



100 Valleys

A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc

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

Spring 2015 | Issue 64

UMPQUA WATERSHEDS

Celebrating 20 Years as the Voice of the Voiceless

In 1995, amid bumper stickers like “Sierra Clubbers, Kiss My Axe”, and boxes of “Spotted Owl Helper” on the shelves of local gun shops, Penny Lind, Jim Ince, Jim Kauppila and I signed the Articles of Incorporation for Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. There would be no going back.

Jim Ince became our first president from 1995-96 and I held that job from 1996-1998 (and again in 2009-2013). Penny succeeded me as president, and then went on to become our first Executive Director. Jim K. spent several of the early years as a board member and officer before moving out of the area. Other early conspirators on the first UW board included Francis Eatherington (who would go on to become our first paid employee as Forest Monitor), Richard Chasm, Patrick Starnes, John Lind, Bob Allen, Bob Hoehne, and David Parker. We met in secret in our living rooms -- a small but resolute group of activists in marathon 6 hour meetings to protect what stands of old growth forests were still left on the Umpqua. That did not make us popular in the “Timber Capitol of the World”.

Working with Diana Wales and other brilliant attorneys, we used the Freedom of Information Act to challenge the Forest Service and the BLM when they weren't following the newly adopted Northwest Forest Plan. To our astonishment, and to the

consternation of the Timber establishment and entrenched interests in the BLM and Forest Service, we began stopping old growth timber sales. None of us knew then that southern Oregon would soon become ground zero in the “Forest Wars”, and that this new law *and* the resolve of our young organization were both about to be severely tested.

The following year brought us the infamous “Salvage Rider” legislation that tore both our community and irreplaceable ancient forests apart. In contrast to its Orwellian name, this innocuous sounding amendment allowed the clearcutting of perfectly healthy stands of centuries-old trees. When we began to bring photos, videos and data to the media and our lawmakers, news of the crisis spread, and environmental activists from around the region began to focus on the Umpqua.

The local Opinion Page became a viper pit of rhetorical venom. Lives and livelihoods were threatened, and the atmosphere of intimidation was palpable. Rallies were staged, roads were blockaded, arrests were made, and all hell broke loose in the woods.

And CNN, the Washington Post, and the L.A. Times were all there.

When the dust from demonstrations, chainsaws, and political mud wrestling had settled, hundreds of acres of pristine ancient forest did NOT fall, and are still standing proud today. And just as importantly, that struggle and others soon to follow led to a sea-change in the attitude of the American public toward its ancient forests. Once they learned that their priceless natural heritage was being sold to the highest bidder, Americans increasingly demanded a stop to old growth logging. Politicians listened, and the courts largely agreed.

Looking back 20 years later, the emergence of UW coincided with the beginning of the end of significant old growth logging on public forests in the west. Easing pressure on native forests has allowed us to broaden our scope as we spend more of our energy creating proactive solutions and less energy reacting to bad management practices.

While our Conservation program continues to stand watch over our forests and rivers, our Conservation and



March, 1996. Activists confer with law enforcement officers shortly before defying the road closure leading to several arrests at Black Cr., Umpqua NF.

Our Mission:

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

Education programs have blossomed into highly effective enterprises. UW spent the first decade of its existence saying **no** to old growth logging and the liquidation of our forests to enrich a privileged few -- now we are saying **yes** to resource management methods that put restoration first while providing good jobs to local citizens. We are saying **yes** to the youth of the Umpqua who are looking for training and educational opportunities that will give them the resources they will need to make a difference in the world they will inherit from us. And we are saying **yes** to partnerships with the agencies that used to sit on the opposite side of the negotiating table.

Those of us who lived through those early struggles, and those who have more recently joined our movement, can be rightfully proud of our past and present accomplishments. Throughout this year and next, Umpqua Watersheds will be celebrating the 20 year anniversaries of many of those milestones. We will start with a retrospective video of images and interviews at our annual banquet on March 14th. We will follow that up with presentations and hikes to mark the anniversaries of pivotal events over the next year, so stay tuned to future newsletters and Watershed Moments emails for dates and times.

And to all of you who have put your shoulders to the wheel in the last two decades to give voice to the myriad voiceless threads in the interconnected web of life, we offer our profound gratitude.

Ken Carloni
Education Committee Chair



Protest rally at a roadblock near a proposed "Salvage Rider" sale on the Umpqua National Forest.

Get Involved! Join a Committee.

Education Committee Meetings

When: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month, 6:30pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: Ken Carloni - 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

Outreach Committee Meetings

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

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: Kasey Hovik - kasey@umpqua-watersheds.org

Wild On Wilderness Committee Meetings

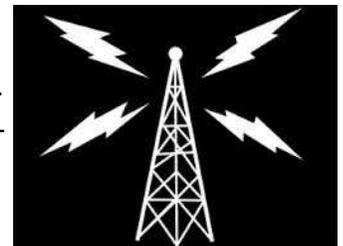
When: Last Wednesday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: Bob Hoehne - oho937@hotmail.com

Join Radio Free Roseburg!

Tired of hearing Rush Limbaugh and his like minded compatriots dominate the local airwaves? Some day soon you can tune into 93.3 and hear a better version of reality! Umpqua Watersheds has obtained a license from the FCC for a low wattage radio station. We have a LOT of work to do if we want to create a progressive, conservation minded voice in our community. We are creating an exploratory committee to explore what we need to do to move forward. Contact our office 541-672-7065 and let us know if you would like to participate!



Board of Directors

Thomas McGregor.....President	Ken Carloni.....Education
Stan Petrowski.....Vice President	Alan Bunce.....Outreach
Bekki Brownfield.....Treasurer	Ben Erickson
Patrick Quinn.....Conservation	Cheyenne Rico..Secretary

Staff

Alan Bunce...Office Manager
Katrina Keleher...AmeriCorps

From the President

This year is stacking up to be one of the best in Umpqua Watersheds' history. Our office has been buzzing with activity. You can feel the grassroots energy picking up. Our AmeriCorps, Katrina Keleher, is carrying on with education and volunteer outreach in the community. Our collaboration with youth in the community through the "Learn, Earn and Serve" program is entering the 4th year and continues to get better each year. We continue to partner with UCC with the Natural Resources program developing and commencing this fall. I hope you reach out to us and let us know how we can bring your energy into our organization.

This year appears to be bringing many issues of our community to the front burner. Your presence or comments for issues such as the fate of the Elliot State Forest, the Jordan Cove/Pacific Connector Liquefied Natural Gas Pipeline, Oregon and California (BLM) lands plan revision, Umpqua National Forest Travel Management Plan, supporting Mildred Kanipe Park, restoration and educational activities, and many more. Please find a way to help your community by donating or volunteering with Umpqua Watersheds. Be a part of our history and vision for the future.

The banquet is approaching and it will be a 'not-to-be missed' celebration. For our main presentation we will have a special video compiling the history of Umpqua Watersheds with great stories from the past by Umpqua Watersheds members of the last 20 years. This will be a one-time airing, so please purchase your tickets today!

See you at the Banquet,

Thomas McGregor

President, Umpqua Watersheds Inc.



SAVE THE DATE!

*Umpqua Watersheds Annual Banquet
and Auction.*

March 14, 2015

Umpqua Community College

**Items are needed for the auction.
Contact Umpqua Watersheds to donate.**

AmeriCorps Voice

By Katrina Keleher

The K-12 education world of Umpqua Watersheds has been a very busy place these past few months! We have been engaging youth across Douglas County every day M-F with various environmental programs. We have a wonderful, dedicated cohort of students and community volunteers involved in our educational programming (including several UW members!), and I am so grateful for everything they are doing. We are always looking for volunteers so if you, or someone you know, would be interested in attending a Science Friday, Forest Thursday, or Science Olympiad event, be sure to get in touch with one of us here at UW.

UW's very own Science Friday program began its 2015 season in early January and it has been a major success thus far. We have engaged over 20 youth from McGovern Elementary School in Winston with weekly environmental science topics. The students have thus far learned about water chemistry, the water cycle, weather and climate, and the carbon cycle. The coming months will involve lessons in forest ecology and food webs as well as lessons to develop skills in tree identification and measurement, forest, compass navigation, renewable energies, GPS techniques, map reading and more.

Douglas High School in Winston engages in a yearly Science Olympiad and the team has had a very productive and fulfilling few months. We are gearing up for the State Science Olympiad tournament at Oregon State University this April. Local professors, parents, and community members have been volunteering as mentors and coaches to the team, and the students have been putting in a remarkable effort to hone their scientific skills.

The McGovern Elementary School 5th grade Watershed tour will be continuing this month with a trip to the Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority, where the students will learn about the natural wastewater treatment facility within the plant. The students will detail what they learn with a field notebook during the trip so that they can teach their family and friends about the wastewater component of their watershed.

For more detailed stories from our education happenings, check out our blog tab of our education blog at:

www.umpquaeducation.wordpress.com!

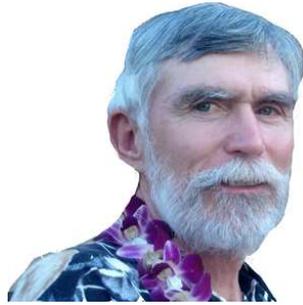


This could be your last newsletter!

Unless you are receiving this newsletter as a complimentary copy, you may not receive the next one unless you renew your membership. Don't miss out! support Umpqua Watersheds today!

Conservation Corner

by Joseph Patrick Quinn



Twenty years: Yes, as unsettling as the swift passage of that much time feels for some of us, it has certainly been an eventful twenty years since the formal organization of our own Umpqua Watersheds! And considering that we are located smack dab in the middle of the self-proclaimed “timber capital of the nation,” UW's many accomplishments are encouraging and, dare I say, inspiring indeed. Past and present board members and volunteers, those valued and great-souled companions who gave their best while serving in some capacity for UW, are reason to be proud and even hopeful.

In an ideal world, our degraded watersheds and the streams and rivers that drain and grace them would all be protected and/or restored by this late date. However, as each of us is only too well aware, it is the real world we live in and not some utopia. Significant battles to slow, halt and reverse environmental assaults upon our beloved and precious natural surroundings still hang very much in the balance. Without a doubt there have been some successes. A number of ill-conceived and short-sighted agency management proposals have been challenged and defeated or at least modified for the better. The Northwest Forest Plan and its Aquatic Conservation Strategy have provided a regulatory framework for the restoration of habitats and the species that depend upon them. Some of these species are listed as threatened or endangered. Powerful forces are afoot in our nation and region that clamor for severe modification and even the elimination of these benchmark protections, so critical to the recovery of our landscapes and their denizens. The Endangered Species Act itself, bulwark against extinction, trembles in the cross hairs as well.

After the passage of twenty years of environmental engagement, education, restoration and advocacy, we believe it is fair to envision UW's efforts as a long journey; a journey with a beginning, yes, but, if history is any guide, one without a definite end. Every success seems to attract a new challenge: the world does not stop its turning, nor do many of the powerful and well-heeled renounce their misguided, often self-serving machinations simply because we, the caring and dedicated people of Umpqua Watersheds, do not subscribe to them. Vigilant, hard-working, fearless communities such as ours are the best antidote to the poison of greed and the abject servility and environmental blindness that derives from that uncivil and regrettable state of mind and action. Despite the blast of such headwinds, we may not indulge in discouragement and admit defeat, ever. We hold the future of our own species in our hands and that of every species struggling to survive on earth today. At times this responsibility can feel like a heavy load, indeed. And yet, with many hands, shoulders and backs to lift and help carry, it is a load we can and must bear.

At present, the effort to stop the Jordan Cove Liquefaction Plant at North Bend and its attendant, 231 mile long, three foot diameter high pressure gas line are among the heaviest environmental weights we are wrestling with today. The room at the December 9, 2014 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) hearing at Umpqua Community College's Lang Center was filled and overflowing with concerned community members. While a few industry advocates spoke in favor of the project, by far most witnesses attacked the inadequacies of FERC's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) with vigor.

Environmental impacts such as the planned assaults on the riparian zones of the many rivers and streams the pipeline would cross; extensive clear cutting of the right of way, sometimes through old growth and other stands listed as habitat critical to the survival of endangered species, and direct and indirect impacts on climate change were all decried. Given the ever present hazard of land slides in the Coast Range and the predictions of a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake of great magnitude, existential safety concerns were voiced by members of UW and others in attendance. A subsequent informational meeting, sponsored by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and the Army Corps of Engineers was also well attended. On this occasion, virtually no one spoke in favor of the LNG project. Many, on the other hand, including several members of UW, opposed and condemned it. And perhaps the most eloquent of all speakers were the youthful members of UW who will have the health of the planet stolen from them in the bargain.

On another front, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is due to release a draft of their Resource Management Plan (RMP) sometime in the next few weeks. The RMP purports to supply the framework for BLM proposals for “forest management” going forward. BLM's last and failed iteration, the Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR), was known derisively as the “Whopper.” UW hopes for an environmentally sound outcome, but we are ready for any challenges ahead. We have attended several BLM listening sessions, expressed our views and submitted extensive comments and suggestions. We realize that extractive processes and the pressure to produce revenue often take precedence over habitat conservation and restoration concerns. In addition, the Forest Service is commencing a similar broad and long term planning process for our region and, as with the BLM, much is at stake, from species recovery to carbon sequestration.

These and many other potentially disastrous outcomes set in motion by powerful forces are let loose on our already beleaguered watersheds. Now more than ever, is the time to stand up and resist, as much as one is able. UW's annual banquet and silent auction is fast approaching. Gather up your good ideas, your valuable encouragement, your strength and your loose change and plan on being there. Together we can do great good. We must.

Restoration Committee

“Protect the Best, Restore the Rest”

Stanley Petrowski

Umpqua Watersheds

Restoration Chair / Vice President



Quick Turns by a Large Ship, a Safe Journey Does Not Make

Umpqua Watersheds has long had restoration ecology as a central component of its vision and purpose for being. Renewing the mismanaged landscapes of our beautiful region really did have to take the proverbial “back seat” with regard to actively pursuing restoration projects -- for a long time. Those who nurtured a passion for our natural environs have been, and still are, very busy defending what remains of the natural infrastructure that provides us with clean air, pure water and healing for our souls. It is time consuming defending nature.

Those who have been “nature's defenders” always remember the intrinsic value of *healthy wildlands*; these folks are a part of a very long tradition. It wasn't until natural resource extraction reached the scale of the industrial revolution that the threat of man-made *extinction* endangered thousands of species and at times humanity itself. The acquisition of exorbitant wealth from natural resource extraction can be a blinding force. Resisting it because you have vision to see the destructive implications of bad management practices can be and has been a long and arduous task. In the aftermath of the destructive techniques of forest management in our times there has been a burning desire to make things right again. Conservation and restoration go hand in hand.

I was around when the toxic waste dump of Love Canal shook the east coast. It was an awaking that persists to this day. It is kept alive by those who remember and those who remind. Little attention was being paid to what was going on in the forests of the far western parts of our country in those days. Little was known of the tragedy that was playing out in the wild lands of the west. The machinery and technology that once empowered the USA to fight a world war was now being directed toward clear cutting the forests and inadvertently wiping out ecological



processes on the landscape. It was being done to feed the insatiable hunger of our post war country to build, build, build and for a select few - to become wealthy in the process. We see the legacy of it all around us today with the worst of it still legally taking place on industrial timber lands as a result of the Oregon Forest Practices Act.

The persistence of many of the membership of Umpqua Watersheds to support and sustain the organization with funds and untold volunteer hours is a testimony of hope for all. Because of it we are now able to explore the long road of restoration ecology as well as defend what remains. Another powerful positive force in our society is a growing awareness that our interface with the forest and streams does not have to be degrading. We can discover how to live in this world taking and giving back without destroying it. Although many would like to portray the conservation community as a destructive and disruptive force, the case is not so when it comes to doing things the right way in forest management. There are a lot of strong science based arguments to be made on behalf of conservation and restoration. A lot of time and effort related to sound ecology and forest management has been invested by Umpqua Watersheds as an organization.

Sincere, Open and Ready to Roll-The Restoration Committee

To genuinely raise the level of environmental health in our forests requires community involvement. In the polarized social climate of Douglas County, Oregon that may seem like a difficult element to achieve. There is common ground on which to engage our communities. Hardly anyone I've met of any persuasion would deny the healthful benefit of going into the wildlands and leaving the world behind for a day or a season. At a minimum, even those who do not partake of such luxuries, have a sense that personal contact with nature nurtures us and is therapeutic. And what about the huge investment folks of all world views have made to spend time on a river or stream fishing or watching the majesty of our salmon runs?

One of the greatest difficulties that we face is the odd perception that conservation organizations, and Umpqua Watersheds in particular, are not a constructive part of our

communities. It is often said that we are the people of “NO!” It is true that we are in opposition to damaging management practices in our watersheds. That is where the big “NO” ends.

On the other hand, there are things that need and should be done when interfacing with the landscape whether for conservation, restoration or management in general. It is *not* true that Umpqua Watersheds is uncooperative. From its inception, Umpqua Watersheds has appealed for dialog. Countless volunteer hours and miles of travel have been a huge part of our effort to sit at the table and find a way for everyone to mutually discover the right thing to do and then to actually do it. Over the years we have met with the County and Federal agencies and invested much time and attention. This often unsung effort rarely receives a mention, but it is a critical part of our desire to practically illustrate the fact that we are people of place. We live here. We are a part of the nature that surrounds us. We want to live in a strong and healthy community, find a way to effectively communicate that desire, and make it real. We are committed and engaged.

The Elk Creek Project-The first of its kind in the Umpqua

As Chair of the restoration committee I will confess that at the onset of the Elk Creek South Umpqua Restoration Project my level of naiveté was deep and the scope of the learning curve was more challenging than I had envisioned. A fundamental premise to start with was that there was a better way to intervene in forest processes in order to restore and operate in the landscape of Matrix Lands and likewise an appropriate method of human intervention in Late Successional Reserves. We as an organization believe that is true. All that we needed was a sound science based understanding of what it would take to raise the level of healthy natural function on the landscape and allow the rich treasures of a vibrant forest to express themselves. Nature can be quite resilient and generous if not taken advantage of and given half a chance. Many societies around the world have proven it time and again. Sound science and the collaborative process would be the foundation for our actions and we would do our best to go above and beyond the call of duty to minimize any damage resulting from our footprint.

What I didn't realize was that the human factor would be so volatile. There is a lot of inertia to overcome. My assumption was that we, as a society, had matured in our understanding of the importance of nature, in its function to provide us with a healthy environment - the environment we all share. We could find common ground to go forward.

I learned, to my dismay, that it is not always the case. The entire issue of forest and water resource management has been extremely polarized socially and politically. The corporate bottom line or the need for folks to just get by was blinding peoples' eyes. Yet, with the help of our sister conservation

organizations and committed agency folks (with continued efforts to engage various industry personnel) we have made progress.

The Tiller, Oregon collaborative facilitated by the South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership, with the US Forest Service, conservation partners and grassroots community participation, has been a great tool for Umpqua Watersheds to implement some of our restoration solutions. After a long slow start with barriers and disruptions from forest fires to Federal policy changes, our partners in the Forest Service at the Tiller Ranger District are completing NEPA work, preliminary action plan and project proposal for the Elk Creek project. The project is finally coming to fruition.

The scoping and comment period for the project is finishing up as of the publishing of this article. All of the ground work and scrutiny of objectives is paying off. It is not what we would consider the perfect plan, but it is darn close. If it were somehow possible we would like to see a greater funding investment in monitoring the impact of our restoration activities post treatment. Each ecological zone of our region is unique and requires observations of management impact if we are going to be genuine in our restoration effort. You can assist in this aspect of our commitment to the project by communicating with Forest Service personnel that you want to see monitoring expanded in the project. Currently we are specifically watching the watershed's prey base, oak meadow habitat and water quality. The prey base study needs to be expanded. The oak meadow restoration needs avian monitoring in particular. Water quality is the one area that we feel is truly carefully being watched by multiple partners in the collaborative.

This type of project is one of a kind in the Umpqua. The pioneering effort of Umpqua National Forest staff and the Tiller Ranger District in particular has been exemplary. They have gone out of their way to innovate and accommodate the interests of the collaborative partners. The National Forest Foundation, through the support of the Umpqua National Forest line officers, has empowered the Tiller community grassroots effort to succeed. We would like to see greater meaningful dialog with the lumber mills in our attempt to get past the deadlocks and intense history of conflict in preceding years to actually effect real change. We are hoping that the Elk Creek project will open new vistas in cooperation and mutually beneficial experience in restoring health to geographic confines of the Umpqua Basin.

Please meet with us to discuss where we hope to go in our efforts. Our restoration committee meetings convene on the third Tuesday of every month unless otherwise notified. Contact Alan Bunce at the Umpqua Watersheds office to be put on our Watersheds Moments email list for update and announcements. Join us in the next 20 years of our ongoing work.



BOT203A: *FIELD BOTANY* *of SW Oregon and N California*

Escape the classroom and earn four lab science credits with UCC's **Field Botany Tour** of the **Siskiyou Mts., Smith River, Redwood Nat'l Park, Trinidad State Beach, Trinity River, Lassen Volcanic Nat'l Park, McArthur-Burney Falls State Park, Lava Beds Nat'l Monument, Crater Lake Nat'l Park, and the N. Umpqua River. This hybrid class begins with an online, self-paced course in botany fundamentals **Spring Term, Mar. 30-June 12,** and ends with a 6 day adventure tour of the region's most stunning ecosystems **June 16-21** on a sleeper coach provided by **Green Tortoise Adventure Tours** (www.greentortoise.com).**

Transportation, food, park admissions and camping are included in the class fee of \$675. The class and tour are eligible for financial aid.

Contact Dr. Ken Carloni at:
(541) 440-7641
ken.carloni@umpqua.edu.



This is our classroom!



Welcome to Douglas County – Spray Capital of Oregon

By Lisa Arkin, Executive Director of Beyond Toxics (a non-profit dedicated to environmental health)

Douglas County has long been known as “The Timber Capital of the World.” For 20 years now, since its inception, Umpqua Watersheds has been pointing out the glaring environmental impacts associated with the poor management practices of industrialized timber harvest. Recently, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) ruled that the State of Oregon is not doing enough to protect the water quality of coastal, salmon-bearing streams. They’ve told Oregon officials that they need to tighten regulations on non-point source, or runoff-related, pollution. Nonpoint pollution comes from a broad range of human activities, including agriculture, grazing, urban development and forestry.

In regards to Oregon’s Forest Practices Act, the Federal Government’s disapproval cited four forestry-specific areas that need to be addressed:

- Protecting small- and medium-sized streams**
- Addressing runoff from logging roads, including older “legacy” roads.**
- Protecting waterways from landslides.**
- Minimizing forestry-related pesticides’ impact on streams.**

Most people in the Umpqua basin are aware of spraying in our area, but many are unaware of the magnitude or potential dangers involved. Data shows that Douglas County leads the rest of the State in pesticide applications by a large margin, with over 13,000 applications in the last ten years.

In an attempt to bring pesticide awareness to our area, UW will welcome a panel of experts to speak at a community event at the D.C. Library, 6:30pm, April 8th. Invited speakers include: Beyond Toxics, Crag Law Center, Healthy Environmental Action League (HEAL), Oregon Health Authority, & Oregon Dept. of Forestry. Below is a letter from Lisa Arkin of Beyond Toxics, who will be presenting at the meeting.

Aerial Herbicide Spraying is a Growing Concern in Communities, Courts and Government

One year ago Beyond Toxics received calls from folks in the Gold Beach area asking for help. On October 16, 2013, more than thirty people, including elders and small children, were made sick from exposure to a concoction of chemicals sprayed by helicopter on nearby forest land. The fire chief went the emergency room coughing up blood, a physician sought help at the hospital for severe abdominal pain, a father missed three

days of work from debilitating asthma attacks and a baby vomited throughout the night.

These accounts are galvanizing rural communities throughout the state. People are stepping forward to launch rural partnerships to learn more about aerial herbicide sprays and health. With one shared vision, that of protecting rural communities from pesticide drift, joint efforts have advanced to a statewide movement to change forestry laws and protect homes and drinking water.

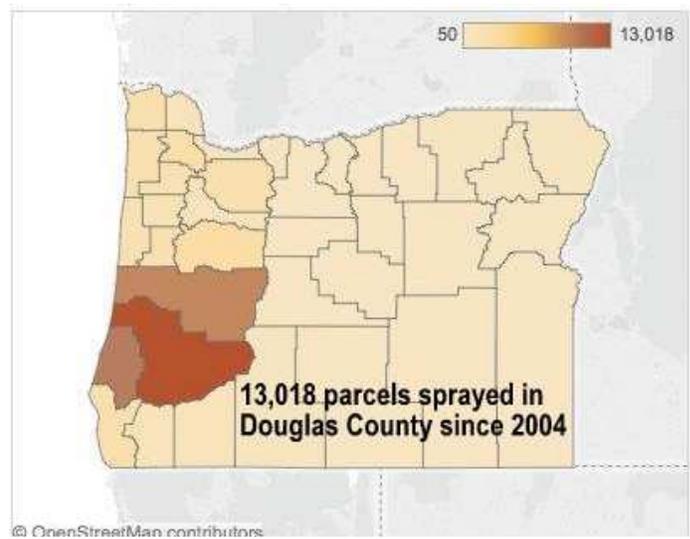
With the brave help of many rural Beyond Toxic members, the narratives of people from Gold Beach, Cedar Valley, Triangle Lake, Rockaway Beach, Florence, Tiller and other communities are coming to light. More than twenty news stories have been published from *The Oregonian* in Portland to Washington D.C.

Beyond Toxics is working closely with legislators to introduce a bill to protect homes, schools and the headwaters of drinking water streams from aerial pesticide drift. In 2014, four separate hearings were held in the Oregon Senate on the subject of forestry and herbicides. In September, the Oregon Department of Agriculture was called before the senators to defend the agency’s mishandling of the pesticide investigation in Gold Beach!

Beyond Toxics is also helping seventeen Curry County residents file a constitutional challenge to Oregon’s ‘Right to Farm and Forest’ law. This unfair law grants immunity to pesticide sprayers when they engage in chemical trespass. These rural Oregonians seek to uphold their constitutional rights to be safe on their own property, and to drink clean water and breathe clean air.

Legislative and legal challenges are supported by rural Oregonians throughout the state. At least 350 people attended community town halls in Curry, Lincoln, Lane and Tillamook counties to discuss the concerns about forestry herbicides. In October, 500 people flocked to the “Herbicides and Health Conference,” co-sponsored by the University of Oregon and Beyond Toxics. From that gathering, there will be a new statement of principles to guide communities in Oregon to end chemical trespass.

In Oregon, clear-cut logging is paired with the practice of heli-



copters spraying chemical tank mixtures of herbicides, petroleum oil and surfactants from the air. According to the report in *The Oregonian*, Douglas County has the highest rate of aerial pesticide sprays in the entire state (10/23/2014). Do you want to learn more about the issue, or share your story? Come join us at our April 8th, 2015 town hall meeting at the Douglas County Library in Roseburg, OR., at 6:30pm, or call Beyond Toxics to schedule a meeting in your watershed!

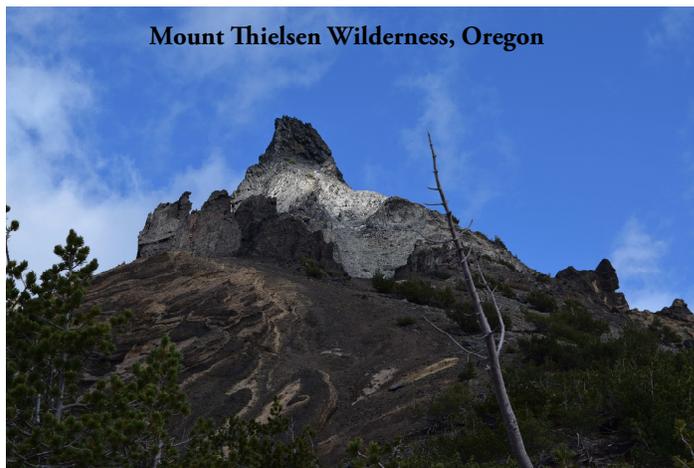
Wild On Wilderness— by Bob Hoehne

The goal of the Umpqua Watershed's Wild on Wilderness committee is to designate more wilderness in the Umpqua National Forest. Since 1984, there has been no new wilderness designations in the Umpqua National Forest. Today, there are three designated wilderness areas in the Umpqua National Forest: Boulder Creek, Rogue-Umpqua Divide and Mt. Thielsen, thanks to the Umpqua Wilderness Defenders, a former conservation group. Back in the 1980's and the 1990's the Umpqua Valley Audubon Society and Umpqua Watersheds successfully kept some timber sales from going forward due to fish and wildlife concerns. These sales were in some of the last of these wild areas. If we had not stopped these timber sales then, we would not have any proposed wilderness areas today.

When UW hired Francis Eatherington and other staff to monitor timber sales, a few board members of UW formed a committee to watch over the wild roadless areas that were left. The public had become aware of the importance of these last remaining wild areas, specifically the cold clean water coming out of them for drinking water and for healthy fish runs. Oregon Wild is credited with the idea to "Adopt A Wilderness". This great idea provided a way for people to connect with these areas, monitor and map them and stay updated on key issues. Organizations and friends of the forest hiked and photographed and researched these areas. A slide show was put together using some of the



"Wilderness Bob"



research and photos from the folks that had adopted the wild areas.

The first slide show was at the Douglas County Library. UW presented photos and updated information regarding the last of these beautiful wild areas. Slides showing hiking in and flying over the areas up and along the North Umpqua River showed the beautiful views of the Bulldog Rock area, Twin lakes, Limpy Rock, and Mt. Bailey; then pictures followed back down the South Umpqua River showing images of the 850 year old tree in the beautiful Last Creek Area and Donegan Prairie. The special values of the areas were highlighted throughout the slide show, endangered flowers, pictures of spring chinook in the upper South Umpqua River and hidden water falls. Most presentations featured an expert in a variety of topics: fish biology, wilderness economics, wilderness specialists, Native Americans, Forest Service recreation, climate science, and wildlife biology.

At one point, a group of women from Umpqua Watersheds formed a group called Women of Wilderness. Later, the Roadless Committee merged with the Women of Wilderness group and became The Wild on Wilderness (WOW) committee. After much work, such as signing up business supporters, leading hikes, presenting around the state, and gathering research data, Umpqua Watersheds and the WOW Committee launched the Wild Umpqua Wilderness Campaign for permanent protection of the roadless areas in the Umpqua National Forest. We took the slide show around the state.

We then decided to join Oregon Wild to include Crater Lake National Park and the headwaters of the Rogue, Klamath, and Umpqua Rivers to form the current Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal. More work and research was conducted to educate ourselves and the public about the larger area of wilderness. At this point, UW and WOW committee had not days but years of hard work ahead for many, many volunteers and staff. Thanks to Patagonia, UW and WOW have hired a part time Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal coordinator. This is great news!

One of their first jobs will be organizing and promoting a joint Crater Lake Wilderness forum. **On April 16th at 7:00 pm at the Douglas County Library**, Roseburg, Umpqua Watersheds and our partners in the Crater Lake Wilderness Campaign: Oregon Wild, Crater Lake Institute, Environment Oregon and the National Park Conservation Association, will be giving an informational presentation on the Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal.

Motivations for this wilderness proposal are clear: love and respect for this beautiful land and future generations, jobs and the economy, wildlife, and (most important) clean, cold water for fish and drinking.

It has been over 30 years since there has been any wilderness designation in the Umpqua. Please consider becoming part of this exciting wilderness proposal and make more history with us.

The State of the Beaver 2015 Conference February 18th, 19th and 20th 2015

We need water! We want our native salmon runs back! And we want them for less cost, no additional taxes and less paper work! Welcome to the *State of the Beaver 2015 Conference* where we will learn to work with beavers to gain their benefits and minimize the problems they can cause.

Follow any of the links on this page to learn more concerning the February 18th, 19th and 20th 2015, conference focused on *Castor canadensis*. Direct all questions concerning the conference to either stanley@surcp.org or beavers@surcp.org. We will reply as soon as possible.

Friends of Mildred Kanipe Park Update—by Celia Scott

Some extremely exciting things have already been happening after the successful campaign waged last year by Friends and many others, including Umpqua Watersheds, to raise \$65,000 as part of the cost of building a campground at Kanipe. County workers toiled through soggy conditions to finish a very nice road and construct the campsites. The Roseburg chapter of Oregon Equestrian Trails dug a ditch for the water line from the well at the historic schoolhouse to the campground. The fire pits are being constructed by the Wolf Creek Job Corps. Kanipe Park is eligible for the approximately \$800/RV site/year reimbursement from the state for finishing the campground before the end of 2014. Campground should be open for this season.

In cooperation with other organizations, including UW, we are applying for a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) Hub grant. We plan to provide field experience in hydrology and noxious weed ID and eradication with local high school students in an extended learning experience encompassing leadership and mentoring skills, research skills, and informed career choice information.



In November 2014, Friends learned that Restore Oregon listed Mildred's home as one of 2015's Oregon's Most Endangered Places. Go to restoreoregon.org to learn more. This designation gives Friends the oppor-

tunity to apply for a \$2500 grant given by Restore Oregon, as well as one offered by Oregon State Parks and Recreation department. Friends and Douglas County Planning Dept. are working together on the latter grant and we are excited about the opportunity.

We have helped make some political inroads too. Last Fall applications were being accepted for 3 positions on the Parks Advisory Board (PAB) and 20 members of the community applied. The PAB failed to acknowledge the new applicants and re-nominated the sitting members. Some have been on the board for over 25 years. We contacted the County Commissioners office in protest. After several meetings with little progress on the board elections, the commissioners announced that one of three positions would be reserved for a person representing the coastal part of Douglas County. Applications are still being accepted and those that applied in the fall are also being considered so hopefully we will see the positions filled with fresh faces.

15th ANNUAL DOUGLAS COUNTY

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LIVE MUSIC—
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Saturday, April 18, 2015
10:00 AM—4:00 PM
Douglas County Fairgrounds

SUNRISE FASHION SHOW
11:00 AM

MIGRATORY BIRD FESTIVAL
Restore Habitat, Restore Birds

FEATURING: Crafts, Toys, Papermaking, Food, Solar Energy, Sustainability Demonstrations, Poetry Contest, Alternative Power Car Rally

LEARN ABOUT: Organic Gardening, Green Living, Energy Efficiency, Reusable/Recycled Products, Composting, Alternative Building Supplies and Methods, Local Waterways, Native Plants and Trees, BLM forests, and more.

Partial List of SPONSORS:

Douglas County Public Works; Cascade Community Credit Union; Douglas Electric Cooperative; South Umpqua Disposal Co.; Steve Tuchscherer, CPA; Sunrise Enterprises; Umpqua Valley Native Plant Society; Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians; Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers; B P Audio; Roseburg Disposal; Umpqua Watersheds; Canyon Creek Bicycles; Mystic Earth; PacifiCorp; Newcastle Solar

Wild Salmon and Steelhead Management

Jeffrey J. Dose, Ph.D.
Fisheries Biologist

Introduction

Restoring abundant runs of wild Pacific salmon and anadromous trout, that is, fish spawned in natural habitat from wild parents, to the rivers and streams of the Pacific Northwest and California bioregion has recently risen to the highest levels in the public's consciousness. There is attention from the region's and nation's top elected officials, the large expenditure of public and private funds, and almost daily coverage in the media. What was once primarily the subject of commerce and professional debate in the region's fishing ports and academic institutions has blossomed spectacularly into the social, political, and economic arenas of the entire region – and beyond. This attention is certainly true here, in the Umpqua River basin, as well, where our fish runs support a multitude of recreational and commercial enterprises and where there is concern for some greatly diminished populations.

The Umpqua has one of the most diverse populations of wild salmon and searun trout in Oregon. There exist six different races representing four species. These races are further distributed in sub-basin specific populations (Mainstem, North, and South). These are spring Chinook salmon (North and South), fall Chinook salmon (all three sub-basins), coho salmon (all three sub-basins), winter steelhead (all three sub-basins), summer steelhead (North), and searun cutthroat trout (North, others?). In addition to the wild populations, for all but searun cutthroat there are artificially propagated populations from hatcheries. The following narrative is a general discussion of salmon and searun trout, but most of it applies to most aspects of salmon and steelhead management in the Umpqua.

Natural History

Pacific salmon, broadly defined to include sea-run trout, are a truly remarkable and successful group of animals. On an evolutionary time scale, at least for teleost (bony) fishes, they are considered fairly primitive. The fossil record indicates that the first ancestors evolved about 45 million years ago, and that current species evolved two to six million years ago. During this time period, they have endured numerous global-scale climate changes - upheavals that caused the extinction of an untold numbers of other species - yet they persisted, albeit not always in the same locales.

Through evolutionary processes such as natural selection, salmon have been able to persist, and even thrive, by developing some rather unique and impressive characteristics and abilities which enhance their genetic diversity, including:

the ability to “navigate” and migrate enormous distances;

a very fine-tuned “homing” ability that allows them to return to their natal streams, while at the same time having sufficient straying capability to colonize new or previously lost habitats;

a life-history which results in the bulk of the population being at sea during the “catastrophic” natural disturbances (e.g., floods, wildfire, drought, etc.) which occur periodically within their freshwater habitat;

tetraploid chromosomes, common in plants but unusual in animals, which may provide resistance to adverse genetic effects from inbreeding when populations are low;

the ability to dramatically change their kidney function so as to be able to move between fresh and salt water, which allows them to utilize the relatively rich marine environment for growth and the relatively safe freshwater environment for reproduction and initial rearing; and

the ability to evolve quickly to different environments by adopting life-history strategies, such as migration timing or body size, to a wide variety of different, localized freshwater environments - ranging from intermittent streams in southern California to alpine lakes near the continental divide in Idaho to frequently frozen rivers above the Arctic Circle in Alaska and Canada.

Management

Managing salmon resources involves preventing overharvest, protecting and restoring habitat, managing hydro and other

dams, and augmentation of wild populations with hatchery production. While counter-intuitive, large-scale hatchery production does not usually produce more fish and can seriously reduce fitness of wild populations. Most current hatchery practices, such as supplementing or augmenting wild populations with hatchery-bred fish produced from artificial (rather than natural) mate selection, are antithetical to the goal. Additionally, hatchery production requires a large investment of funds that might be better spent on habitat acquisition and restoration, alternative energy sources, law enforcement or better monitoring and evaluation. It is not uncommon for the return of one hatchery salmon to cost hundreds or thousands of dollars. The majority of which is paid by taxpayers and ratepayers, not from the sale of licenses and tags.



Among other effects, genetic changes are contributing to the problem of salmon declines. Most recent research has shown significant reductions in salmon and steelhead production when hatchery fish are spawning with wild fish, even at fairly low levels (~10-15%) of hatchery fish. In addition to genetic effects from interbreeding, impacts to wild salmon begin as soon as the hatchery fish are released into the rivers and streams. These potentially include disease transmission, competition, direct predation, altered migratory behavior, and altered predator survival and behavior.

In addition to these direct effects, the release of millions of hatchery reared fish (and their subsequent return) makes it nearly impossible to assess accurately the status of many wild

stocks. This is further exacerbated during periods of high ocean productivity when hatchery fish survive (and spawn) at much higher rates than at other times. The offspring from these pairings are unmarked and are essentially indistinguishable (without genetic analysis) from true wild stocks. They are then usually counted, inappropriately, as wild.

Despite the large body of scientific information that portrays the damage done, there has been little real change in the current hatchery/harvest paradigm. The effects on mixed-stock fisheries are evaluated as large, coast-wide aggregates while potentially devastating impacts on local population segments go unevaluated, and unreported. Similarly, there has been very little change in land and water uses that affect salmon habitat.

As to habitat “restoration,” most of what has been done to date is the uncoordinated treatment of some of the more obvious symptoms, while totally ignoring the causes – like widespread clearcutting and road building in forest watersheds, unrestricted livestock grazing, diversions of large amounts of water from stream channels for irrigation and domestic use, urban and industrial development on and adjacent to floodplains, and the continued construction (or retention) of more dams. Successful, widespread restoration of wild salmon stocks will require a significant paradigm shift from current approaches.

Many researchers have concluded that for restoration programs to succeed there must be a shift away from simplistic technofixes – such as hatcheries for low fish numbers or log structures for poor habitat conditions – to ecologically-based restoration of watershed processes.

Conclusion

I'll conclude with a quote from the book *Salmon Without Rivers*, (Lichatowich, 1999, page 219) in which he concluded:

Today we are faced with a legacy of more than a century of salmon management based on a faulty set of assumptions. Natural salmon habitats have been wrecked while we have spent hundreds of millions of dollars on hatcheries, chasing the foolish dream of producing salmon without rivers. Every independent scientific review of the current management system has called for a major overhaul, but bureaucratic salmon managers still cling to the status quo, defend their hatchery programs, and embrace without thinking the outmoded worldview from which hatcheries first emerged in 1872.

LEARN, EARN and SERVE This Summer!

The Umpqua Nat'l Forest, UCC, and Phoenix School have partnered to hire youth 17-24 years of age who are interested in careers in Natural Resources, and willing to work and learn in the field with UCC professors and Forest Service biologists. Pay = \$9.25/hr. for 7 weeks from late June to early August. Tuition included for 2 required UCC classes: Botany and Wilderness Survival.



CONTACT: ken.carloni@umpqua.edu -or-
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(541) 440-1104



Umpqua Watersheds is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the ecosystems of the Umpqua watershed and beyond through education, training, advocacy and stewardship.

February 6, 2015

Dear Supporters,

Umpqua Watersheds is proud to announce the date of their 20th Anniversary Celebration. On **Saturday, March 14** at Umpqua Community College we will host our annual banquet and silent auction. Everyone is encouraged to come and celebrate the past 20 years with us and learn more about Umpqua Watersheds' past, present, and future.

Many people share their time and effort to make this evening a success. We are calling upon you to make it a financial success as well. This is your chance to contribute to this memorable event, as the funds generated enable Umpqua Watersheds to continue our pursuit toward healthy forests, clean rivers, and healthy habitat for the many wildlife species in the 100 valleys of the Umpqua.

We are actively seeking donations for our silent auction. All donations are presented with the donors name and business information at the event, if they choose. They are also tax deductible! It's a great way to show your support of Umpqua Watersheds and to promote your product(s). Use your creativity to "re-gift" something wonderful. Provide an item, service and/or donate money to help with the special costs associated with putting together this spectacular event.

Umpqua Watersheds is "dedicated to the protection and restoration of the ecosystems of the Umpqua watershed and beyond." Make this your opportunity to support our mission and make a difference in our community.

For more information call us at (541) 672-7065 or drop off your donation(s) at our office 539 SE Main St. Roseburg, Oregon 97470.

Thank you for your continued support,

Cheyenne Rico
Secretary, Umpqua Watersheds, Inc.

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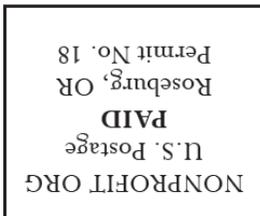
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