



100 Valleys

A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc

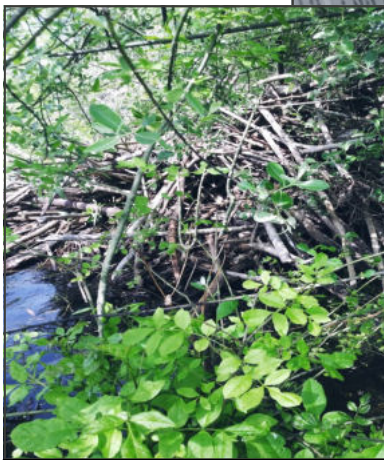
An Oregon 501(c)(3) Non-Profit

Summer 2022 | Issue 92

AN AMERICORPS FAREWELL

By Viviana Young

As we move into summer, the school year ends and my role in local science classrooms draws to a close. It was a great year full of fun activities including water quality labs, animal tracks, owl pellet dissections, art projects, and more. The fun, however, does not end with Spring! June brings Kids for Nature, a program for elementary-aged children that will run Mondays and Tuesdays from July 11th - August 16th, except the 4th of July. Kids will engage with nature, make art, learn the joy of nature journaling, and more! June will also bring our Yew Creek Campout for youth aged 12-17 and their families. Our campouts include activities and presentations that will bring campers closer to nature and which will become fond family memories. This will be my first campout with Umpqua Watersheds and I can't wait to experience it. I hope you and your family will join us! If you can't make the Yew Creek Campout, we will also be having a campout at Twin Lakes, July 22nd - 24th. If you want more information, wish to sign up, or are interested in being an activity leader, email Viviana@umpquawatersheds.org



Beaver lodge at Applegate wetland.

My AmeriCorps term with Umpqua Watersheds end in July, and UW will welcome a new AmeriCorps member to the team soon after! I know the new team member will



Animal print molds at Fremont Middle School.

love the position as much as I have, and that the community will welcome them with open arms— including me! Though I will no longer be an official member of UW, I will still be in Roseburg and I plan to continue to volunteer with the organization whenever I have the opportunity. I will likely remain active on my UW email, so if you need a helper, feel free to reach out to me.

Reflecting on my term, I realize just how much I have grown in the position. From litter pick up, to tree planting, to removal of invasives, and wetland surveys, I've had so many wonderful experiences outdoors and coordinating events. I've learned a great deal and have been able to help kids with their learning journeys as well. I've been able to reach out to the community and practice my audio development skills through the Living Downstream radio show that I host. Along the way, I've made so many valuable connections and I feel closer to my community than ever before. Thank you to my friends and colleagues that have made the past year so memorable!

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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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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Kasey Hovik

On June 1st I retired from Umpqua Community College (UCC). It was my great honor and pleasure to work there. While it was sad leaving UCC, my colleagues, and our students, I am looking forward to the next chapter of my life. Over the past ten years, I have volunteered for Umpqua Watersheds (UW) while working full-time at UCC. I am excited to put all my efforts into working with the UW staff and volunteers and know we are on the cusp of accomplishing some important things to move the organization forward.



My focus will be on aggressively pursuing grants which will enable us to sustain and expand our programs and support our staff. The magnificent work being done by our committees, as detailed in this newsletter, provides compelling stories that are key components in inspiring grant funders and financial support from members and supporters.

Another area that will have my immediate focus will be working with our KQUA Radio Committee to expand our radio station, KQUA 99.7 Low Power, to KQUA 90.7 Non-Commercial Education (NCE) license frequency which will dramatically increase our terrestrial range so that it can be heard on the radio from Yoncalla to Canyonville. I will be meeting with UCC President Rachel Pokrandt, to talk about ways we will be able to partner with UCC on radio programming and outreach. We have had former and current UCC students work with various elements related to the radio station. I am very happy to announce that, thanks to a grant from the Collins Foundation, we were able to hire Patrick (Trick) Schneider as our Programming Manager. Over the past five years, Trick has volunteered as our Program Manager and the station would not exist without his many contributions.

Additionally, I will focus on expanding our collaborations with partners to increase our capacity to impact on our environment and our community. This will include continuing to work with United Communities AmeriCorps and their project host sites, UCC, the Douglas County Global Warming Coalition, and the Pacific Northwest Forest Climate Alliance. We are very excited about collaborating with our friends at the Umpqua Valley Audubon Society (UVAS). They will be adding an AmeriCorps member to their team for the 2022-23 service year, who will share an office with UW's AmeriCorps. We will be working closely to support, promote and celebrate the work of our AmeriCorps members. Please see our website for details about how to apply: <https://umpquawatersheds.org/2-position-openings-for-ameri-corps-service/>

One of the major projects we will be working on over the next year is a restoration project centered around the Boulder Creek Wilderness hiking trails. Our partners at Source One Serenity wrote a successful grant proposal for the US Forest Service and designated \$12,000 for Umpqua Watersheds to help with monitoring, outreach, education, and volunteer management for the 12-month project. On June 17th we will be working with United Communities AmeriCorps to provide a service-day project as our first event.

Finally, I will be leading UW's outreach efforts. We have many events coming up: see the Outreach Update on page 8 for more details. While I am retired from UCC, I will be busier than ever but less stressed by not juggling between my responsibilities at UCC and my responsibilities with UW. Forward!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Janice Reid

We have many things going on at Umpqua Watersheds. Members of our committees continue to keep abreast of issues on public lands and waterways and provide public comment on these. Community engagement is strong through our environmental education and outreach programs. We are also changing, growing, and adapting. Our volunteer Executive Director, Kasey Hovik, will soon be able to focus more on Umpqua Watersheds programs when he retires from his Umpqua Community College job. It is amazing what he has accomplished while also having a full-time job. Stay tuned for more news on that.



We know that many of you would like to get involved as well and we have heard from you. Please consider attending the meetings of committees that are of most interest to you. Current committees include Conservation, Education, Restoration, Outreach, Wilderness, DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion), KQUA (radio station), Grant Writing, and Facilities Management. Whatever your skill or interest, I am sure we can find a way for you to contribute. The best way to find out about what you can do to help is to join the conversation. Committee meetings are currently all held via Zoom. You can find out more by emailing the committee chairs or kasey@umpquawatersheds.org.



There are other ways that you can be helpful. The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has an online service that allows anyone to subscribe to notifications about forest activities occurring on private land. Whether you are interested in knowing what is happening near your home, or what types of forest-related activities are happening statewide, FERNS (Forest Activity Electronic Reporting and Notification System) is an excellent source of information. Whether it is road building, pesticide application, or tree harvest, FERNS has been tracking these activities since 2014 throughout Oregon. I recently discovered through this system that a private landowner had not filed the required notification for harvest with ODF. State Foresters are unable to check on every notification so if you see something that does not seem to align with what is filed in FERNS, you can email the state employee listed on the notification for information, questions, or concerns.

Keeping forest landowners compliant with the state forest practices law is important since the forest protection laws of Oregon are, as Jerry Franklin pointed out, "the weakest of the three western states." You can make a difference! See <https://ferns.odf.oregon.gov/E-Notification/> to set up a free account and subscribe.

MY UKRAINIAN FAMILY

By Stuart Liebowitz, Douglas County Global Warming Coalition

"Do not neglect or kneecap policies to cut fossil fuels. Investing in new fossil fuel infrastructure is moral and economic madness." - **UN Secretary-General Guterres warning about the western response to the 2022 Ukraine war.**

Around the time of the Russian Revolution, my Ukrainian grandparents decided they had enough of the barbaric Russian treatment of Jews, so they devised an escape plan which included leaving my grandmother's brother behind to avoid suspicion. As evening approached, they came to a swamp just shy of the border, and as they crossed, my cousin Rose who is nearly blind without her glasses, lost them while she and the rest of the family stood hidden in the swamp, waiting for daylight and a chance to look for them. They could see Russian boots march back and forth, nearly within arm's reach in the darkness. When daylight broke and the guards left, they found the glasses and continued their journey.

I tell this story reflecting how my family's heroism is now matched, and then some, by today's millions of Ukrainian refugees. But what does this have to do with climate change? I will let Svetlana Kraskova, Ukrainian climate scientist and a member of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change provide the answer: "I started to think about the parallels between climate change and the war. And it's clear the roots to both these threats are found in fossil fuels. Burning coal, oil and gas is causing warming. And Russia sells these resources and uses the money to buy weapons. This is a fossil fuel war. It's clear we cannot live this way. It will destroy civilization."

How the West Became Undone

It is chilling to watch climate heroes like John Kerry and, climate activists I know and respect, be persuaded by the Ukrainian war to promote fossil fuels in response to the West's dependency on Russian gas and oil. And dependent we are. Today the European Union accounts for 63% of Russian fossil fuel exports and 45% of Europe's imported gas comes from Russia. But make no mistake - climate change has not taken a time out for the war. The death knell of the planet, once so distant, is now raging in wildfires from New Mexico to Siberia, in floods from Florida to Asia, and choking us in droughts from the American West to Africa. We cannot forget this

is a two-front war. John Kerry warned that "No one should make it easy to build a 30–40-year fossil fuel infrastructure." Yet he and Joe Biden turned a deaf ear and a blind eye to the coming storm. Here is their response to the war:

- ▶ Four LNG permits issued through 2050.
- ▶ Fourteen LNG terminals are permitted.
- ▶ The US Export-Import Bank has created a program for large loans for LNG export projects.
- ▶ Biden has urged fossil fuel companies to begin drilling on public lands.
- ▶ Biden has gone begging to some of the biggest petro-dictators – Iran, Venezuela, and Saudi Arabia.

And the European response? Listen to what the leaders of Germany's Greens say: "Security of our energy supply stands above everything else."

- ▶ Germany is building LNG terminals and holds once again coal in reserve.
- ▶ All of Europe now embraces LNG
- ▶ Poland asserts that shutting down coal mines is now a mistake.

With the best of intentions, we delay fighting the climate war. For thirty years it has been this way:

- The economy is too weak
- The economy is too strong (don't rock the boat)
- It will lose us an election
- There are more important priorities (choose your issue)
- We are too polarized
- We are in the middle of a war

But there is always another recession, another war around the corner. There is, however, another way. And history has shown us.

How The West Was One

There was a time when I was skeptical of the World War II designation as 'The Greatest Generation.' Now, I'm not so sure. No one debated whether the war was worth higher prices, fewer goods available or a lower standard of living. No one dreamed of continuing trade with Hitler since Germany might have some essentials we needed. No one declared as Biden did about Ukraine that we would sanction Germany but only to the extent that sanctions had a minimal economic impact on us. No! The country pulled together, sacrificed, reused, and mended without end. In a country reeling from a pandemic and strewn with ideologically bound climate deniers, is it naive to issue such a clarion call? Perhaps so. But when we are fighting for a planet and to stop a genocidal

maniac, we are morally compelled to do so. And what better way than to hold up The Greatest Generation as a shining example? Sacrifice it must be. A 60% reduction in fossil fuels by the European Union by the end of the year would reduce income by 0.6% and increase energy prices further by 6-8%. Is there a short-term strategy to lessen the severity of the impact?

Energy: How the West Can Save Some

In light of the World War II example, here is what the clarion call requires:

- ▶ Reduce American consumption of natural gas, freeing it up for Europe.
- ▶ Require fossil fuel companies to align their business model with the Paris Climate goals.
- ▶ Issue shorter permit times so we are not locked into long-term infrastructure - even if it scares away investors.
- ▶ Reduce the speed limit to 60 miles per hour.
- ▶ Let employees work from home when feasible.
- ▶ Double our commitment to renewables rather than doubling down on fossil fuels.
- ▶ Rapidly build wind turbines using robotics as reported by Bloomberg News.

Neither the transition to clean energy nor fossil fuel build-up can happen overnight. But only one invests in our future. Let this be our guiding economic principle: It costs more to ruin the Earth than to save it. Or to rephrase what Benjamin Franklin said about liberty – “Those who sacrifice the planet for security will have neither the planet nor security.”

What The West Can Become

After the Second World War, the United States came up with the Marshall Plan which successfully rebuilt Europe from its ashes. In my wildest fantasies, I see Ukraine triumphant over the cruel invasion by Russia - only to look around at the ruins resulting from the savagery of the war.

As the West united to provide weapons to Ukraine, so they could come together to rebuild Ukraine with a Green Marshall Plan. Decimated structures and homes could be rebuilt with the highest levels of energy efficiency, lit and heated with clean renewable energy. Dangerous nuclear power plants and dirty fossil fuels can be replaced by wind and solar. Transportation networks should be rebuilt with public transit available to all. And when biking and walking are not possible, electric vehicles would ensure a carbon-free society. Such a new

Ukraine could serve as a model for a worldwide Green Marshall Plan so that we can once and for all put the climate crisis behind us.

Today's Ukrainian Family

As I watch the horror of the unforgivable brutality directed toward Ukraine, I feel so helpless. The money we give to organizations to help Ukrainian refugees seems so insignificant compared to what needs to be done. My sister has taken this one step further. She has opened her home to a Ukrainian refugee family. A hundred years after my grandparents crossed that swamp to freedom my family has come full circle. I harbor no illusions. It is possible - no - highly probable that we will lose both the climate war and the war in Ukraine. I can only imagine the darkness of the future that awaits us. Still, I proudly display the Ukrainian flag in my window. And I will forever carry the banner of climate change in my heart. I know no other way.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Do you want to be part of our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion or Education Committees? We are currently having a combined meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm PT.



Are you passionate about getting kids into nature?



Many of you may remember the innovative new program, **Kids for Nature**, that was developed last year by a local youngster. This year, Kids for Nature is available for more days throughout the summer

(July 11th - August 16th), with more educational and nature art activities.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can get involved with either of these opportunities, please email our Director of Education and Outreach at ryan@umpquawatersheds.org.

NORTH UMPQUA SUMMER STEELHEAD HATCHERY PROGRAM UPDATE

By Ken Carloni

Those of you who are following Umpqua Watersheds' reports and recent newspaper articles may be concerned about the status of the North Umpqua summer steelhead hatchery program. UW has been working with a coalition of conservation organizations including the Native Fish Society, the Steamboaters, the North Umpqua Foundation, the Conservation Angler, Pacific Rivers, and Trout Unlimited to urge the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (the body that develops policy for the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife) to end the summer steelhead hatchery program at Rock Creek.

Months of organizing field tours and educating Commission members finally paid off when on April 22nd, the Commission did just that. Although ODF&W recommended maintaining the program, the Commission listened to the science presented by our team and directed their staff to end the program. Our celebration, however, was short-lived – soon after that decision, Douglas County, the Umpqua Fisheries Enhancement Derby, and a fishing guide filed for an injunction to halt

the permanent termination of the program.

Our attorneys quickly filed a Petition to Intervene that argued that the Commissioner's decision is supported by science and is consistent with agency rules. We were very confident that science would prevail again, but judge Daniel Wren denied our petition, finding that our organizations (that have advocated for wild fish for decades) did not have a compelling interest in the case!

Unfortunately, the lawyer for the Oregon Dept. of Justice (representing the Commission) only argued arcane points of law ("jurisdiction" and the meaning of an "order"), so not *one single argument based on biology* was heard by the judge. Our attorneys had to sit by and watch the DoJ fail to address the plaintiffs' meritless claims. The next day, the gates were opened at Rock Creek, and juvenile summer steelhead began entering the North Umpqua.

Many are asking what would have happened to those fish if the judge had allowed us to join the DoJ in arguing the case. Would they have been "wasted"? Quite the opposite. They would have been released into Galesville and/or Cooper Creek Reservoir where they would have developed into non-migrating rainbow trout. A far higher

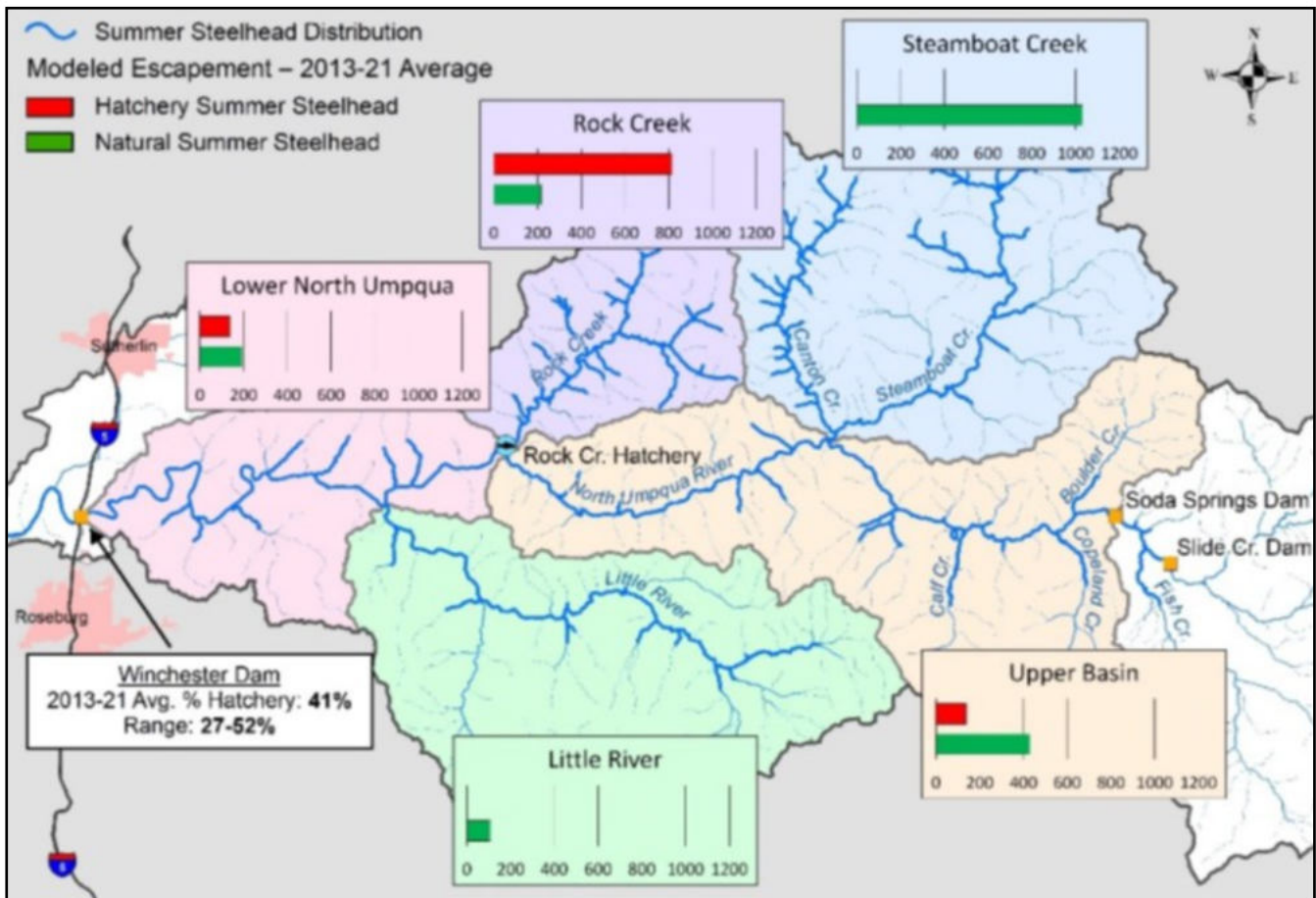


Figure 1. Proportion of natural and hatchery origin steelhead in North Umpqua sub-basins.

percentage would have been caught by anglers in those fisheries than in the North Umpqua where they must now survive out-migration, ocean conditions, and the return to the upper North Umpqua.

Still others are questioning our coalition's arguments for ending the summer steelhead hatchery program in the first place. There are many reasons for our position. Briefly:

1. Out-migrating hatchery smolts compete for food and other resources with wild fish as they make their way to the ocean, and also prey on native juveniles. Then wild fish must continue to compete in the ocean, and on their return journey.
2. When raised in close quarters in concrete tanks, hatchery fish are prone to a myriad of diseases that they can spread to wild fish that they come in contact with.
3. Over a decade of research has documented the poorer productivity of hatchery fish compared to wild stock. The behaviors that lead to a decrease in reproductive success of hatchery fish are "epigenetic" [see my article in UW's spring 2022 newsletter] and persist for at least two more generations. The offspring of crosses between hatchery and wild fish inherit this deficit and produce fewer offspring.
4. Because of this last point, the ODF&W's management plan calls for action if the percentage of hatchery originating spawners (PHOS) is over 10%. Figure 1. is sourced from an ODFW assessment of wild summer steelhead* and shows that this standard is violated in sub-basins through which returning spawners must navigate. Note that on average, 41% of the spawners that cross Winchester Dam are hatchery fish. Fortunately, the Steamboat/Canton Creek sub-basin is a wild steelhead stronghold that hatchery fish have not yet invaded. Little River has no hatchery component but produces few fish because of severe habitat degradation. Not surprisingly, Rock Creek is overwhelmingly dominated by hatchery fish. But even with these high PHOS levels, the ODF&W will not act in accordance with their management plan.
5. In their analysis of hatchery impacts on wild summer steelhead*, the ODF&W concludes that because both wild and hatchery summer steelhead have declined, and river and ocean conditions have been sub-optimal, the precipitous decline in the North Umpqua wild summer run is due to degraded conditions in these habitats. While we disagree with this conclusion, for the sake of argument, let's assume that this is true.

If it is all about river and ocean conditions, then summer steelhead populations are controlled by environmental factors that put an upper limit, or "carrying capacity", on the combined population of wild and hatchery fish. So, adding more hatchery fish to the population will NOT result in more fish returning to spawn. Allowing naturally produced wild fish to avoid competition, disease, and genetic contamination from hatchery fish will increase their success so that ALL the fish that the environment can sustain will carry genes that best adapt summer steelhead to North Umpqua conditions.

The good news is that so far, the Commission's decision to eliminate the summer steelhead program at Rock Creek still stands for the future. We will continue to urge the Fish and Wildlife Commission to follow the science and stand firm on their correct decision in the face of a completely politically-driven backlash.

* [ODFW \(Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife\). 2022. 2022 assessment of naturally produced summer steelhead in the Umpqua River basin. Science Bulletin 2022-1. ODFW, Salem.](#)

Upcoming Events

June 22nd ~ Teaching Kids about Climate Change Panel Discussion at 5pm PT. Use this link to register: <https://forms.gle/JoDpacg1L8ipdWqS7>

June 24th - 26th ~ Yew Creek Campout

July 11th to August 16th ~ Kids for Nature (summer program for youths ages 7-12)

July 16th ~ River Appreciation Day

July 22nd - 24th ~ Twin Lakes Campout

July 30th ~ Turning Over a New Leaf Book Club Session (rescheduled from July 23rd)



OUTREACH UPDATE

By Kasey Hovik

It was wonderful to see nearly 100 people at the Umpqua Watersheds 26th Annual Membership Banquet on Sunday, May 1st—our first in-person banquet in two years and our first outdoor banquet ever. It felt so good to talk to people that we've missed seeing over the pandemic. Widespread Haze provided great musical entertainment, and our committee chairs gave updates on the fantastic work they've been doing and about upcoming projects. Juliete Palenshus reprised her wonderful Tedx talk on "Creating a Culture of Well-being".



It was so inspiring; you can see the original Tedx talk by going to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwq9qAQwdaU>

Congratulations to our Award Winners; Lifetime Conservationist, Paul and Lory Utz, Conservationist of the Year, Cindy Haws, Lifetime Volunteer, Steve Cole, and our Volunteer of the Year, Kirsten Campbell. Thank you all for making a profound difference for our environment and community.

Thanks to everyone who attended the banquet and everyone who helped before, during, and after to make it a very successful event. We were able to raise over \$8,000 after expenses! Many thanks to Two-Shy Brewing, Bandon Rain, Wild Rose Vineyard, Season Cellars, Omgrown Family Farm, and Girardet Wineries for donating beer and wine. Special thanks to everyone who donated to enable several of our local AmeriCorps to attend the banquet for free! You can view the banquet presentations by going to the banquet page on

our website: <https://umpquawatersheds.org/the-26th-umpqua-watersheds-annual-banquet-2022>

We hoped to have another event, the Umpqua Brews Festival behind our building on June 4th, but because of circumstances beyond our control, we had to cancel it. We are already working on upcoming events including camping trips, hikes, 35th Annual River Appreciation Day on July 16th, and the 11th Umpqua Brew Fest on October



8th. Stay tuned for more information.

As mentioned in my Outreach presentation for the banquet, our Non-Commercial Radio license has been approved by the FCC, which will dramatically expand the reach of

our radio station, KQUA, this summer. Thanks to a \$20,000 grant we received from the Collins Foundation and a \$6,000 donation from Medicine Flower, we will be putting an antenna on Scott Mountain and increasing our signal which will enable us to reach radios from Yoncalla to Canyonville. We will continue to broadcast online at KQUA.org and with the KQUA app available from the Google Play Store.

As you can see from this newsletter, we have LOTS of things happening. Be sure to check our Facebook page and our website and tune in to KQUA for regular updates. Thanks for your support. Gratefully, Kasey, UW Board of Directors, and staff.

WILDERNESS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Robbin Schindele

Spring, a time of rejuvenation and renewal, is here and almost over. In a few weeks, it will be Summer, a time of fun and recreation. I'd like to begin this article with a shout-out to some Wilderness Committee members.

First, to Bob Hoehne for the fine wilderness update presentation he gave at this year's annual banquet. Bob gave a short update of what the Crater Lake Wilderness proposal hopes to accomplish and a comprehensive report on what the committee has done to build citizen and business support for the proposal. Good job Bob.

Second, to Susan Applegate. Susan has been working to arrange a meeting with Umpqua National Forest management to determine the impacts of recent fires and subsequent salvage operations within the boundaries of the proposed wilderness area. She also penned an excellent letter requesting that the proposal be included in the [American Conservation and Stewardship Atlas \(Atlas\)](#), part of the 30x30/America the Beautiful plan. The letter describes our plans for the proposed wilderness area and their importance to the ongoing fight against global warming. 30x30 is an initiative that President Biden put in motion with his 2021 Executive Order proposing that 30% of American land and waters be conserved by 2030. It is a part of a worldwide effort with over 50 countries pledging to work towards the same goal. Good work Susan.

And finally, kudos to Diana Pace, who works tirelessly for all things related to the proposal and Umpqua Watersheds.

Our coming summer activities will once again start with grassroots efforts at the Umpqua Valley Farmer's Market. Every second Saturday from June through September committee members will staff a booth at the market asking people to sign postcards supporting our mission. The cards have a printed message that asks federal legislators to support the proposal by introducing a bill in congress to create the Crater Lake Wilderness. We will mail the signed cards to our members of congress. The program has been a success, with booth members gathering over a hundred signatures on average per Saturday. Stop in and see us and grab a tee shirt or cap so you can show your support wherever you might go.

Another perennial activity is our summer hikes. For many years we have been guiding hikes into areas within the

proposed wilderness and we will be doing so again this year. But some hikes don't need guides. Here are a couple of easy, family-friendly hikes you can use to kick off your summer:



Lemolo Falls. Rated easy. 3.4-mile round-trip on the North Umpqua Trail Dread and Terror section to a 100-ft waterfall. At 1.7 miles you'll be at the top of the falls. Go a few hundred yards further on the trail for a better and safer view of the falls. From Roseburg take Hwy 138 for 70 miles to paved road 2610 to Lemolo Lake. After 5 miles cross Lemolo Lake dam and keep left on road 2610 for 0.4 miles. Here there is a bridge across the canal to trailhead parking.



Warm Springs Falls. Rated easy. 0.6-mile round-trip to a massive 70-ft waterfall over a 100-ft columnar basalt cliff. Once you've been here it will be one of your favorites! Great hike for children. From the Lemolo Falls parking lot, take road 2610 and continue for 2.4 miles. Go left on Road 680 for 1.6 miles to the trail sign on the left side.

Have a Great Summer!

APPLEGATES AT CRATER LAKE

By Susan Applegate

I wrote this article with the hope that the National Park Conservation Association would print it in their magazine, but they had already planned to publish articles focused on William Gladstone Steel, a man who devoted a great portion of his life to making this a National Park. They declined to accept my article for this or any other publication.

I quietly think of and pay homage to two of my early family members whenever I walk the trails at Crater Lake National Park. Visiting the park expands my mind and lungs with fresh air vistas. From macroscopic to microscopic. One minute I look out over the lake and see hundreds of miles beyond the rim, while at my feet are multitudes of interesting fungi living on pieces of bark, rocks, or other tiny plants hidden in crevices. And for me, there is an additional connection to the past I especially revel in. The expansive explorations and mapping of Crater Lake by Captain Oliver Cromwell Applegate and the close, minute observations of Crater Lake's botanical flora by Elmer Applegate. Both men helped in shaping the National Park. Oliver Cromwell Applegate explored the Crater Lake area in the 1860s and later. Elmer Ivan Applegate, his nephew, was the Park Ranger Naturalist from 1934 until 1939.

Captain Oliver Cromwell Applegate was a frontiersman and led a life whose travels extended the length and breadth of the Oregon Territory. He had explored Crater Lake many times before it became a National Park. Being from a pioneer family, he was party to many “firsts” by white settlers to the Territory. Oliver also had many firsts of his own. Certainly, he knew and appreciated that the native populations had been fully aware of this extraordinary geological gem. He was also aware that as white settlers entered these places, thinking of them as “wild,” their urge to lay claim and name was part of their notion of settling in, even if it was just to commit a “first.”

On a sunny summer day in 1865, he experienced what would become another first. He had made the

acquaintance of Miss Anna Gaines and invited her and her friend to join a party of visitors to the lake. During the visit, a couple of other visitors lost their footing and plunged over a cliff. Anna's adventurous descent to Crater Lake's edge from the rim to help save this couple became another “first.” When she placed her hand into the frigid water of Crater Lake, she became celebrated as the first white woman known ever to reach its waters. “Miss Gaines, was, as usual, the most enthusiastic and adventurous of our party,” Oliver said. “While on the lake we spent some time drifting among the green islands, to one of which, — lying away out in the center of the lake covered with gigantic green cane-grass and bordered with green willows — we gave it her name.” While that name changed to Wizard Island, as the Lake became a National Park, her legacy remained: Annie Creek and Annie Spring in Crater Lake National Park are named as monuments to this girl who touched the deep blue of the crater's water.



Captain Oliver Cromwell Applegate.

Oliver's father, Lindsay Applegate, was one of the trailblazers of the 1846 Applegate Trail, much of which laid the foundation for the Interstate 5 Highway. Both Oliver and his father Lindsay worked as sub-agents for the Klamath Tribe at Fort Klamath. Lindsay Applegate was appointed special agent for the Lakes Indians (Modoc) in 1861. In 1865, he was

appointed Indian sub-agent, responsible for treaty negotiations and other U.S. government dealings with the Klamath Indians. Oliver's engagement with the Klamath tribal members were always courteous and respectful. He conversed with the tribe in Chinook jargon and in the Klamath language, listening to their stories of the origins of places and the meaning of their names. As a testimonial to this trust, the Klamath people bestowed upon him the name “Blywas Lokay,” or Golden Eagle Chief. In the 1870s he penned a poem about the mysterious quality of Crater Lake.

GAYWAS—CRATER LAKE

High on the rim of Klamath land,
Where Cascade cliffs are hoar and grand,
Where pine and hemlock forests moan,
Mid giant walls of igneous stone

A mystic lake lies still and high,
Reflecting cliff, and tree and sky,
A place of wondrous sight and sound,
'Twixt earth and heaven and halfway ground.

Gaywas unrivaled, we've often stood
A thousand feet above thy flood,
Hung o'er the verge, looked down and down
O'er beetling crags of gray and brown
The feathery arms of hemlock through,
Peered down upon the waters blue,
Saw hemlocks changing more and more,
Till ferns they waved upon the shore.

Brave old warriors, grim and brown,
Recall traditions handed down
Of how horned demons came
From out volcanic sea of flame
And scourged the land, till now
The bows that pierce the mountains' brow
The mystic land of Gaywas crossed
Recall to mind the warriors lost.

When night has draped these mountains grand,
Come pilgrims from the mystic land
And on the lake a voice is heard
Like the plaintive cry of a far-off bird,
And through the air's peculiar hush
Broad wings of spirits wave and rush,
While phantom ships, with great white sail,
Drift here and there in moonlight pale.

Mid rippling waves that lave the wall
Come phantom bathers, weird and tall,
And curious demons sport and swim
Beneath the moonlight pale and dim.
With fays they take on wings of white
Around the cliffs their circling flight,
Their voices blend in the murmuring breeze
That whispers through the hemlock trees.

No wonder that these mythic souls partake
Their annual trips to Crater Lake,
Nor that the brilliant Klamath brain
Filled Gaywas with a mystic train,
And thought this place, — so weird and grand — the
threshold of the spirit land.

Capt. O. C. Applegate

Applegate Peak at 8,135 feet was chosen and named by William Gladstone Steel to honor his fellow explorer, Captain Oliver Cromwell Applegate, who assisted in the exploration of the Crater Lake area. Applegate Peak is located on the south rim of Crater Lake, next to Sun Notch and just above Vidae Cliff. To the east is the slightly shorter, Garfield Peak. Steel organized and led

the effort to bring Crater Lake into the National Park system. He enlisted the help of others, such as Captain O.C. Applegate, to tour the area with distinguished guests and Congressmen he brought out west from Washington DC to view its miraculous presence. One of those visiting the lake was Lord William Maxwell of Scotland and A. Bentley of Ohio, with whom Captain Oliver Applegate, John Meachem, and Chester Sawtelle of Klamath County, toured the lake, reveling in the vista of lofty peaks and visiting Wizard Island. They decided to name some of the more prominent peaks after members of the party. Bently Peak



Oliver C. Applegate poring over maps with friend and fellow explorer and writer, Joaquin Miller, poet of the Sierras, taken at Crater Lake by Kiser Photo Co.

has become Watchman, Maxwell Peak is now named Hillman Peak in honor of the gold miner, John Hillman, who stumbled upon it in 1853 and called it "Deep Blue Lake."

When Captain Applegate toured the lake with historian and writer Frances Fuller Victor in 1873, she was astonished at the grandeur of the lake and stony crags of the rim. She strode to a bluff and perched on a boulder 900 feet above the deep blue water, admiring its beauty. Oliver Applegate was so inspired by her grasp of its monumental presence that he named the overlook Victor Rock. Her book, "Atlantis Arisen" helped to further Crater Lake as a place others must behold. Early maps of Crater Lake identified Victor Rock, but the Sinnott Memorial was built on top of it in 1930. The Park Superintendent transferred "Victor Rock" to become "Victor View," at a spot on the East Rim near Sentinel Rock.

Captain Applegate and Joaquin Miller (known as the poet of the Sierras) compared maps, exploration notes, drawings, and poetic memos of Crater Lake before it

became a National Park. Captain Oliver Cromwell Applegate sought to share the beauty of Crater Lake with all who displayed interest. His love of Crater Lake helped in it becoming a National Park.



Elmer Ivan Applegate (left) and *Castilleja applegatei*, a native perennial herb that bears his name.

Elmer Ivan Applegate was Oliver's nephew. Elmer's father, Lucien, gave him the middle name Ivan in honor of another brother, Ivan DeCompte Applegate. Elmer knew his famous Uncle Oliver, who wrote about, explored, and worked with Indians on the Klamath reserve and negotiated with the Modoc during the treacherous Modoc War. Born in the Klamath Falls area, Elmer and his siblings spent many winters in California where they received their high school and university training. They returned to work their large ranch in upper Swan Lake, east of Klamath Falls, during the summers. Elmer took up botany at an early age, collecting and identifying known and unknown plant species. He received formal botanical training at San Jose Normal School and Stanford University. When he met watercolor artist, Esther Emily Ogden, niece of the early Hudson's Bay Company trapper, Peter Skene Ogden, he became enchanted by her interest in depicting in detail the flora of the region. Theirs was a marriage of common passion. On field trips Esther illustrated the plants as Elmer collected them. His work with Frederick Colville of the U.S. Department of Agriculture doing plant surveys in the Cascade Mountains; the US National Herbarium; the Dudley Herbarium at Stanford University, and his Honorary Doctor of Science Degree in 1940 from Oregon State University is evidence of his botanical prowess. When he entered service as the Crater Lake National Park Ranger Naturalist, he was 67 years old. His botanical writings include [Plants of Crater Lake National Park](#), *American Midland Naturalist* (1939).

It is 2022, and the 1860s and 1930s are a distant past.

This time finds us in another monumental transition, affecting not just a small corner of the globe, as when Mt. Mazama exploded, or when white settlers laid claim to a land that had been home to tribes of indigenous Native Americans since time immemorial and extracted from the landscape in ways that had never been done before. Humanity's uses and abuses, inventions and expansions have reaped global consequences. Accumulation of carbon in the atmosphere, and interaction with climatological and environmental systems, have been in a brew for several hundred years. Climate change is now upon us. Climate scientists have told us that all plants and animals are being affected. We can see the changes. Both wildlife and the flora of the wilds will tend to move northward in this hemisphere and to higher elevations in their attempt to adapt to increasingly warming temperatures, drought, and often chaotic weather events.

Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. is a nonprofit environmental organization working in collaboration with Oregon Wild, Crater Lake Institute, National Parks Conservation Association, and Environment Oregon to protect the Crater Lake National Park environs. The Crater Lake Wilderness Act is still in the proposal phase. The proposed 500,000-acre Wilderness would protect the backcountry of Crater Lake and adjacent qualifying areas, creating a nearly 90-mile Wilderness corridor along the backbone of the Cascade Mountains. Key Roadless Areas in the Umpqua National Forest, Rogue Siskiyou National Forest, and Fremont Winema National Forest would assist in sequestering carbon and water, and provide migration pathways to higher ground for wildlife and the plants they depend upon. From discovery to recovery. From displacement to adaptation. We are hopeful that our Congressional leaders will confer Wilderness status to Crater Lake so that this National Park can join the many other National Parks managed as wilderness. From its beginnings, Crater Lake and the high Cascades have supplied the lower reaches with water and much of our local climate. We must protect our home, and Crater Lake is the gem at the center of that crown. For more information on the Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal visit www.umpquawatersheds.org.

Sources:

- ▶ As It Was: Historian Frances Fuller Victor leaves Name at Crater Lake. Published Aug. 12, 2019, Jefferson Public Radio
- ▶ Kiser Photo Company. Kiser Brothers Photography
- ▶ Crater Lake Institute. Oakland Tribune, Oakland CA 1939, Applegate Peak Named in 1869 by Wm Gladstone Steel.
- ▶ Applegate family papers

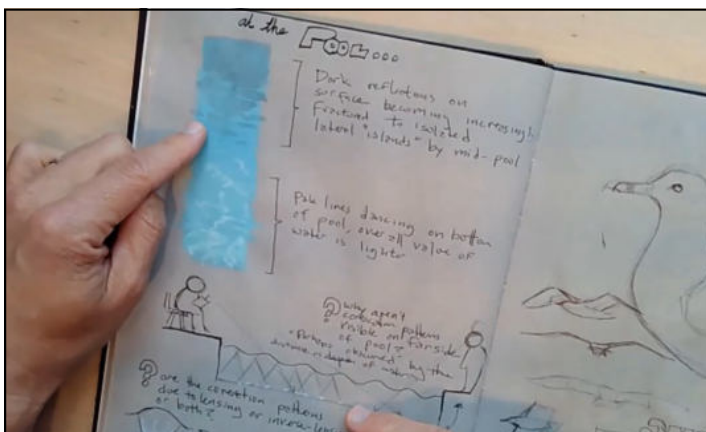
LEARNING IN THE UMPQUA WATERSHED

By Ryan Kincaid

Thank you to everyone who helped make our second annual Learning in the Umpqua Watershed (training for local educators) a success. Fourteen teachers and homeschooling parents participated in this year's training, and we had presenters from various communities in Oregon, as well as a couple from California and Colorado! We are also so appreciative of the financial support via grant funding received from the **Clif Family Foundation** and **Roundhouse Foundation**, which enabled us to offer curriculum resources and \$100 stipends to each teacher.



Here are a couple of screenshots taken during presentations given during training. Intrigued? Check out the recordings on the Educator Resources page of our website: <https://umpquawatersheds.org/what-we-do/education/educator-resources/>



We plan to support the teacher attendees who joined us in 2021 and 2022 throughout the coming academic year, then will transition to offering our training in the summer starting in 2023. This will give the teachers a greater opportunity to incorporate the valuable concepts and ideas from the training.

Get Involved! Join a Committee

Until further notice, our committee meetings are being held via Zoom Conferencing. If you are interested in participating in any of the committee meetings, please email kasey@umpquawatersheds.org for the latest schedule of meetings.

Monthly Board of Directors:

When: 3rd Tuesday of Every Month 5pm

For board and staff members only. If there is a topic, you feel the board should broach, let us know! Email kasey@umpquawatersheds.org

KQUA Committee

When: Every Wednesday at 3pm

Patrick Schneider patrick@umpquawatersheds.org

Conservation & Restoration Committees

When: 1st Saturday of Every Month at 9am

Conservation:

Angela Jensen angela@umpquawatersheds.org

Restoration:

Ken Carloni ken@umpquawatersheds.org

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) & Education Committees

When: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month at 5:30pm

Ryan Kincaid ryan@umpquawatersheds.org

Wilderness Committee

When: Last Wednesday of Every Month at 6pm

Tony Cannon tony@umpquawatersheds.org

Outreach Committee

When: Last Thursday of every month at 5:30pm

Kasey Hovik kasey@umpquawatersheds.org

Volunteers can track hours using the website. Visit umpquawatersheds.org and click on the "Get involved" tab to find the "Track your volunteer hours" selection. Fill in the information and we will take it from there!



♦ KQUA is always seeking underwriters: We have \$125 and \$50 underwriting deals!

♦ Do you have an idea for a radio show on KQUA? Send us your idea.

♦ Get your sticker for \$5 and support our community radio.

♦ Email kqua@umpquawatersheds.org for more information.



BIG TOM RIGHT OF WAY UPDATE

By Janice Reid

I spent 33 years studying the federally listed northern spotted owl (NSO) for the US Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station in the Roseburg Bureau of Land Management (RBLM) office. I took my position as a research scientist seriously and did not participate in the management side of federal employment. Over the years, I learned about some of the absurd federal and state rules and regulations affecting our public lands and the NSO, and it was often difficult to remain neutral when those in decision-making positions chose not to act in the public's best interest. But, I had very little time to delve into the management documents, legal policies, and agency interactions, let alone make well-informed and legal arguments against those decisions. I left that to those with better skills and knowledge than myself. After retiring in 2019, I started to pay more attention to how agencies work. Past members of Umpqua Watersheds (UW) have brought to the public's attention the egregious actions that unnecessarily occur on our public lands in some of our irreplaceable old forests. Legal challenges have sometimes worked, but I would like to explain what UW has been working on for the last few months that will likely make you shake your head in disbelief. This kind of situation occurs generally without public knowledge or scrutiny.

Discovering a road right-of-way (ROW) marked in one of the spotted owl core areas within the study area where I spent my entire career was disheartening. It was not on any BLM planning documents or the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) online reporting system. With the help of our legal advisor, Angela Jensen, UW brought its concerns directly to the RBLM district manager, Heather Whitman, who gave us several details about the situation. ROWs within the O&C "checkerboard" lands are part of an agreement that dates back to the 1950s. More detail regarding this agreement can be found in the lengthy document "Guidelines for the Administration of the O&C Logging Road Right-of-Way Regulations in Western Oregon." The ROW law predates the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and other modern legislation developed to protect resources that have been exploited. Angela determined that ROW agreements were legally challenged in the past without success. Since it is not a "discretionary" federal action, BLM does not include them in their public comment planning documents. There are only three reasons whereby BLM may object to a proposed right-of-way construction; *"if (1) it does not constitute the most reasonably direct route for the removal of forest products from the lands of the road builder, taking into account the topography of the area, the cost of road construction and the*

safety of use of such road, (2) the proposed road will substantially interfere with the existing facilities or improvements of the lands of the landowner, or (3) would result in excessive erosion to lands of the landowner."

The timber company, Roseburg Forest Products (RFP), eventually filed a notification of road construction with the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), whose policy for NSO resource protection is focused on currently occupied sites for protection. The NSO population, and subsequently occupied sites, have plummeted in recent years and the ODF policy interprets such sites as "abandoned." Thus, the core area in question did not receive protection under the State Forest Practices Rules (FPR) for private landowners. As part of the ODF response to RFP, there are specific cautions about the potential "take" of the species and the need to contact the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS). We contacted RFP directly in an attempt to reason with them. Still, they are not interested in further conversation and refuse to return our calls and letters at the local and corporate levels.

Another thing to consider about this site is that the NSO core area consists of multiple nest trees on land that is allocated as Late Successional Reserve (LSR) under the Northwest Forest Plan *and* is designated NSO critical habitat by the USFWS. Therefore, we needed to know how the ESA applies to private landowners whose actions occur on public land. The USFWS cannot engage RBLM because this is not a federal project. Since the road construction as proposed will bisect the four known NSO nest trees, the private landowner is responsible for contacting the USFWS. RFP has received numerous letters and phone calls from state employees and UW about the necessity of contacting the USFWS for a possible incidental take of a threatened species. "Take" includes the destruction of habitat. Since the landowner has not yet contacted the USFWS, we have formally requested that the USFWS investigate a potential "take" situation under Section 9 of the ESA.

So, let's look at the specifics of the site and the reasons why RBLM could object to the ROW application. In their documentation for issuing the permit, the RBLM manager determined that "the road construction was the most reasonably direct for the removal of forest products from the lands of the road builder, taking into account the topography of the area, the cost of road construction, and the safety of use of such road." The topography map in Photo 1. shows the proposed road (blue line) running through the owl core area on public land (0.71 miles). The red line is what could be utilized to access their land from North Fork Tom Folley Spur Rd (~0.5 miles) (Photo 1). This refutes the BLM's claim that the route is the "most reasonably direct."

But let's look at the rest of the criteria: "taking into account topography." We contend that the topography of the first

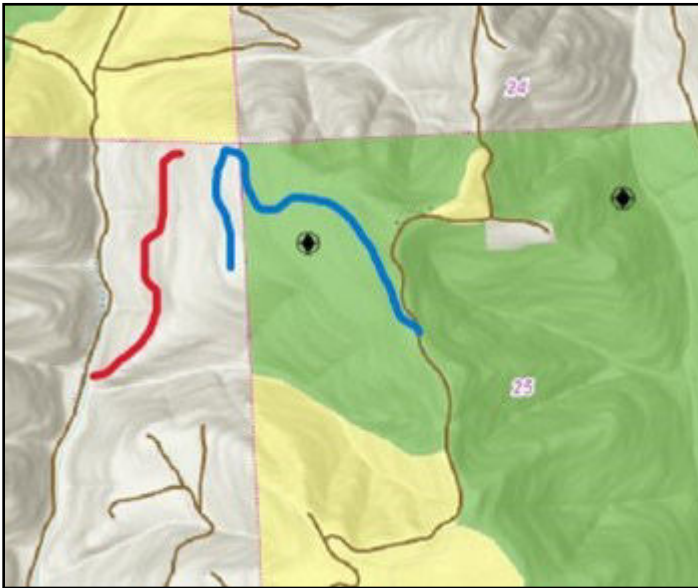


Photo 1. The location of the ROW (blue line) is NW of Drain and can be accessed via the Tom Folley Road network. The proposed road will intersect with Upper Tom Folley Rd. The red line is our suggested route.

segment of the proposed road is as steep, or steeper, as the shorter road section in red. When reviewing the area to the south, it is clear that segments occur on much steeper terrain. Topography is not an issue: historical photos (Photo 2) show that mechanical equipment could traverse the landscape without needing access from the public land.

The cost of construction is another criterion. Road building costs are offset in part by the trees removed and taken to the mill for processing. However, in this case, the permittee cannot offset the cost of road construction by extracting the largest trees. Page 65 of the 2016 BLM Resource Management Plan (RMP) states that with respect to right-of-ways in LSR *"For any trees that are both $\geq 40"$ DBH and that the BLM identifies were established prior to 1850, retain cut trees in the adjacent stand as down woody material. The BLM identification of trees established prior to 1850 may be based on any of a variety of methods, such as evaluation of bark, limb, trunk, or crown characteristics, or increment coring, at the discretion of the BLM."* We observed that many of the trees within the proposed construction corridor are likely to be over 40 inches DBH during ground-truthing.

The 2016 RMP is also clear in the management direction for NSO habitat. Page 64 states that the agency should *"Manage for large blocks of northern spotted owl nesting-roosting habitat that support clusters of reproducing spotted owls..."* and also *"Protect stands of older, structurally-complex conifer forest. Such stands are a subset of, and represent the highest value, northern spotted owl nesting-roosting habitat."* It is clear that road-building through large blocks of NSO habitat, especially core areas on LSR lands, is counter to the management direction. Given that the proposed road

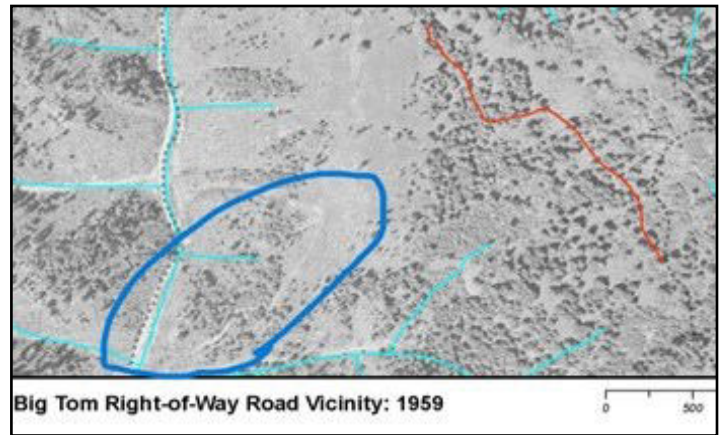


Photo 2. 1959 aerial with proposed (red line) road on public land and past bulldozed road on private land (circled in blue). Double dashed lines are currently maintained roads.

further fragments NSO habitat, it is hard to justify that this is the "most reasonably direct route." Furthermore, it is not the direction of the Biden Administration which, on April 22nd, directed agencies to identify and inventory mature and old-growth forests critical to addressing our climate crises while simultaneously identifying threats to their retention. To continue building roads and extracting mature, old-growth trees in the process is a grave threat and is indeed an abuse of these ROW agreements.

Even though the BLM cannot make the private company comply with the ESA, the solicitor in a failed court case indicated that "As part of its general duty to promote conservation of the species, the BLM should, however, alert permittees to particular situations which may result in an incidental take and to the prohibitions and enforcement provisions contained in the ESA." The BLM did not follow the solicitor's recommendation by alerting RFP to these facts.

In the state of Oregon's recent Draft Habitat Conservation Plan, much emphasis is placed on LSR forests as secure habitat for late-successional species. Yet, state policies leave those reserves at risk. ODF could make a policy change in the way administrative rules apply to species such as the NSO and prioritize the habitat for protection instead of focusing on occupied sites.

For this situation, four entities could act to prevent the destruction of NSO habitat. The RBLM could object to the ROW because it is not the most direct route. ODF could change its policy to protect NSO habitat regardless of occupancy. USFWS could investigate the "take" under section 9 of the ESA. Most importantly, RFP could choose to access their property without destroying a federally protected reserve. Will any of these entities act to prevent the continued destruction of older forests on public reserve land, or will it be up to us to rise to challenge the existing laws? At least we will try; you can count on that.



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