



100 Valleys

A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc

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

Spring 2020 | Issue 83

UMPQUA WATERSHEDS: LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD ... Ken Carloni, President



As the long winter ebbs and wildflowers begin to poke their heads up, I find myself thinking back to a beautiful spring day in 1996. It was the year of the infamous “salvage rider” that opened up

thousands of acres of old growth forests to logging for one year. That was a frenetic year of protests, arrests, and blockades of logging shows in our desperate efforts to protect priceless ancient forests from the “lawless logging” that was mowing down our natural heritage at a terrifying rate.

In the spring of that year, Francis Eatherington, one of our founding members and a true hero of the movement, notified me that a stand of timber had just been put up for sale on **Cobble Knob** in the Rock Creek watershed. I had an afternoon off from my college classes, so I hopped into my car and drove up to take a look. What I saw there both awed and chilled me.

Spotting a remnant stand of tall trees in a sea of clear-cuts and plantations, I made my way up a rough trail into one of the most magnificent stands of cathedral old growth I’d ever seen. Five to seven feet in diameter, a magical stand of Douglas-fir stood like a council of elders at the top of the hill. Wildflowers of every description were blooming at their feet through a carpet of moss

and ferns.

I knew that stands like this were going down like matchsticks all over the Umpqua, and I knew that we all had to do everything in our power to save as much of our natural heritage as we could. There were dozens of other stands like Cobble Knob slated for destruction, but this was one of the few that became our “poster children” to show the world what we all were in danger of losing.



UW went full throttle all year trying to stop the carnage. We shot videos, made posters and wrote letters to share with our elected representatives and anyone else we thought might help. We brought major news media including CNN, the L.A. Times, and the Washington Post out to see these stands and report on their imminent destruction to an American public that was unaware of what they were losing in the name of the almighty dollar. Best-selling

author James Redfield stood in front of the biggest tree on Cobble knob, and with our cameras rolling said “Cutting trees like this will be the biggest crime that our children and their children will accuse us of.”

We suffered some agonizing losses that year – the stands that we couldn’t save still bring tears to my eyes as I write this. But Cobble Knob was not one of them. That council of elders still stands because Umpqua Watersheds and many

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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KQUA Radio

Program Director

Office hours:

1-5 M-W, 9-1 Th-F.

friends and supporters from across the country stood up and put our bodies and our livelihoods on the line.

How did we manage to save Cobble Knob? That's an inspiring story of technical expertise, tenacity, teamwork and a bit of luck – a story that we will tell when we revisit that forest later this summer as part of our **Legacy Hike Series**. We plan to revisit several of the iconic forests that still stand because of the dedication and determination of many hearts and minds on the Umpqua, in Cascadia, and across the nation. Stay tuned to *Watershed Moments* and the summer newsletter for dates and times, and help us celebrate the ones that *didn't* get away.

But Umpqua Watersheds was not the first conservation organization to risk confronting unbridled power to give voice to the voiceless. The **Umpqua Wilderness Defenders** worked under even harsher political conditions to get the first three (and still only) Wilderness areas on the Umpqua designated by congress in 1984. I was relatively new to the area at the time and not directly involved in the movement, but I knew I wanted to help. So when the call went out to put together a pick-up band to play at a fundraiser dance at the Glide Community Center to fly folks back to D.C. to lobby our congressional delegation, I happily agreed to play.

While I was there, I met a young teacher who was also new to the area and was volunteering to serve food to the revelers. Her name was Jenny, and we, well... hit it off.

But I also met another guy there that night who was a leader in the movement. His name is **Roy Keene**, and we went on to become fast friends. Roy regaled me with stories from his logging days and chronicled his spiritual journey from "tree killer" to "tree hugger". Over the years, I learned more about forestry from him than I did in all of the classes I subsequently took at OSU.

Roy was the keynote speaker at our very first UW Banquet, and I am thrilled to announce that he will reprise that role at our **25th Anniversary Banquet and Auction** on April 4th. The title of his address will be "**How the Wilderness Was Won**" during which we will hear inspiring stories about people and events from the birth of the environmental movement on the Umpqua. We will also be talking about how you can support our campaign to add **Crater Lake Wilderness** to the list of protected wildlands.

Lastly, a heartfelt thanks for your decades of support, especially to you who supported us when we were truly a lonely voice in the Wilderness, and to you who are sustaining us as we continue to fight for the wild. See you at the Banquet!

Upcoming Events: SOME POSTPONED!

Mar 28: UW Open House

~~Apr 4: Annual Banquet and Silent Auction~~

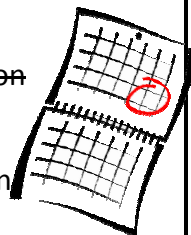
~~Apr 11: Earth Day and Energy Fair~~

Apr 21: Friends & Family at McMenamin

May 3: Yew Creek hike

Jun 4: Roy Zimmerman Concert

Check www.umpquawatersheds.org for additions and more details. Please send updates to webmaster@umpquawatersheds.org

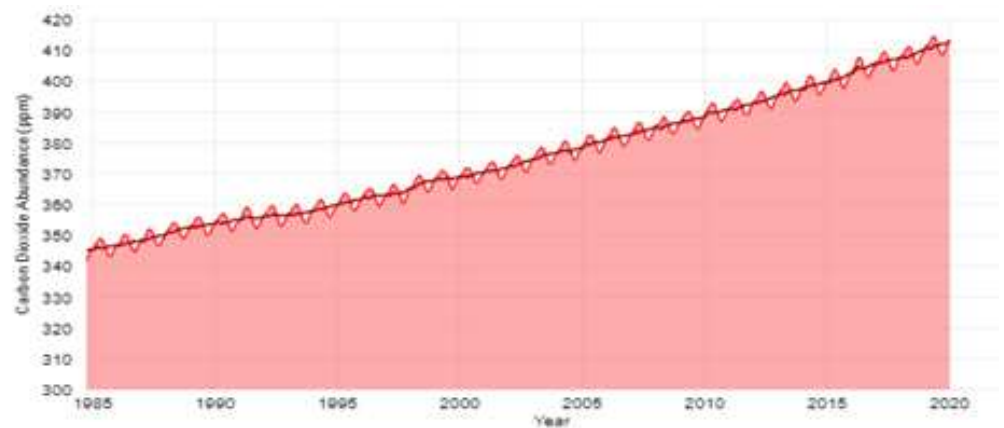


Executive Director Update:...Kasey Hovik

Umpqua Watersheds is celebrating our 25th anniversary. Things have changed a lot in 25 years. Looking back at how much things cost in 1995 is interesting. Sadly, one of the most significant changes, one that will impact every facet of our lives and that of the next several generations, is the increase of carbon in the

Category	Average for 1995
Inflation	2.81%
Dow Jones	5117
Yearly Interest rates	8.5%
Housing Purchase	\$113,150
Yearly Income	\$35,900
Monthly Rent	\$550
Gallon of Gas	\$1.09
US First Class Postage	\$0.32
New Car	\$15,500
Loaf of Bread	\$2.02
Pound of Coffee	\$4.07
Dozen eggs	\$0.87

atmosphere. In 1995 carbon concentration in the atmosphere was at 359. By January, 2020 it was 413 and current projections for the next 25 years continues with that trend.¹ The forests of the Pacific Northwest provide one of the greatest carbon storage sinks on earth. These forests store 1 ½ times the amount of carbon the fossil fuels burned in our country each year.²

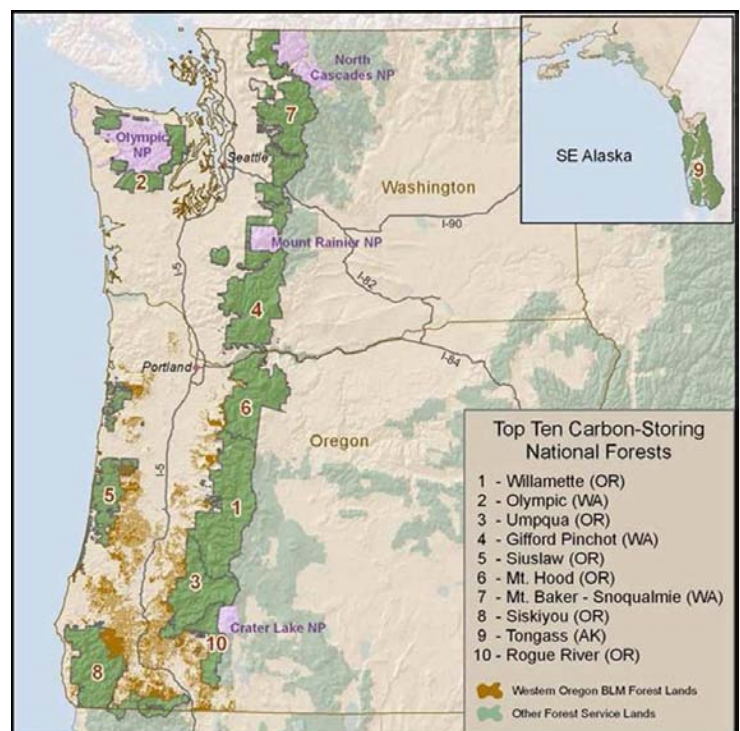


¹https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-atmospheric-carbon-dioxide?fbclid=IwAR0I4KfNfZQk4tDgo6Fnnz2JXgcb8bif2bmhOx3Jvd8EPJo4qYt5_oAXSWc#.XlrhVKVNuqo.facebook

²<https://latimesblogs.latimes.com/greenspace/2010/03/carbon-storage-pacific-northwest-forests.html>

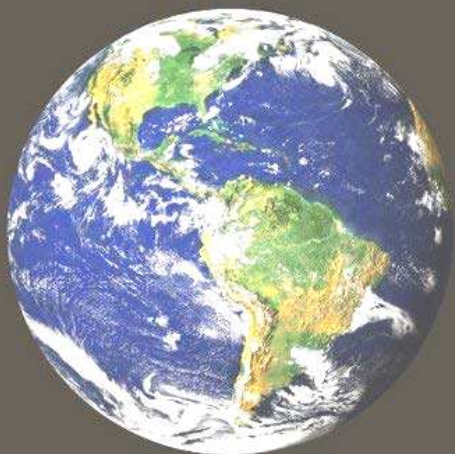
Over the last 25 years Umpqua Watersheds has fought for the protection and restoration of the ecosystems of the Umpqua watershed. We have worked closely with other environmental conservation organizations to update the Oregon Forest Practices Act and signed on to legislative proposals to address the threat that fire poses to our forests and our community as our climate continues to change.

One of the events vital to carrying out our mission is our annual banquet and silent auction. The **25th Anniversary Banquet and Silent auction** on April 4 is an opportunity to gather our membership and supporters together to review and celebrate the work and accomplishments of our organization. It is a time of renewal and inspiration. One of our primary goals in our strategic plan is to continue to engage young people to get involved in becoming part of our organization and work with us to make a difference in our community to protect and restore our beloved watersheds. We hope to have at least 2-3 tables of young people (20-30 people) at the banquet but we need sponsors to enable them to attend. Many AmeriCorps serving in our community and UCC students would love to attend the banquet but can't afford the price of a ticket. Please consider donating to our **banquet ticket scholarship** to help.



In addition to having a table at the April 11th Earth Day and Energy Fair, we will be participating in an upcoming event that celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day. That event will be on Wednesday, April 22 where we will work with students at UCC to provide information about the history of Earth Day. Along with our friends at the Douglas County Global Warming Coalition (DCGWC) and students at UCC, we will sponsor a "There is No Planet B" Earth Day March downtown. We will also be working with DCGWC to do a presentation at the Roseburg Library at 6pm that day, on Earth Day, and highlight the great work of several local groups that are working to protect our planet.

THERE IS NO PLANET B.



PRAYER OF THE WOODS

*I am the heat of your hearth on the cold winter nights,
the friendly shade screening you from the summer sun,
and my fruits are refreshing draughts quenching your
thirst as you journey on.
I am the beam that holds your house, the board of your
table,
the bed on which you lie, and the timber that builds your
boat.
I am the handle of your hoe, the door of your homestead,
the wood of your cradle, and the shell of your coffin.
I am the bread of kindness and the flower of beauty.
Ye who pass by, listen to my prayer: Harm me not.*

This Portuguese prayer of the woods has been used in Forest Reservations in Portugal for more than 1000 years.



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

Education Committee

When: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month, 6pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office

Ken Carloni - 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

Conservation Committee

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

Where: McMenamin's Roseburg Station Pub

Diana Pace - Diana@umpquawatersheds.org

Facility Management

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

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office

Kasey Hovik - Kasey@umpquawatersheds.org

Wilderness Committee

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

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office

Diana Pace - Diana@umpquawatersheds.org

Outreach Committee

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

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office

Janice Reid - 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.



Wilderness Committee update

The Wilderness committee has been busy this winter. Crater Lake Wilderness Coordinator Robbin Schindele has been working on activities and events in the coming year. Susan Applegate and Robbin have teamed up to spread the word about the economic benefits protecting public lands brings to individuals, communities and businesses. This is very important information that is often overlooked. They have created a presentation they would be very pleased to bring to anyone interested. If that's you, just email robbin@umpquawatersheds.org.

Susan had a great guest editorial in the News Review on Feb. 9th. She spoke very well about the many important reasons that Oregon's only National Park should be overlaid with Wilderness protection just as so many other National Parks around the United States are; and the value of protecting the last of the wild areas outside of the park. Primitive areas supply many ecological services such as storing carbon to help fight climate change and protecting the headwaters of 5 iconic rivers in Southwest Oregon. This has opened up a debate in the larger community about Wilderness protection of public lands. The grandeur of Crater Lake, along with its purest and clearest water on Earth, Ancient Forest, Water Falls, Rivers and raw beauty make it easy to speak out for its protection. The wild areas in this wilderness proposal are some of the last of the wild areas left.

Writing a letter to the editor and/or to our Federal legislators is a good way of helping support this proposal. We also need people who can lead hikes, fundraise, outreach to businesses and much more to help us work for this proposal. We want to welcome our newest Wilderness members - Phil and Janice of Glide and John of Roseburg. Also thank our biggest supporter, Medicine Flower of Glide [Alysia Gaye] who is also the new Secretary of the Wilderness committee.

I am stepping down from being the chair of the wilderness committee. It has been a very big honor for me! Leading a committee that is trying to protect one of the most special places on Earth is rewarding. I will be going back to giving slide show presentations of the beautiful proposed Wilderness and getting a 2nd slide show going that focuses on Wilderness education. If you know of a group that would like to see either of them let me know.

One of UW's hardest workers, Diana Pace, is now the Chair of the Wilderness committee. Diana is an avid hiker who knows the area well and will be leading some hikes into the proposed wilderness this Spring and Summer. The Wilderness committee meets the last Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm at the UW office. Feel free to join us any time.

"Where the trees are tall and the river is small and I am in awe."

Bob Hoehne

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? If you don't have time but have a business, KQUA is always seeking underwriters. Email us at kqua@umpquawatersheds.org



KQUA 99.7 Update

As of February, 99.7 KQUA has been broadcasting for three years. And what a three years it has been. We've gone from singing Irish Folk songs live on the air to creating a number of organic radio shows. Yet 99.7 KQUA is still a work in progress.

99.7 KQUA has created a number of local programs including Radio Active Restoration, Conservation Today and the public affairs program "What's up Douglas County." 99.7 KQUA has given away several minutes of airtime to local non-profit organizations and provided opportunities for a diverse group of individuals. 99.7 KQUA is planning to add more talk programming to its broadcast schedule, specifically more environmental talk, news, public affairs and educational type programs. 99.7 KQUA is also seeking original music programming shows such as a spotlight on local music and artists, Bluegrass and Jam Band music, unsigned artists, and "deep tracks." The goal is to have something different than our current "Alternative" music.

99.7 KQUA is in need of more funding. We are seeking funds to be able to stream the station nationwide, funds to build a professional workspace for our show hosts to record and edit their programs, a new logo, an investment in our members reward program where we will brand t-shirts, reusable shopping bags and reusable drink containers with our logo on them.

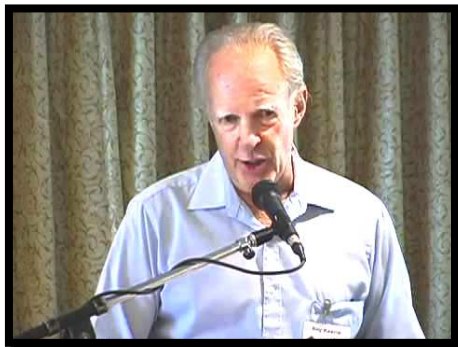
Donors willing to give to the 99.7 KQUA project can help by doing any or all of the following: make a tax-deductible contribution, refer businesses to our Underwriting Program, purchase and donate useful broadcast equipment. We are also being featured at McMenamins Roseburg Station Pub & Brewery Tuesday, April 21st from 5 until closing for their Friends and Family Night where a 50% of all purchases made that evening will benefit our broadcasting mission.

Lastly, to help 99.7 KQUA reach more of our community we ask that you tell a friend about the radio station, like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/KQUARadio/, and listen to and share our podcasts located at www.mixcloud.com/KQUARadio/.

Readers that have any questions, comments or concerns or are seeking more information about 99.7 KQUA can contact us at kqua@umpquawatersheds.org

Outreach Update... Janice Reid

2020 Banquet: The 25th Anniversary of the incorporation of Umpqua Watersheds is this year! We are in full swing planning and organizing the Annual Banquet and Silent Auction which will be April 4, 2020 at Umpqua Community College Campus Center. Umpqua Watersheds' first banquet speaker was Roy Keene and this year he returns to give a historical look at the last 25 years in the Umpqua watershed with his talk titled "How



the Wilderness was won." Roy is the Director of "Our Forests" in Eugene, Oregon, a non-profit organization seeking to promote honesty, integrity, and

fairness in the human use of our forests and is focused on engaging the public and media in timely and important forest issues. "Our Forests" evolved from the Public Forestry Foundation (PFF), a volunteer group of public interest foresters with a mission to reform public forestry. PFF designed ecosystem management strategies and low-impact forest restoration operations. In 1983, Roy received the Wilderness Society's "Environmental Hero" award for wilderness preservation. An Oregon resident for over 40 years, Roy has argued for forestry reform on TV and radio, exposed fraudulent and exploitive actions on public lands and has co-produced an award winning educational film "Forests For The Future." Roy continues to publish opinions, radio talks, and convincing videos to raise awareness on a variety of forestry related issues including timber tax subsidies. Be sure to get your ticket for the event so that you don't miss out. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. The cost covers the dinner, venue, and other associated expenditures for such an event. We are seeking sponsors for our low income, students, and AmeriCorps associates. We are accepting items, activities, gift certificates, and more for the silent auction. You can drop off auction items at the UW office during business hours or call the office to arrange for assistance with coordinating a pickup of items. Thanks and hope to see you there, if not before.

Outdoor events: Our snowshoe hike this year was hugely popular even though it was cold and snowy. 23 people attended specifically because they heard about it through Umpqua Watersheds. Check our Facebook and

website calendar for outdoor activities or events that may be of interest to you. Outreach has been busy being the "face" of the organization, but the nuts and bolts are those that work behind the scenes to keep track of the



voluminous amount of legislation, management proposals, projects and actions that impact our community. We have lots planned for the future including more hikes, music events, and festivals. Our outreach committee continues to formulate ideas to raise awareness and funds for our mission. If you would like to help, we can use you. Even the little stuff still needs to be done and just a little of your time could help. You can be a part of the solution even if it is picking up the recycling or making sure the property is clean and free of debris.

Fundraising: The successful year end campaign brought in much needed funds and we so appreciate the response. The communities to the north and south of us have so many more resources and a population that makes the "lift" so much lighter. Here is the bottom line. We need you. We cannot do this without effort and funds. If you have skills, you can contribute. If you have time, you can contribute. If you have money, you can contribute.

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! Email: kasey@umpquawatersheds.org or mark@umpquawatersheds.org.



AmeriCorps: Education Spotlight.. Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld

The New Year is off to an amazing start in my role as the Environmental Educator and Outreach Leader. On January 20th for MLK Day, I organized our annual river clean up with fellow-AmeriCorps Janelle Polcyn from the BlueZones Project. At Gaddis Park in Roseburg, over 110 volunteers came out on a beautiful day to collect trash and remove invasive blackberry! In this short time, the power of volunteerism came through as we collected over 3000 pounds of trash and cleared 25 square feet of invasive plants. This amazing event was possible through partnership with the City of Roseburg, Douglas ESD, SOLVE Oregon and United Communities AmeriCorps. We hope you will join us next year on MLK Day for another day on in the name of community service!

In environmental education, another Science



Wednesday program has wrapped up at Hucrest Elementary School. Seventeen 5th graders worked through experiments and analysis to solve a watershed environmental mystery. Students learned concepts in water quality testing (including erosion, phosphates and nitrates), bio indicators, wildlife monitoring and navigation. Ultimately, together we solved the mystery, revealing that not just one person, but all of us are responsible for the health of our rivers and the creatures that inhabit it! Science Wednesday will be coming to Eastwood Elementary later this Spring.

I had the chance to return to Joseph Lane Middle School in January for a 2-day lesson on invasive species. Students became experts in some of our local “terrors,” including nutria, blackberry, scotch broom and European starlings. They then played a board game where the goal was to be an encroaching invasive plants and animals and take over pristine habitat – game cards taught them more facts about how invasive species are dispersed and what we can do to prevent further

ecosystem disruption in the future.

During Forest Thursdays at Boys & Girls Club of the Umpqua

Valley, students are building bird boxes to put out in the club’s garden this spring. At Lincoln Middle School’s Trail Tuesdays, the students are currently studying erosion, human impacts and plant life cycles. We are beginning to analyze data that were gathered in the fall to make decisions about how to improve the health of the school’s nature trail. Last week the 6th graders went bird watching and identified 12 different species right in the school’s backyard!

Do you know any outdoor-minded youth between the ages of 9 and 17 who would enjoy a weekend camping in the woods? Our annual Twin Lakes Youth Wilderness Camp Out is taking place July 24th-26th, 2020. Ages 12-17 are welcome unaccompanied and ages 9-11 are welcome with an adult chaperone. The weekend will include hiking, swimming, exploring and fireside chats about astronomy, botany and wildlife biology! Contact our office for more information and an application. \$25 fee covers food, transportation and supplies.

To learn more about our education programs, visit our



website, read my Education-AmeriCorps blog and come see my presentation at our annual Banquet on April 4th at Umpqua Community College.

The Slow Grind for *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*... Stan Petrowski

Most of you will recall that Umpqua Watersheds has partnered with the Native Fish Society and the Center for Biological Diversity to submit a petition for the listing of Oregon's Spring Chinook under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The process is a long and arduous one; requiring many months of preparation. Before submitting the petition, our collaborative had to meet specific procedural criteria. Notifications to various State and Federal agencies, Tribal governments and political offices was only one phase of the submission process. Upon receiving the petition, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) requires a 90 day review of the petition itself in an effort to determine if further consideration is to follow.

As a result of your concern for our spring Chinook, Umpqua Watersheds is pleased to announce that our hard work and due diligence has moved potential and actual protections for this species a little closer to the needed listing. NMFS found that listing Oregon spring chinook as threatened or endangered may be warranted, based on threats from logging, overfishing and low streamflow and they will initiate a scientific status review and take public comment before making a final decision on whether they warrant protection under the ESA. Such a decision by the agency is never taken lightly. It is a major hurdle to get past this initial assessment and progress to the status review.

On our part, the process is too slow. Drought and degraded habitat is taking a serious toll on this once abundant and now rare keystone species. Nevertheless we must play by the rules and follow procedural timelines. NMFS will soon announce a comment period that allows for all stakeholders to give their input. We'll keep you posted. In the meantime, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) released its annual fishing regulations for this year. We were very concerned that in spite of low return numbers for Spring Chinook, the new regulations were going to allow each angler to catch 10 wild Spring Chinook this year (two per day), five from the

main stem of the Umpqua river and 5 from the North Fork of the Umpqua river.

Had the regulations remained as they were published it could have been a tragic loss to our ecosystems. I received a call from ODFW soon after the regulations were sent out and was informed that the agency had reconsidered. There will be no retention of wild Spring Chinook from the main stem of the Umpqua river this year!! Mind you, there will still be losses. Poaching is a serious problem. Another

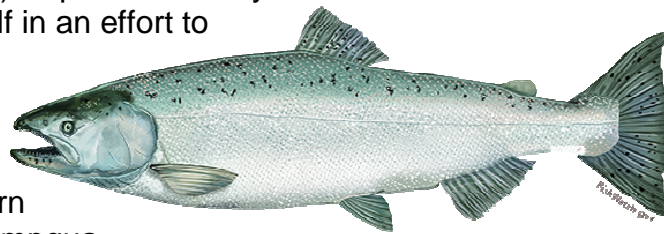
issue is related to "catch and release" mortality. Up to 10% of the fish caught and released will die as a result of stress or physical injury. On top of that, the printed and released

regulations do not show the change of regulations. The limit of catch on the main stem is long overdue. We're grateful for the agency's decision.

Beaver Magic

We attended the annual ODFW Beaver Work Group meeting a couple of weeks ago. It's fantastic that Oregon is awakening to the importance of the State animal. Two presentations given by the City of Portland and the City of Gresham illustrating their forward thinking response to beaver ecosystems and urban infrastructure was nothing short of amazing. New discoveries are being made, frequently shedding light on the benefits of beaver on water supplies. The City of Portland is partnering with the Portland Zoo and the BLM to construct a beaver holding facility when the impact of beaver on infrastructure cannot be resolved. The facility is located at the zoo and will be used to quarantine beaver during the process of relocation.

The City of Gresham spent 2.5 million dollars to build a storm water facility that treats industrial run off. To their amazement the facility didn't function properly until beaver moved in and reconfigured runoff flows by creating dams and



a lodge! A 14 year test result showed that 7 years without beaver didn't filter the water at all. Pollutants going in and going out were about the same. Following that the genius of beaver as ecosystem engineers was allowed to reconfigure the channeled swale. The result was chemical pollutants such as pesticides and heavy metals were completely removed from the facility's outlet. Beaver forced the storm water to be filtered through the swale. Nothing short of amazing.



Umpqua Watersheds, in cooperation with a newly formed State wide coalition of beaver advocates, is planning on establishing a beaver task force. As the current leader of the Umpqua Basin Beaver Working Group, we hope to train and perhaps officially certify a group of individuals from the Umpqua watersheds region to respond to emergency calls related to purported beaver damage. Our ultimate goal with this team will be to educate landowners on ways to interface with beaver and as a last result actually relocate beaver to avoid lethal management. If you or someone you know is interested in participating in such training please contact me at stanley@umpquawatersheds.org. If you can't actively participate in the response team project, please consider donating funds to the Umpqua Watersheds' Restoration Committee. We will use your donation to equip volunteers with training and equipment to avoid the killing of beaver and to assist challenged landowners to adapt to nature's interventions. Make your donation noted for the restoration committee specifically.

CONSERVATION UPDATE.. DIANA PACE

Elliott State Forest

The Elliott State Forest (ESF) is 93,000 acres of the Central Oregon coast range and the only significant state owned old growth forest in Oregon. Oregon State University (OSU) and the College of Forestry are in negotiations with the state for the future management direction of the ESF. In December 2019, the State Land Board, OSU, conservation and other organizations met in Salem and Reedsport where



Geoff Huntington and Jenna Stillman of OSU presented the Elliott State Research Forest Guiding Principles Draft Plan. Coast Range Forest Association, Coos Watershed Association, Audubon, Trout Unlimited, Local Coos Tribe and Umpqua Watersheds expressed their concerns, questions and priorities in a harmonious and in depth discussion on the Plan.

Areas of concern were: 1) forest, water, fish and wildlife health; 2) carbon sequestration, research and experimental design; 3) recreation; 4) setting land aside for protection and 5) thinning. The community



organizations recommended that the college use a diverse and interdisciplinary research advisory committee integrated with other university departments using the best science for environmental stewardship and best logging practices. The conservation groups expressed opposition to any aerial spraying.

The meeting outcome and discussions were relayed to OSU Dean Davis by Mr. Huntington where he responded with answers to the areas of concern and interest. In the Research Forest Proposal and Management Plan being developed by OSU, the organizations are asking for a commitment to protect old growth and mature forests and use of the forest to sequester, mitigate and store carbon. OSU plans more meetings and discussions with the organizations.

Blue and Gold Roseburg BLM Timber Sale

On January 6, 2020, six members of Umpqua Watersheds joined Cascadia Wildlands on a trip to field



check the timber sale near Tyee. Local UW associated participants consisted of a former BLM wildlife biologist, a fisheries expert, a wildlife biologist extremely familiar with the area, and members of the wilderness committee. **BLM provided no scoping notice, public hearing, hike or open house.** We field checked as many of the sale units as we could along Yellow Creek, Little Canyon Creek and Bear Creek and sent comments to the BLM. We found steep rocky sites, degraded waterways, Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) habitat, and adjoining degraded private lands with large clear-cuts.

Three priority issues were presented in the field check report to the BLM.

1. This land is abused and degraded due to the checkerboard ownership pattern and the cumulative impacts from clearcutting and extensive road systems.
2. Historic NSO nest sites are in the proposed harvest area and immediate vicinity.
3. A huge stream restoration investment project was made in Yellow Creek in the past and this sale would add to the cumulative negative effects on restoration in the area creeks and on watersheds that are clearly impacted with roads and clear-cuts.

On the field trip was Janice Reid, a retired Wildlife Biologist and UW board member. She has studied the NSO in this area for over 30 years. The project area has known NSO nest sites and Janice sent detailed information and comments about this sale to the BLM. The checkerboard ownership pattern has in the past, and continues to this day, resulted in the removal of available high quality NSO habitat on private land. A NSO State designated core area is now located on the list of units in the sale. Janice reports that the USFWS was not consulted by the private company when the core area for the owl site was designated and the private land immediately surrounding the BLM owl site was harvested. Consultation with the USFWS is required under the ESA and does not occur very often. Janice also points out that the lack of communication among agencies is detrimental to management of natural resources in the checkerboard ownership lands. Janice further pointed out that removal of known NSO nesting sites is “take” and is in violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. In 1991, just after the NSO population was listed under the Endangered Species Act as Threatened, Judge William Dwyer described forest management activities as “A deliberate and systematic failure of administration officials and federal agencies to maintain a viable population.” Thirty years later, we are seeing the same thing.

According to Francis Eatherington, former UW Conservation Chair, this area adjoins the 1997 “Diamond Back” Sale that UW appealed, won and blocked. Yellow Creek Ridge has huge trees that could be over 400 years old. I put in a call to Roseburg BLM for an update and am waiting to hear back. I will keep you posted.

BANQUET DONATION REPLY FORM

Umpqua Watersheds is a community based organization with a focus to protect and restore the Umpqua River and the watershed through strong conversation values. The financial support required from our friends and supporters goes towards our continued effort. The 25th Anniversary of Umpqua Watersheds will be celebrated at our annual Banquet and Silent Auction event **Saturday, April 4th, 2020**. The Silent Auction continues to grow each year with charitable donations from individuals and businesses. Any item or service for the auction helps us with the costs of operation, services and putting on great events. Donating money contributes to our financial success. Many people share their time and energy to make this evening a success.

Umpqua Watersheds is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the ecosystems of the Umpqua Watershed and beyond through education, training, and advocacy. Our AmeriCorps continues to provide science based classes to our local youth. Our radio station, KQUA 99.7, continues with weekly talk shows and excellent musical programming. Our Board of Directors continue to be diligent on local forest and watershed issues and our committee chairs keep the organization humming along. We are able to continue because we have you, our friends and supporters, to thank for your continued support.

Umpqua Watersheds Gift Donation Guidelines

Umpqua Watersheds is grateful to accept your donation to use in our fundraising activities. The largest need for donated items is our upcoming silent auction at our Annual Banquet on April 4th, 2020. We also have a need for items at other events throughout the year to use for raffle drawings, door prizes, or volunteer recognition awards. By contributing a donation, you acknowledge our discretion to use your gift in the way most beneficial to Umpqua Watersheds.

YES! I would love to help Umpqua Watersheds by...

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Please have someone from UW contact me to pick-up this item ____.

I will deliver this item to the UW office in person ____, by mail ____.

Donating the enclosed check or money order in the amount of \$ _____

Name: _____ Business name: _____

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****Please provide promotional information (bio, flyer, or business card) if you would like that displayed with your donation. You can email your logo, etc. to uw@umpquawatersheds.org.**

Thank you for your generous contribution! We thank you for your continued support of our work.

Umpqua Watersheds is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization. EIN 93-1165587
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