Umpqua Divide wilderness, called Donegan Prairie. This 3.7 mile hike takes us through meadows dotted with wildflowers— from an elevation of 5,200 to 5,400 feet. Since the area is some distance from Roseburg, we will be camping overnight. There is no developed campground so hikers should bring 1 gal. potable water per person, toilet paper and shovels. Also bring mosquito repellent, large one gallon garbage bag and hand clippers to trim brush on little maintained trails. Another hike into the Rogue-Umpqua Divide will take place the following day, July 8<sup>th</sup>. Donegan Prairie is included within the proposed Crater Lake Wilderness.

**When:** Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Meet-Up:** 9:00 am -- Douglas County Library parking lot

9:30 am -- Canyonville Promise Health Store

10:00 am -- Tiller Ranger Station

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### INDIGO LAKE AND SAWTOOTH MOUNTAIN

Umpqua Watersheds will lead a hike to beautiful Indigo Lake, at the base of Sawtooth Mountain in the northern part of “The Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal”, between Diamond Peak Wilderness to its north and Mt. Thielsen Wilderness to its south.

The trailhead for this hike is at Timpanogas Campground on Timpanogas Lake in the Willamette National Forest.

The 1.9 mile trip into Indigo Lake is considered easy with a 600 foot elevation gain. The hike around Indigo Lake is a flat 1 mile.



The total for this hike is 4.8 miles.

For those who would like to go on to the top of Sawtooth Mt., the additional distance is 5.2 miles round trip with an elevation gain 1,600 feet. Because of the elevation gain, this trail is rated difficult, but for those who feel confident, well worth the effort.

**When:** Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>

From Roseburg and vicinity:

**Meet-Up:** 8:00 am at Douglas County Library parking lot

From Cottage Grove vicinity:

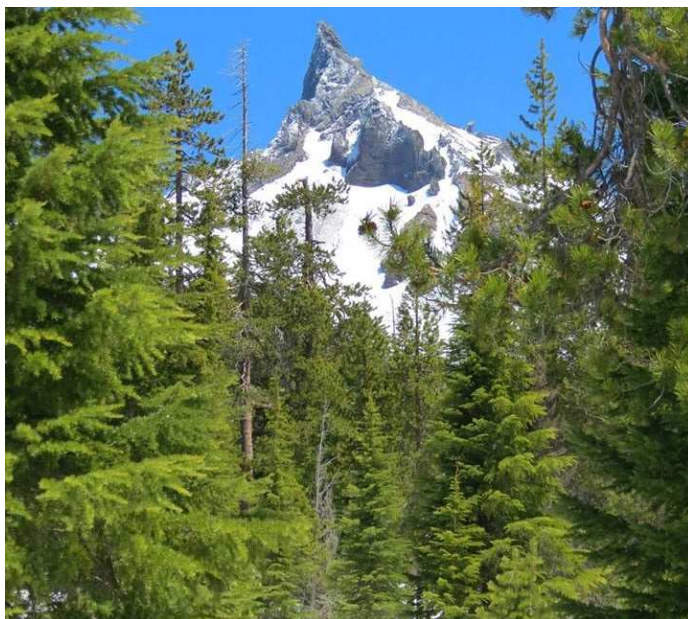
**Meet-Up:** 9:00 am at Jack-in-the-Box parking lot, exit 174 on the west side of I-5.

From Trailhead for Indigo Lake at Timpanogas Campground.

**Meet-Up:** 11:00 am

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### Mt. Thielsen Wilderness Hike





Patrick Starnes leads this hike to one of the Umpqua's three wilderness areas. Mt. Thielsen rises out of the Mt. Thielsen Wilderness to a height of 9,182 ft. With roughly a 3,782 foot elevation gain, it is considered a steep climb, particularly above timberline. The last 200 feet is considered strenuous hand-over-hand climb, but is worth the staggering view. It is a 1.5 hour drive from Roseburg to the Mt. Thielsen Trailhead for a total of 81 miles.

For more information, call [Umpqua Watersheds at 541-672-7065](tel:541-672-7065)

When: September 27, 2014

**Meet-Up:** 8:00 am

Carpools should meet at the parking lot behind the Douglas County library along Deer Creek, off Fowler St.

For more information call Umpqua Watersheds 541-672-7065 or Susan Applegate at 541-849-3500, [susapple@centurytel.net](mailto:susapple@centurytel.net)

## 2014 Twin Lakes Youth Wilderness Camp

Umpqua Watersheds will host its annual Youth Wilderness Camp at Twin Lakes July 25th - 27th. Camp is open to youth ages 12-20. Younger children may attend with an accompanying adult. This year we have a fun-filled weekend planned with lots of opportunities for learning. Cost: \$25/UW member; \$45/non-member. This fee covers food and travel expenses for the weekend.

We are also looking for adult volunteers.

Scholarships Wanted. Please donate \$25-\$45 so that kids can go to camp. Please contact Roland Wang at 541-672-7065 or [roland@umpqua-watersheds.org](mailto:roland@umpqua-watersheds.org) to register or for more information.



**Lookingglass Hike in April. Thank you Charlie Boberg and Paddy Quinn for leading this beautiful hike!**



## Conservation Corner by Joseph Patrick Quinn



The Conservation Committee, on behalf of the board and membership of Umpqua Watersheds, has submitted comments to BLM on the preliminary version of their new Resource Management Plan. In their planning processes, it seems to us, federal and state agencies must take full account of the condition of adjoining private industrial timber lands, especially in the checkerboard. As the participants in the recent UW sponsored hike to Rock Creek Caves, near Camas Valley, observed in devastating panorama and full color, much of the Oregon Coast Range checkerboard has the appearance of a war zone. Yes, there still exist isolated sections of primary mature and old growth forest in the public domain. Sadly, they stand surrounded by ugly, still raw clear cuts, whose pale and lifeless appearing soils reflect the aerial application of one or more herbicides. From horizon to horizon, what is not recently “slicked off” has been replanted with row upon monoculture row of the douglas-fir trees that will be the fiber to be cut again in a few decades. These stands, under the current management paradigm, will never be let to grow into their natural mature and old



growth, late seral condition again. They can no more be called forests than fields of GMO corn in the nation's heartland can be referred to as grass land prairies.

It is our further opinion, that the greatly reduced revenue responsibilities of these private, industrial timber lands (those of 5000 acres and up) must be taken into full account by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, as they craft their management guidelines, going forward. Concerned citizens should know that these “big boys” of the industrial timber world saw their revenue obligations to state and local government reduced from just below forty million dollars in 1999/2000, to some two and a half to three and one half million in greatly discounted property taxes in subsequent years and down to the present. While county governments and ill-informed or disingenuous poli-

ticians howl for increased harvests and revenues from the lands owned by all the citizens of the United States, the owners of large holdings and their investors laugh all the way to the bank. The Conservation Committee and the entire UW Board of Directors feel, strongly, that this is an instance of corruption on a grand scale, which government agencies are obligated to consider as the context that surrounds all of the management decisions they make.

The Conservation Committee has submitted comments to the Tiller Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest on their Environmental Assessment of proposed salvage operations following the Whiskey Fire of last summer. Out of a total of some 17,891 acres within the fire boundary, 7% (1284 acres) are characterized by the forest service as severe (canopy loss), 3% (631 acres) as moderate and 90% (16,218 acres) at low canopy loss or unburned. The proposed area salvage, at 132 acres, is relatively small. Of that volume, 32 acres will be left as snag patches, with an additional six to eight snags per acre also contributing to post fire wildlife recovery. UW's comments were crafted so as to encourage the Tiller District to continue with what we see as a more eco-forward approach to post fire management and forest management, including recovery from past, misguided practices, in general.

The Conservation Committee has sent a letter to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry in Atlanta, a branch of the Federal Department of Health. Therein, we encouraged them to review the data collected by Oregon DEQ, ODF, et al. relative to the aerial herbicide over spray that occurred in Curry County, near Gold Beach, in October of last year. In that unfortunate incident, citizens and their pets were sickened by herbicide over spray. Those citizens and their physicians were denied access to spray records by the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Oregon DEQ. Thankfully, in April, the Oregon Attorney General issued an opinion that says the DEQ, ODF, et al. may not withhold from individuals or their physicians, etc. spray records, with the excuse being that their composition is proprietary. In this case, it was reported that six different herbicides were combined in one tank and delivered by helicopter. This happens regularly across our watersheds. Everyone should be concerned when such supposedly benign chemicals as Round Up are reportedly being found in mothers' breast milk. If this is proven to be the case, one can only shudder contemplating the possible effects of much stronger substances like atrazine and 2 4 D, in regular use on these same watersheds, not far from folks' homes, farms, ranches, etc. Pressure must be brought to bear upon relevant state and federal agencies to, at long last, properly regulate the aerial use of chemicals, one of which, atrazine, is currently banned in the European Union, not to mention being prohibited in its nation of origin, Switzerland.

Continued threats, legislative and operational, loom over our precious public forests and the watersheds they adorn. Pressure mounts to drastically increase harvest levels on these lands, including the renewed use of clear cut harvest. Please, if you can, step up and offer your assistance to the volunteers that serve on your board of directors. In the media and at public meetings, do not be afraid to speak truth to power. Research that truth; get out into the landscape and see the dire condition of our Coast Range and the threats to the Cascades for yourself, then get active! The environment you save may well be your own.

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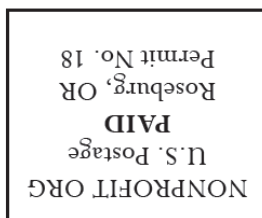
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