



# 100 Valleys

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

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

Winter 2019 | Issue 82

## "Umpqua Sweets" Proposed BLM Sale of 2000 acres along the North Umpqua River

From September 24th through November 1st, Cascadia Wildlands spearheaded an investigation of a Roseburg BLM Timber Sale called *Umpqua Sweets*. They conducted field trips to the units and meetings with the BLM Swiftwater Field Office personnel. Some Umpqua Watersheds members joined in the research, including Francis Eatherington. The following are comments about the sites by Samantha Krop, Gape Scott, Steve Cole and Francis Eatherington.

The Umpqua Sweets Timber Sale area contains sensitive geologic sites, archeology sites, old growth forest, wetlands, riparian areas and buffers, Elk habitat, steep terrain and streams that run into the North Umpqua River. These factors and additional concerns regarding road building and landings for yarding are reasons for alarm. Of particular interest and concern is 20 acres of clearcut proposed on the south side of the North Umpqua River near *The Narrows* and just yards west of the Swiftwater protected *Wild and Scenic River*. Studies have shown that increased fire danger results from regeneration harvest. And Umpqua Watersheds and Cascadia Wildlands are actively and vocally opposed. The sale extends up into the forest from Rock Creek Road past Susan Creek.

The issues are too numerous to discuss here point by point but the following is a general summary of issues: road cutting through riparian areas and their buffers, damage above Honey Creek and the North Umpqua and endangering homes, old growth habitat destruction particularly in groves with Douglas Fir, Hemlock and Sugar Pine. Steve Cole set up a wildlife camera and we look forward to his findings. He has visited units on very steep terrain so he referred his concerns to the Department of Geology and Mineral Industry Interactive Map regarding *Statewide Landslide Information* to



Oregon (SLIDO). Steve's research found High Landslide Hazard Areas which would endanger the North Umpqua and as a result, fish populations.

November 1st, Gabe and Samantha met with BLM Field Manager, Mike Korn. A distressing issue is that trees slated for retention could be cut for road building and yarding sites. They talked about the *Arch* unit and the *North Umpqua Riverside* unit. They feel that these units could be dropped if we all keep up the pressure, as well as pressure for another public meeting and hike. Mr. Korn reported that the BLM expects to release the Environmental Assessment in August 2020. The BLM received hundreds of email and phone calls about this project. We need to keep it up! Visit Cascadia Wildlands website for details and photos and to send comments to the BLM.

Steve Cole's site has photos and LIDAR maps:  
[umpquasogproject.org](http://umpquasogproject.org)

BLM site has maps at <https://eplanning.blm.gov> for Umpqua Sweets Harvest.

Submit comments: [blm\\_or\\_mail@blm.gov](mailto:blm_or_mail@blm.gov) & through Cascadia Wildlands: [www.cascwild.org/Umpquasweets](http://www.cascwild.org/Umpquasweets)

If you are interested in the UW Conservation Committee please contact me through the UW office (541-672-7065) or UW email [uw@umpquawatersheds.org](mailto:uw@umpquawatersheds.org). The committee meets the 3rd Tuesday at 6pm at McMenamins Restaurant. Join us!

Diana Pace, Conservation Chair,  
[diana@umpquawatersheds.org](mailto:diana@umpquawatersheds.org)



*You can't put these back on the stump once they are cut.*

**Our Mission:** *Umpqua Watersheds is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the ecosystems of the Umpqua watershed and beyond through education, training, advocacy and ecologically sound stewardship.*

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## Wilderness Committee update.... Robbin Shindele

The Wilderness Committee had a busy fall. In September we wound down our postcard campaign. Various committee members were at the Saturday farmers Market in Roseburg most Saturdays from May through September. We talked to people about the Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal and asked them to sign postcards with pre-printed messages to US Senators Wyden and Merkley, Representatives DeFazio, and Blumenauer. Over the course of the season we mailed over 1,000 cards signed by the citizens of Douglas County and definitely noticed in the legislator's offices.

September 26 we hosted our Water Symposium, cosponsored by the Douglas County Global Warming Coalition. We had two speakers: Jason Dunham, PhD., Research Aquatic Ecologist, USGS Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center and Joseph Blanchard, Watersheds Program Manager, Umpqua National Forest. Overall the program went well, both speakers had a lot to say and said it well. Their presentations were well received by an attentive audience of over 60 people. There was about 45 minutes of Q&A after they finished speaking and many people stayed after the official close to chat with them more.

In October we hosted a book signing event at the Roseburg Library by Oregon Wild staffer Chandra LeGue, author of "Oregon's Ancient Forests: A hiking guide." Chandra had a short presentation about the forests featured in the book, and some of her favorite trails in the Umpqua drainage. About 40 people attended with many buying autographed copies of the book.

October was a super busy time for our Campaign Coordinator Robbin Shindele during the month he made seven trips, driving over 1400 miles to and from Ashland, Medford, Grants Pass and Central Point talking to civic groups, church groups and concerned citizens about the positive financial impact protecting public lands has on individuals, businesses and communities. His presentation, titled "Wilderness: The Secret Economic Engine" was almost universally well received. There was some push back from timber people in a couple of meetings but mostly people were glad to hear about the Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal (most hadn't) and eager to offer support and encouragement. It was a great grass roots effort and proves that, like our postcard project, most Oregonians are in favor of protecting Crater Lake with a wilderness designation. We need to spread the word wherever we can. If your organization would like to hear more about the Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal, please contact me at [robbin@umpquawatersheds.org](mailto:robbin@umpquawatersheds.org) to schedule a presentation. I also want to mention the tremendous effort Susan Applegate contributed by arranging all the venues for the presentations.

In October, we were encouraged by the article by Carisa Cegavske in the News Review. It was a level headed and even handed article that communicated why we think protecting our public lands is important for the health of the planet and the benefit of our fellow Oregonians. Thanks to Bob Hoehne for keeping up contact with the news review and encouraging them to write about the Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal.

Things have slowed down a bit since October but members of the committee are continuing to work with other conservation organizations in the state on Senator Wyden's Wild and Scenic River's initiative. Anyone can nominate a river or stream so if you have a favorite, the senator will be taking nominations through January 20, 2020 for rivers in Oregon that deserve addition to the national Wild-and-Scenic River list. Submissions can be sent to [rivers@wyden.senate.gov](mailto:rivers@wyden.senate.gov).

We're also working with other groups to try and get Oregon Wild and Scenic designation for the South Umpqua. This is a state designation and is administered through Parks and Recreation. The effort has been going on for some time but has been slowed down by personnel issues at Parks & Rec but we're still continuing our effort to advocate for it.

Lastly, the *Crater Lake Carolers* may be making the rounds downtown again this holiday season. It was fun for us, and our audiences, at downtown restaurants and pubs last year so it looks like we'll be doing it again. Check the UW events page for the date (Once we have one.)

Although I'm writing this article I want to thank all the Wilderness Committee members for their help in everything we do. It simply wouldn't happen without them, And with that, I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.





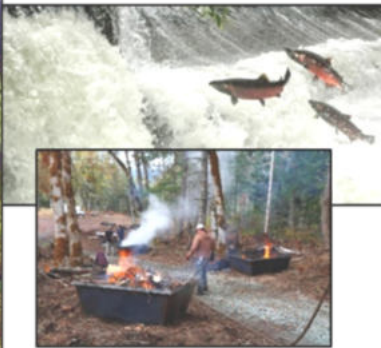


# WANTED: DEDICATED CONSERVATIONISTS MUST HAVE AN EARNEST DESIRE TO SAVE THE WORLD...

As 2019 draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on another successful year at Umpqua Watersheds and looking ahead to 2020. You've read all about our accomplishments in our "100 Valleys" newsletter and in our "Watershed Moments" emails. We're your friends and neighbors, we all care about the protection of our natural heritage, and **UMPQUA WATERSHEDS NEED YOUR HELP TO REACH OUR YEAR-END FUNDRAISING GOAL!**

Thanks to the generosity of current and former UW board members, all contributions made between now and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 will be matched up to \$6000!

**WE'VE ALREADY RAISED \$4000 AND NEED YOUR HELP TO RAISE THE LAST \$2000**



We are actively engaged with land managers who plan ecologically-sound restoration activities on our forests. We partner on restoration projects on the North and South Umpqua where fire suppression has put ancient oaks and pines in jeopardy.

**YOU can help us save the world...  
... ONE ANCIENT GROVE AT A TIME.**

We are actively involved in landscape-level experiments to convert woody-residue from restoration projects into black carbon (biochar). This technology has the potential to store carbon in the soil for millennia. We also continue to actively oppose the Jordan Cove LNG pipeline.

**YOU can help us save the world...  
... ONE CO<sub>2</sub> MOLECULE AT A TIME.**



With your support, we've continued to have a big presence in our small community! We connected with our neighbors through Umpqua Brew Fest X, River Appreciation Day, and our KQUA radio station.

**YOU can help us save the world...  
... ONE COMMUNITY EVENT AT A TIME.**

Your attendance at our fundraisers and your generous donations have allowed us to bring dedicated young professionals into our community. *Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld*, our newest AmeriCorps member, is carrying on that legacy through authentic youth education initiatives including our Twin Lakes Wilderness Campout, Crater Lake tours for 5<sup>th</sup> graders, Middle School classroom visits and after-school Elementary science clubs.

We are also ramping up our "edutourism" program to connect learners of all ages to our natural history

**YOU can help us save the world...  
... ONE BRIGHT YOUNG MIND AT A TIME.**

As we head into the holiday season – a time to reconnect with friends and family and to enjoy life in our dazzling corner of this improbable planet – I hope that you will think about joining Umpqua Watersheds in **conserving** endangered species and the habitats they depend on, **restoring** degraded ecosystems back to their pre-industrial state, **educating** local youth on the wonder, complexity and importance of protecting the environment that supports us all, and **celebrating** the natural world that nourishes our souls and lifts our spirits.

**Thank you for helping us do our part to save the world! -- Ken Carloni, President**

## What is NEPA and what does it mean for conservation? .. Diana Pace

The National Environmental Policy Act requires federal agencies to consider all of the environmental and social impacts of proposals before taking action (e.g. permitting a road or mine). It requires agencies to prepare a detailed study on the impacts of any proposed action that may “significantly affect the quality of the human environment.” This study can take one of the following forms:

Environmental Assessment (EA) is a brief analysis used to determine the significance of impacts resulting from a federal action.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is a detailed and thorough analysis used for the chosen actions that are expected to result in significant impacts.

The first step in the process is scoping. Federal agencies are required to go through a public “scoping process” to determine the scope of issues that should be addressed in an EA or EIS. Scoping helps the agency determine the likely significance of an action’s impacts, and whether an EA or EIS will be required. Scoping is very important. It’s up to us to tell the agencies what we want included and why.

When assessing potential impacts the agency looks at: 1. Direct impacts caused by the action and occur at the same time and place. 2. Indirect impacts caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance but reasonably foreseeable. 3. Cumulative impacts result from the incremental impact of the action when compounded by other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

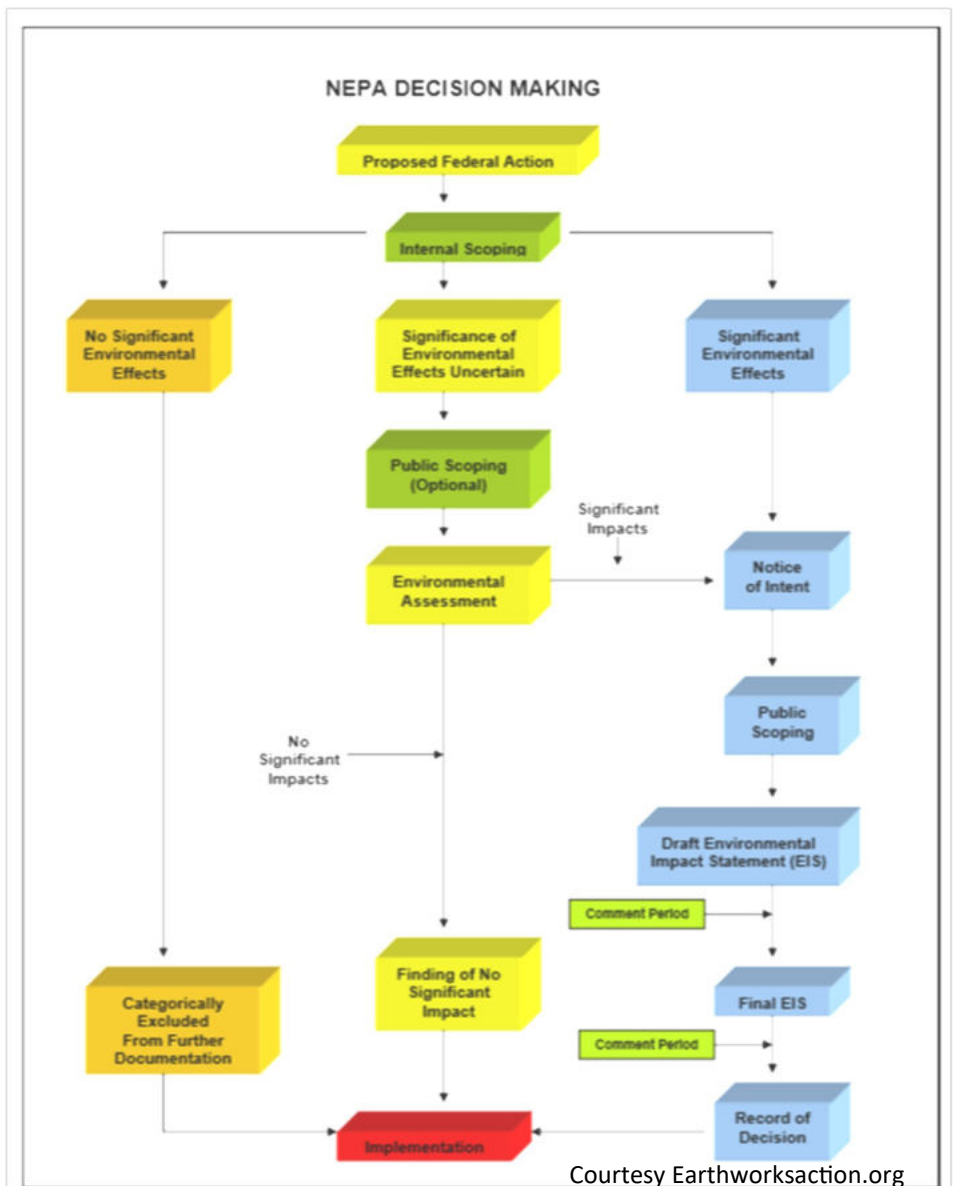
A scoping comment can be made especially effective by describing how or why the impact you’re concerned about may be Harmful, Significant and Reasonably Foreseeable.

Harmful impacts to people, water, and wildlife or subsistence practices

Significant impact to a lot of people or a severely to a few people

Reasonably foreseeable impact means is likely to result

This information is from EARTHWORKS ACTION. They provide an outline and instructions for writing NEPA comments. The contact information is: [www.earthworksaction.org](http://www.earthworksaction.org)



Courtesy Earthworksaction.org



## Tongass Roadless Rule (Urgent):

The preferred alternative to change the 2001 Roadless Rule is way too extreme for the Tongass National Forest, where 70% of the old growth forest was removed between 1954 and 1990. It would take 300 years for many of these cut over areas to become the forests they once were with an overstory of spruce, hemlock and cedar. The devastation of past clearcutting practices and road construction is depleting the older forests. How much more rock is available to pound into the boggy ground to firm up all the new roads in order to support the off-highway loads to transport the logs down to the sea, where they will be assembled into rafts for delivery to the mills or made available to the export market? This is the last temperate rain forest in the world that is sequestering carbon dioxide. A world that is being altered by a warming climate, as evident along the Arctic coast of Alaska where native villages are eroding away and the permafrost is melting. Alaska today is very dependent on tourism and commercial fishing, which makes up 25% of the economy. Logging only makes up 1% of the economy. Is it worth risking one of the last great salmon fishery habitats by putting more sediment into the streams and altering the landscape of many watersheds? This preferred alternative will only produce a short term economical gain and a long term ecological disaster. Let's consider more thinning alternatives to help restore the cut-over areas of the past and utilize existing roads.

more info:

[www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54511](http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54511)

Please make written comments by 12/16/19 to:  
USDA Forest Service

Attn: Alaska Road Rule

P.O. Box 21628

Juneau, Alaska 99802

Email: [akroadlessrule@usda.gov](mailto:akroadlessrule@usda.gov)

### Upcoming Events

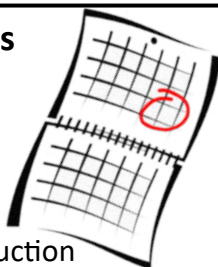
Jan 20: MLK, Jr River Cleanup

Feb 15: Crater Lake Snowshoe Hike

Mar 5-8: PIELC

Apr 4: Annual Banquet and Silent Auction

Check [www.umpquawatersheds.org](http://www.umpquawatersheds.org) for additions and more details. Please send updates to [webmaster@umpquawatersheds.org](mailto:webmaster@umpquawatersheds.org)



#### Monthly Board of Directors:

**When:** 3rd Monday of Every Month, 6:00pm

**Where:** Umpqua Watersheds Office

For board and staff members only. If there is a topic you feel the board should broach let us know!

Email [kasey@umpquawatersheds.org](mailto:kasey@umpquawatersheds.org)

#### Education Committee

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

**Where:** Umpqua Watersheds Office

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

#### Restoration Committee

**When:** 3rd Tuesday of Every Month, 5:30pm

**Where:** McMenamin's Roseburg Station Pub

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

#### Conservation Committee

**When:** 3rd Tuesday of Every Month, 6:00pm

**Where:** McMenamin's Roseburg Station Pub

Diana Pace - [Diana@umpquawatersheds.org](mailto:Diana@umpquawatersheds.org)

#### Facility Management

**When:** 2nd Thursday of Every Month, 5:30pm

**Where:** Umpqua Watersheds Office

Kasey Hovik - [Kasey@umpquawatersheds.org](mailto:Kasey@umpquawatersheds.org)

#### Wilderness Committee

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

**Where:** Umpqua Watersheds Office

Diana Pace - [Diana@umpquawatersheds.org](mailto:Diana@umpquawatersheds.org)

#### Outreach Committee

**When:** Last Thursday of every month, 5:30pm

**Where:** Umpqua Watersheds Office

Janice Reid- [Janice@umpquawatersheds.org](mailto:Janice@umpquawatersheds.org)

**Umpqua Watersheds is participating in Bottle Drop Donations.** There are Two ways to give.

- 1) If you already have a Bottle Drop Account you can donate from your balance online. Search the list of participating nonprofits for Umpqua Watersheds and click 'Donate' to transfer funds from your BottleDrop account to Umpqua Watersheds.
- 2) *Give Blue Bags* are a long-term, sustainable way to raise funds for Umpqua Watersheds. Barcoded Blue Bags are available at the UW office. Fill bags with empty containers and drop them off at any BottleDrop location at your convenience.



## Of Oaks and Beavers.....

Stan Petrowski

Umpqua Watersheds (UW) has focused considerable time and energy advocating for and monitoring restoration projects throughout the region. Besides our Radio Active Restoration Show, aired weekly on KQUA 99.7 FM, we are actively engaged in several major efforts in the field of restoration ecology. Much of our work is deeply entangled in collaborative efforts with other groups and agencies. The politics of these collaborative ventures is not simple. Indeed, we often find ourselves sitting at the table with individuals with whom we have little in common and little trust. Our experience has taught us that the most successful cooperative projects are made up of individuals altruistically committed to environmental common good. Even then, the weight of opposition to our efforts to salvage what remains of our ecosystems or to restore what is severely damaged cannot be understated.

Restoration in an era of ecological chaos is nothing short of a major challenge. Faced with problems in the resilient but delicate web of life as a result of unmitigated resource extraction by society, we are witness to declines in a variety of habitats critical to the support of ecosystem function. Laws and policies are being instituted to roll back many of the gains that have been made over the past quarter century. Clean air, pure water and the tangible benefits produced by vibrant healthy watersheds is taking a back seat once again to the accumulation of wealth and the false sense of well-being it supposedly brings.

Still there is hope. One cannot measure the joy and comfort that we see when the natural world is given a modicum of care born of good stewardship. I've seen it many times over the course of UW's service to life in the natural world and the communities it serves. Real life wants to continue. Wisdom and knowledge are needed in determining what can be done within our means. It has always been hard work to address both terrestrial and aquatic aspects of restoration. We are committed.

**Oak Habitat** in western Oregon has been depleted by 95%. Agriculture and fiber farm forests have replaced this critical habitat in the name of "progress and growth." Fire suppression is choking out magnificent stands of oak throughout the Umpqua basin watershed. UW is an active participant in the Umpqua Oak Partnership: a collective of concerned



groups and citizens devoted to restoring and preserving the broad spectrum of oak habitat types and the species they sustain. We are currently in the assessment and planning stages in project development. We still have considerable opportunity to

protect and bring back the rich legacy of oak habitat. To our surprise, some of the most sophisticated data modeling projecting the amount and distribution of diverse oak habitats has fallen far short of the reality on the ground. The group hopes to ground truth and explore the real potential for a broad spectrum of oak habitats in the Umpqua. We also know that many of the oak meadow habitats in the watershed were areas maintained by Native Americans. A hidden trove of heretofore oak meadow and mixed conifer habitats are being newly discovered. Fire resilience related to oak habitat will be a primary objective of some of the group members particularly Umpqua Watersheds.

**Beaver Ecology.** Considerable time and monetary resources over the past decade have devoted by UW to promote the restoration of our beaver populations.

### PERMANENTLY STOP THE KILLING OF THIS KEYSTONE SPECIES

Where there is no water there is no life. Beaver have historically played a huge role in supplying our aquatic habitats with abundant water by naturally retaining it in our system over the hot dry summer months. Yet today we are faced with a consistent effort on the part of various government agencies and private enterprises to treat this keystone species as a nuisance predator in the State of Oregon. It's crazy. Ironically, Oregon State University which has the beaver as its mascot, hosts the Federal Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). This agency is responsible for the lethal removal of hundreds of thousands of beaver from our ecosystem. They are willing to listen. What is there to say except PERMANENTLY STOP THE KILLING OF THIS KEYSTONE SPECIES? It gives me heartburn just to have to deal with it when the need is so very desperate in our hard-stricken, drought-plagued region. Not to worry as the saying goes. We also have strong allies in the academic, scientific and agency worlds who, based on science, recognize the essential value of this species.

These restoration challenges are a sample of what we face each day as we guard our precious trust. I will be the first to confess that the unfortunate reality of the politics and economy of restoration ecology are a major angst for me. I often represent several

organizations at once in this arena. The crucial need for good stewardship and informed cooperation with the natural world is so profound and yet, we as a society, still know so little about how to move forward effectively. The socio-political aspects of this so frustrates. Willful ignorance and malicious politics for personal gain is our nemesis. Even in-fighting and back-biting within the conservation community is counterproductive as every erg of energy needs to be applied for success of our mission. Until each of us commits to responding to the need on a scale unprecedented to date, the work will stall or stagnate in its tracks. This is the burden



UW carries on your behalf and on behalf of every aspect of this creation. I look forward to seeing a younger generation of restoration enthusiasts rise to the call covering the entire map of need. I wait to see you join our ranks and learn with us.

## Umpqua Watersheds could use you skills!

Are you unable to contribute to Umpqua Watersheds monetarily? Do you have skills related to construction, electrical, remodeling, plumbing, building maintenance or property management? You can contribute your skills! Don't have any particular skill but would still like to help? Not to worry. We have many projects that don't require any skills as long as you are willing to learn. Your contributions can be tax deductible. We could use you! Please join us at our Facility Management Meeting every 2nd Thursday at 630pm at Umpqua Watersheds to find out what you can do to help the organization. Every contribution is appreciated!



## Join or renew your membership and get a free gift!

From now until the end of December, if you renew your membership during regular office hours at the Umpqua Watersheds Office, you will receive a free gift and enter a drawing to be a voice on the radio.

Renew your membership at these levels:

**Living lightly** (\$20) you will get a free Bandana showing the Umpqua Ale Trail (\$10 value).

Renew at the **Individual level** (\$35) and get an Ale Trail Bandana and a T-shirt of your choice from available stock (\$30 value).



Renew at the **Family level** (\$50) and get an Ale Trail Bandana, T-shirt and Pint glass (\$40 value).

In addition, all members that renew can enter a drawing to be the voice of a radio underwriting spot

for a local business on KQUA, 99.7 FM. This opportunity is not available to the general public. You must be a member or a volunteer at Umpqua Watersheds to participate.





# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings Fellow Conservationists! In our Fall 2019 newsletter, I filled you in on some changes happening inside the UW organization, and I'd like to add more detail here. But first, I'd like to share some recent progress at UW.



We had a great strategic planning meeting at the end of October – you can find our latest plan at <https://umpquawatersheds.org/who-we-are/strategic-plan/>. I would urge you all to check that plan out – we encourage feedback on our goals and priorities.

Our planning discussions and feedback from our members have led us to address an ongoing issue at UW, i.e., our inefficiency in notifying members when their memberships are due and our sometimes haphazard tracking of larger donations. I am excited to let you know that we have just subscribed to a web service (Bloomerang: <https://bloomerang.com>) to help us with fundraising, donor tracking and communicating with members. This will make it easier for you to stay up to date on our activities and to support us as you are able.

The transition to our new accounting software is going well as we streamline our books and get up to speed on report generation. Mark Eason (Treasurer), Melanie MacKinnon (Office Manager), and Diana Larson (Bookkeeper) are putting in long hours to organize accounts and integrate our bookkeeping system into Bloomerang. This is helping to build the organizational framework for creating our budget for 2020, and will provide for much better accounting transparency.

Back to the organizational changes I mentioned up front: In addition to the new board members I introduced in our last newsletter, you'll notice some other former board members who are no longer on the list. This includes the members of the Douglas County Parks Advisory Resource Committee (DCPARC). After Busenbark Park was clearcut, several outraged citizens came together and formed DCPARC to advocate for county parks and to stand up to their abuse by our county commissioners. Given that they were focused on publicly owned natural resources, it seemed logical for UW to pull them in under our non-profit umbrella and give them a physical home, and 2+ years ago, that is exactly what we did.

Three of their main organizers became board members and DCPARC became a committee under our conservation program. The DCPARC folks immediately pitched in to help work on the building and outreach projects for UW while keeping a separate Facebook page. For the first couple of years, DCPARC remained a separate, semi-autonomous committee raising their own funds and managing their own public events and activities.

But it eventually became clear that DCPARC had a different focus and strategies that weren't always compatible with all of UW's core missions and organizational culture. For example, both organizations have a FB page, but when DCPARC became a UW committee, entries to BOTH pages needed to be vetted by the UW board. This proved to be too cumbersome to DCPARC who wanted more authority to post what they wanted when they wanted. This desire for independence is understandable, but not compatible with cohesive and unified organizational structure where the left hand needs to know what the right hand is doing.

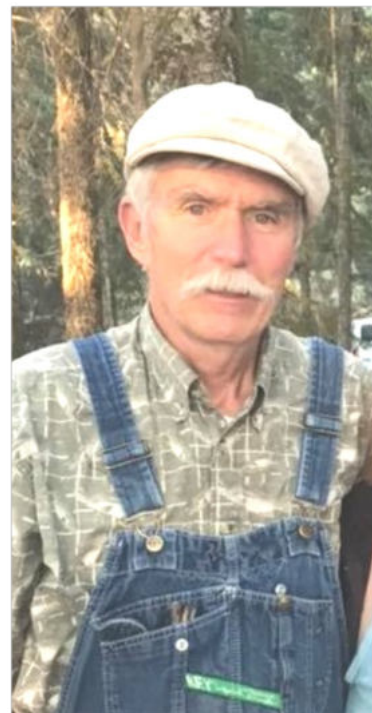
Or to paraphrase a long-time UW member and supporter, "Some folks are playing bluegrass and some are playing jazz. It's all good music, but not when they are both on the same bandstand at the same time." When the dissonance became too great, we all realized that our experiment had not worked out the way we had all hoped, and DCPARC decided to go back out on their own. UW will continue to collaborate with and



support DCPARC when both of our missions are aligned.

Another hurdle that UW must clear in the coming year is the loss of Paddy Quinn as our volunteer Conservation Director. After 10 years of hard work and perseverance, Paddy is retiring from that job. We all can't say enough about the incredible work he has done over the years driving to meetings, going on field trips with agency, industry and government officials, writing comments, protests and appeals, working with our regional allies, and the myriad other chores that come with the job. And all this without a dime of compensation. He is a true hero of the Umpqua, and we all owe him a great debt of gratitude.

Paddy's retirement means UW will be without a Conservation Director for some time while we find ways to pick up his duties. The strategic plan I mentioned above puts funding for a paid Conservation Director as our highest priority beyond our current paid staff (Office Manager and AmeriCorps member). Although Paddy was willing to put in the long hours and travel time as a volunteer, it is unreasonable to expect another volunteer to step into that highly skilled position.



*Paddy Quinn*

Unfortunately, it is very difficult to fund ongoing positions with "capacity" grants. Most funders want to give one-time grants to get specific projects off the ground then move on, and we have had a lot of success with those. Our sister organizations in Portland, Eugene and Ashland have a large enough base of donors to be able to fund their directors from their big-city events and huge member lists. Unfortunately, small-town conservation organizations like ours (especially in areas where resource extraction industries dominate the economy) have to rely more on dedicated volunteers. We have been fortunate to have Paddy's skills and passion for free for the last decade, but we can't expect to be so lucky going forward.

So how can solve this problem? We will continue to look to our members and major donors for funding, and fine-tune our traditional fund-raising events such as the Banquet and Brew Fest to raise more money in our community to support this critical position. But history and circumstance suggests that will be a heavy lift.



That's why we are looking at non-traditional funding streams including creating a fee-for-service ecotourism/edutourism initiative. We have the experience and skills to do this within our organization, and we certainly have spectacular landscapes to show off to travelers from around the world. Therefore, we will be soliciting funding for a van(s) or small bus to modify into a comfortable, efficient and fun platform for "glamping"-style adventures. This model has been successfully used by other conservation organizations, and we think that this approach has great potential. As the old proverb goes, "Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach him to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." We'll just be asking funders and local supporters for a pole, some line, and a couple of hooks.

The UW board is engaged, excited and confident that 2020 will be our best year ever. We really feel that we now have the technical tools, organizational structure, and group cohesion to take UW to the next level. Stay tuned as we celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> year of protecting the best and restoring the rest!

Ken Carloni, President of Umpqua Watersheds

## Outreach Update... Janice Reid

Since the last newsletter, there have been many events and activities promoted by Umpqua Watersheds and thanks to our many sponsors and donors in the community, we feel they could not be a success without them. The critical projects, processes and functions of the organization are so important. We are constantly adding events and continuing our outreach in order to help Umpqua Watersheds make our community livable and sustainable and informing others of the necessities that our environment provides us: clean air, water, and the ability to seek solitude and renewal in our natural environments. We want to educate others about the important events that have a direct and indirect impact on our community and our environment. We want to provide activities that help others experience the nurturing powers of nature. And we want to promote and organize events that help community members feel impactful and accomplished by their participation. Our outreach activities are promoted through our Facebook pages: Umpqua Watersheds, KQUA, Umpqua Brew Fest, and Crater Lake Wilderness. Our website [www.umpquawatersheds.org](http://www.umpquawatersheds.org) has information on who we are, what we do and what we are planning. Our calendar of events is an easy way to check for activities, events and committee meetings that Umpqua Watersheds hosts and events and activities hosted by other organizations that match our goals and mission. Our Water-





Did you know?.... if you are a non-profit organization and would like to have air time on our low power community radio station, KQUA 99.7 FM (<https://radio-locator.com/info/KQUA-FL>), you are eligible. We can also use help with the radio station. Do you want to be a voice on the radio or help with other administrative tasks? See what you can do to help. If you don't have time but have a business, KQUA is always seeking underwriters. Reach out to Patrick Schneider [schneider.patrick10@gmail.com](mailto:schneider.patrick10@gmail.com).



shed Moments sent via email fills the gaps between newsletters and reaches those that we do not reach through Facebook or our website.

So here is what we have been doing since the last newsletter: fun events such as the "Old Soul Music Festival" and Umpqua Brew Fest helped propel us past our goal of raising money for our AmeriCorps Education Coordinator, Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld. Organized presentations by our Wilderness Committee such as the Protecting our Headwaters and Exploring Oregon's Forests provided information and interaction with scholars and authors. River

cleanup activities scheduled around the Umpqua on the same day provided an opportunity for community members to give back and experience for themselves the necessity of participation in keeping our environment safe and clean from those that would easily foul it. These events take effort to organize and we know that other organizations are also doing events that make a difference. The Douglas County Global Warming Coalition, Friends of the Umpqua Hiking Club, DCPARC, and the Umpqua Valley Audubon Society had events that fit well with our goals and we are happy to promote them.

We have more events coming in January and February including a river cleanup on MLK Jr. Day and a snowshoe hike on February 15. All of these events take effort and coordination. Our Annual Banquet and Silent Auction will be coming up this spring as well and we can use your help to contribute, promote and organize. Our presence in the community is no accident, so join us for a purpose.



## AmeriCorps: Education Spotlight.. Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld

For those of you who don't know me, I am Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld, the new Environmental Educator and Outreach AmeriCorps at UW. My first three months in this position have just flown by and I am loving the chance to work with such amazing youth across multiple school districts in Douglas County. Since September I have had the chance to work with over 450 students across the county in environmental education

programs and activities. At the Boys and Girls Club of Umpqua Valley, "Forest Thursdays" is our after-school environmental art program with Elementary School students (grades 2-5). The first quarter focused on pollinators (bats, butterflies, bees and hummingbirds). We are now studying other parts of



*Hummingbirds and bees.*

the watershed from the sea to the soil! Last week's activity included "Gyotaku," which is traditional Japanese fish art print making. We've studied tree rings and macroinvertebrates in our soil!

Science Wednesdays, a 6-week afterschool program for 5<sup>th</sup> graders has already wrapped up at Fir Grove Elementary, Lookingglass Elementary and Fullerton Elementary! Students increase their knowledge as forest stewards as they learn about the Watersheds and elements in it. Starting with the water cycle, we move through food webs and food chains, dissect owl pellets, reading tree rings, and navigating to hidden treasure using a GPS.

My largest program is at Lincoln Middle School in Oakland. In partnership with the science teacher, Mr. Krissie, I work with 150 middle schoolers once a week on the school's nature trail. Trail Tuesdays has become an exciting curriculum in which students are empowered to design experiments, collect data, analyze results, and make decisions on how they think the nature trail should be improved to help the environment and the watershed. As their



*Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld in her natural habitat.*

understanding grows of what it means to be a watershed steward, so does their investment in the restoration project in the school's backyard. I feel so lucky to have the chance to work with this remarkable group of young scientists once a week!

I've also begun a new partnership with the Joseph Lane Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> grade science classes. Our first lesson was a water cycle relay race and soon we will be completing a two week unit on human impacts on the environment.

All of these education programs have still left me with some time to think of new curriculum and we look forward to unveiling our new Environmental Detectives series to you in the Spring newsletter! I've also helped coordinate an amazing group of volunteers at this year's Umpqua Brew Fest X!



*Lookingglass Elementary School Science Club dissecting pellets.*



*Fir Grove & Lincoln Middle Schools. Upper Left: connecting the food web. Lower left: Outdoor classroom. Lower right: studying soil filtration*

On January 20 from 10am -1 pm, we will be once again partnering with the City of Roseburg, SOLVE Oregon and Blue Zones Project for a MLK Service Day Umpqua River Clean up at Gaddis Park in Roseburg. We hope you will come and join us for a clean-up and restoration day and give back to our community by cleaning up litter and removing blackberry bushes.





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