



# 100 Valleys

A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc  
An Oregon 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit

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Issue #50

## Ms. Haws Goes To Washington

After the BLM's Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR) was withdrawn because it was "legally indefensible", Douglas Timber Operators, Carpenters Industrial Council, C&D Lumber, Seneca Jones Timber Company, and Swanson Group Manufacturers filed suit against the BLM challenging their withdrawal of WOPR. Industry lobbyists and local politicians continue to pressure our congressional delegation to increase logging. This has led our legislators to enlist the services of Dr. Norm Johnson from the College of Forestry at OSU and Dr. Jerry Franklin from School of Forest Resources at the Univ. of Washington to develop a plan to log in a more ecologically appropriate way.

For this effort, Drs. Johnson and Franklin produced a document entitled, *Applying Restoration Principles on BLM O&C Forests in Southwest Oregon*, 30 November, 2010. In it they state that the BLM forests must conserve and restore ecological conditions while at the same time sustaining local communities. The rationale presented is that a sustained community is one that supports the current mills and skilled infrastructure.

We appreciate Drs. Johnson and Franklin's willingness to get out there into the reality of science on the ground and into the social-political landscape. We believe they are sincere when they say that their primary goal is forest restoration and not timber extraction. However, UW believes that before starting to "restore" our forests, we must have dialogue on what a restored forest should look like, and ensure that all of the ecosystem components and functions are present in their historic abundance.

### The Social-Economic Set-up:

As I write this, I am returning from Washington D.C. via Amtrak after having represented UW and our community at a meeting to develop a "collaborative" process to work out the social, scientific and ecological issues associated with logging on federal lands. Along with politicians, agency personnel and representatives from our sister conservation organizations, six Douglas Co. timber industry people attended. Paul Beck of Herbert Lumber was allowed to be a panel presenter. He told all of the people in power that the Timber Industry represents the community of Douglas County (e.g. they own the economic infrastructure), and that environmentalists are

threatening our way of life.

Folks, we need to take back our community.

Specifically, we need to communicate our vision of a bio-regional economy that seeks to restore and maintain all of our natural resources rather than exploiting them for short-term economic gain. The Industry's economic model is dependent upon continual growth and constant consumption at higher levels in order to grow larger and compete in a world market. This leaves degraded forests and struggling families in the wake of inevitable boom and bust economics.

The Industry has chosen this path, but that does not mean Our community, Our public forests should have to be a servant to it. We must seek the implementation of a different model that gives incentive to establish a relationship with the natural world that seeks a stable means of value-added production for regional uses while at the same time restoring ecosystem functions.

### The Pilot Plan:

This process is to be facilitated by the Udall Foundation, an independent executive branch agency established in 1992 to address environmental conflict resolution. I have confidence that these facilitators will give us an open rather than a controlled process so that we can build needed respect and trust.

There will be two pilot watershed projects that will serve as a model to expand to the entire District and potentially the region. Norm Johnson has proposed the Myrtle Creek 5th field watershed which encompasses North, South and main Myrtle Creek all the way up to its headwaters and to its mouth on the South Umpqua. The process starts by considering Johnson and Franklin's "principles" and works through an 18-month collaboration process open to all who are willing to make the commitment with the idea that BLM will treat stands to:

- Reserve existing older forests and individual old trees found in younger stands using a threshold age;
- Continued ecologically based thinning in plantations
- Initiate regeneration harvests in plantations and other younger forest stands utilizing variable retention silviculture

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## Our Mission

*Dedicated to the protection and restoration of the ecosystems of the Umpqua Watershed and beyond.*

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# From the Executive Director

## Our Forest, Our Legacy

Which will it be?

A) Secretary Salazar forces a WOPR II

OR

B) Salazar Leads Effort to Restore Our BLM Forest Legacy

If you saw the Sunday December 12th News Review on the spotted owl you understand how critical Umpqua Watersheds voice is in representing our community. We bring science and we bring our social and economic voice right from the beginning of every one of these efforts again and again as others seek to exploit our public forests, squandering our natural resources in the name of market competition and expansion so as to out compete others in a world market and grow a bigger company. Our voice of conscience and reason does not get heard without us at every table, every forum, field trip, and when necessary demonstration en masse, in courage, standing up for the legacy we unconditionally give as a gift to our community and children.

Umpqua Watersheds and our tremendous dedicated volunteers worked long and hard this year to earnestly and proactively do the right things from the start on many project fronts so as to avoid going to court and having judgments that are more spin than science. We have placed a major focus in working in the Roseburg BLM's Collaborative. We made sure that all of the science was, and continues to be, allowed in the room as it should be. The ecosystem is far too complex to have just one or two scientists running the show. They support this and we appreciate them because of it. Rather, like the old story of The Elephant and the Blind Men, we touch a different part and therefore we must bring in all.

As part of the BLM collaborative process we had to upright concepts of forest restoration that were couched in science but mixed with social economic values and beliefs that created myth. We reviewed these "principles" and saw them on the ground being applied to the Umpqua Basin, discussed them and went to the field to see the stands with our new Science Advisory Council and found that we could not support the principles or applications as proposed. However, recognizing that these were meant to be starting points upon which to have the dialog, open to review and reality checks we think this effort could lead to understandings and perhaps acceptable results. This collaborative process has been very time consuming and now there is another one proposed for 2011 with the entire Department of the Interior (and USFS watching closely) hoping to use the pilot collaborative for another run at the Western Oregon Plan Revisions(WOPR).

Come to the Banquet and hear all about this. Members of our Science Advisory Council will be with us. I will be there to tell you more about my experiences in Washington D.C. important work that you can help us do, and what this means for us. We will be remembered for making the hard decisions right now that ensure *Our Forest, Our Legacy*.

*Cindy Haws, Executive Director of Umpqua Watersheds*

SAVE THE DATE

**15th Annual Banquet  
& Silent Auction**

**Saturday, February 12th 2011**

UCC Campus Center

# Conservation

## Fifteen Years of Collaboration in the Belly of the Beast

The history of involvement in “collaborative” groups by representatives of Umpqua Watersheds began in the early 1980s and continues to the present. We have invariably chosen to be at the table, no matter how badly tilted, rather than to sit on the sidelines have no influence on the outcome of the deliberations at that table.

There have been successes and shipwrecks, but we’ve learned from both, and remain committed to engaging the broader community to further scientifically sound management of our public lands. What follows is a brief record of the trials and errors of that journey.

In the early 1990s, we were involved in an informal group that included the 2 biggest timber companies in the Umpqua, a USFS District Ranger and Susan Morgan, now a Douglas County commissioner. Although we met for a year, this effort failed to produce any breakthroughs.

We were again at the table during the Umpqua Land Exchange Project, an attempt to arrange land swaps between the federal agencies and willing private owners. After 3 years of meetings and hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars, the project only served to enrich an OSU engineering professor, and promises to the community were broken.

A notable success in collaborative ventures was the formation of the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council (now the Partnership for Umpqua Rivers). During the negotiations with Governor Kitzhaber and local stakeholders, we held out for important procedural safeguards (like consensus decision-making) that allowed the council to thrive and grow into one of the most effective stakeholder groups in the state. We have had continuous representation on this council, and one of our board members currently chairs this group.

In an attempt to demonstrate our willingness to develop real ecological restoration solutions and to support local communities in the process, our members have also been engaged in a collaborative forest restoration project within Umpqua National Forest late successional reserves plantation stands. Partnering with the South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership (chaired by one of our board members) and the Lomakatsi Restoration Project, we demonstrated on the ground, with a group of project trained ecoforesters, practical forest restoration through stewardship contracts with the Forest Service. Despite resis-

tance by agency personnel and meddling by local industry hacks, there are now some beautifully restored forests on the Umpqua, and we stand ready to do more.

We were at the table 3 years ago for the formation of the Douglas County Forest Council, convened by Douglas County Commissioner Joe Laurance. After two years of attempting to create a true collaborative process, the conservation community walked away from that table after it became clear that our presence only served to “greenwash” the same old get-the-cut-out agenda.

Most recently, Umpqua Watersheds was well represented



Drs. Jerry Franklin and Norm Johnson on BLM Collaborative field trip. UW Board Members Stan Petrowski and Thomas McGregor in the foreground.

on the Roseburg BLM’s Collaborative Forestry Pilot, designed to bring stakeholders into the scoping process much earlier than usual. Because of the biological expertise and persistence of Umpqua Watersheds along with that of our regional partners, new, more ecological sensitive alternatives for thinning in several Coast Range second growth stands are being proposed in their NEPA documents.

Although the BLM collaborative has concluded, two new “tables” are being proposed that will need our participation.

The first comes as an outgrowth of the BLM collaborative and proposes to build a stakeholder group modeled on the successful local watershed

council that will take on issues outside the riparian areas where no collaboration currently exists. A small group of committed conservationists, agency personnel and other stakeholders are beginning the political groundwork to bring that important collaborative to fruition.

The second is much more immediate, and represents both a threat and an opportunity for the forests of the Umpqua.

In August 2009, eminent forest scientists Norm Johnson and Jerry Franklin proposed a set of ecological principles for restoring “moist” and “dry” forests in Oregon. Recently, they flagged several stands in southwest Oregon – including 4 stands on the Umpqua – based on those ideas. They then lead field trips that were well attended by UW forest and wildlife ecologists, our policy experts, and those of our sister organizations

We applaud their willingness to wade into the fray (including politics, steep slopes and poison oak), and we believe them when they say that their primary goal is not extraction but forest restoration. However, we suggest that



# Conservation Cont

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before starting to “restore” our forests, we need to have more dialogue on what exactly we think they should look like when we’re done.

The reality is, with climate change, extinctions, catastrophic industrial logging and exotic species invasions, no amount of management can bring the quilted forests of the Umpqua back to their pre-Euroamerican conditions. But we can make management decisions based on the historic range of variability of local ecosystem patterns and processes through time. We believe a deep knowledge of the influences of past and present climatic and cultural forces on local forest ecosystems is essential before moving forward with any broad scale restoration efforts.

Umpqua Watersheds has completed a draft reconstruction of the historical ecology of the ~130,000 acre Little River watershed, a major tributary to the North Umpqua River. Using over 4000 tree ring counts sampled in 180 plots collected for two Oregon State University-directed studies, Current Vegetation Survey data, aerial and satellite imagery, historic images and documents, and recorded archaeological sites, we conducted a GIS analysis to document the patterns of the Aboriginal, Euro-agrarian and Industrial footprints on the landscape.

A key finding of this study is that local forests experienced numerous, frequent, mixed-severity fires that maintained a patchwork of multi-age, structurally diverse stands interspersed with savannas and open parklands. The massive conversion of so many of these diverse forests to highly flammable, even-aged monocultures has moved the current landscape well outside of the range of historic extremes of both structure and function.

These findings and other recent research leads us to the conclusion that the Johnson/Franklin approach ignores too much of the unique diversity of Umpqua forests at both stand and landscape levels by a) dividing all of the forests of Oregon into two only types (moist and dry), b) prescribing too much heavy thinning in mature native forests, c) paying minimal attention to dead wood recruitment critical for wildlife, d) concentrating on stand-level restoration without factoring in the landscape-level effects of industrial management, e) overestimating the danger of wildfire to forests and the wildlife they support, and f) relying too much on chainsaws and not enough on fire itself to remodel Umpqua forests.

While we agree that the myriad tree plantations across the landscape are in need of restoration work, we believe that the knowledge gaps in our understanding of wildlife responses to proposed management activities in mature stands are too great, and that not enough local expertise has been called on to fashion site-specific treatments. Therefore, we believe that more analysis of the most current research, and further experimentation in local forests needs to be done before wide-scale restoration is undertaken, particularly where the responses of Northern Spotted Owls relative to the invading Barred Owl are concerned.

Umpqua Watersheds’ experienced scientists, technical advisors and policy analysts will be demanding a place at

this new table, and we’ll be bringing our wealth of local knowledge with us to collaboratively shape the restoration of our damaged watersheds.

*Ken Carloni, UW President of the Board of Director*

## **DBug Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project**

In November, Umpqua Watersheds, Inc., along with many other conservation groups, objected to the B Bug Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project. A brief summary of our objection was:

1. We objected to the all of the commercial harvest areas proposed in potential wilderness areas. We also objected to the commercial harvests proposed in areas proposed by Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. in the recent Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal.
2. We objected to the commercial harvest areas and road building proposed in the inventoried Thirsty Creek roadless area, the roadless area north of Crater Lake National Park, and the roadless area between highway 138 and the OCRA/Mt Thielsen Wilderness. The FEIS failed to accurately disclose and assess the ecological effects of logging on unique features of unroaded and roadless areas.
3. We objected to the amount of new temporary road construction (8.1 miles). It is excessive, and even though the roads may be obliterated after logging, they could easily become unauthorized ATV trails. The same holds true for the proposed use of unclassified roads and trails for logging access (16 miles).
4. The D-Bug Project does not meet the requirements of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act.
5. The project failed to accurately disclose and assess the effects of logging on spotted owls (and fishers which use similar habitat).
6. We believe the need to amend the forest plan for visual management is indicative of the objectionable commercial harvest planned for this highly valued recreational area.

Umpqua Watersheds supports a reasonable effort to reduce fuels around buildings and evacuation routes, however this project goes too far and does not properly harmonize the need for fuel reduction with the need to restore wildlife habitat, protect riparian areas, work with (instead of against) natural processes, and follow the forest plan. We would like to see this project modified to focus on the highest priority fuel treatments near buildings and evacuation routes while avoiding or minimizing adverse impacts from commercial logging in inventoried roadless areas, hundreds of meters distant from roads, native forests outside the WUI, and in riparian reserves and spotted owl habitat.

The Forest Service is currently in talks with conservation groups attempting to seek resolution to the many objections.

*Chris Rusch, UW Board of Director  
and Chair of the Conservation Committee*

## DBug Numbers

A brief description of the preferred alternative includes:

- 30-32.5 mmbf
- Variable density thinning on 3634 acres of lodgepole pine leaving 30-70 tpa (10% skips, and openings up to 40 acres)
- Commercial thinning on 1332 acres of lodgepole-mixed conifer leaving 50-200 tpa;
- Commercial thinning on 1500 acres of mixed conifer leaving 50-200 tpa;
- 42 acres of commercial treatment in the Mt Bailey Inventoried Roadless Area;
- 285 acres of lodgepole salvage logging
- 2096 acres of non-commercial fuel removal (329 acres in Inventoried Roadless Area);
- 2022 acres of potential biomass removal;
- 16 miles of old roads re-used (less than half obliterated afterwards);
- 8.1 miles of new temporary roads;
- 4.7 miles road renovation;
- 1,472 total acres of mixed conifer forest that provides spotted owl nesting, roosting, foraging habitat will be degraded to dispersal habitat retaining 41% canopy cover (i.e., 1,140 acres of commercial logging and 332 acres of non-commercial logging); Logging will “take” 21 spotted owls
- 68 acres of commercial logging and 306 acres of non-commercial treatments extending up to 1,000 feet into the Mt Bailey IRA. Also, danger trees along approximately 2.4 miles of Road 4795 would be cut, sold and removed from the IRA.
- 1,061 acres of commercial logging and 5.6 miles of temp road in mixed conifer, suitable habitat for the Pacific fisher;
- 217 acres commercial logging more than 1,000 feet into “the triangle” — a potential wilderness area adjacent to Crater Lake NP; plus 16 acres of commercial logging in potential wilderness connected to Mt. Bailey; and 51 acres of commercial logging and 1.67 miles of new temp road in potential wilderness connected to the OCRA.
- 400 acres of commercial logging and 2.81 miles of new temporary roads in other proposed wilderness (not recognized by the FS) mostly SW and NE of Lemolo Junction;
- 500 acres of big game winter range would have cover reduced to 41%;
- 546 acres of optimal marten habitat downgraded (12% of the forest-wide total);
- 564 acres of visual corridors along hwy138, and 114 acres along hwy 230, would be degraded by logging;
- LRMP amendments:
  - Weaken visual objectives and allow more logging along hwy 230 and hwy 138;
  - Weaken protection and allow more logging in MA-1 (e.g., lodgepole in the triangle);
  - Weaken protection and allow more logging in MA-2 around Diamond Lake and Lemolo Lake

### Learn More:

Go to [www.umpqua-watersheds.org](http://www.umpqua-watersheds.org) and click on the DBug link on the left of the page.

## Ms. Haws Goes To Washington Cont.

ture to provide early successional communities

### The “Science” Set-up:

Drs. Johnson and Franklin have come up with a restoration strategy that attempts to produce logs in an ecological viable way. They have developed “principles” based on their concepts of “ecological forestry”. While they make an earnest effort to apply a forestry strategy to determine if treatments could provide restoration to satisfy the timber industry, we believe that they missed some important ecological principles, and that their land characterizations and thinning intensities in particular need further review and examination by independent scientists.

For example, their strategy trumps our tremendous forest diversity into two types, **moist and dry** based solely on the types of plant associations currently growing there. We believe that this division is far too simplistic, and that a more scientifically credible way of delineating stands would be one based on disturbance history. Moreover, we believe that they have lumped too much intermediate “mesic” forest (the type that is particularly abundant on the Umpqua) into the dry category.

We can’t help but be suspicious about this push to categorize forests as “dry” because the Northwest Forest Plan allows for more management leeway in dry forests including old growth reserves.

There are a number of other issues including the true risks to stands from fire, pests and climate change, the effects of thinning regimes on rare species like Spotted Owls, and the process by which decisions will be made. Also troubling is the apparent resistance of private industry to bring any of their forests (the most productive in Oregon) to the table. These and other issues will be addressed in a report that is now being prepared by Umpqua Watersheds’ staff, advisors and board members.

History has left us little public trust and the degradation our forest legacy. This pilot proposal presents an opportunity to work through all of the moving parts to attain a greater understanding of the interrelationships between forests and the communities they nurture. Rest assured that UW will be involved in every step of the process in our efforts to **protect the best and restore the rest**. We are deeply grateful for your continued support as we continue to advocate for the healthy ecosystems necessary to support healthy communities.

*Cindy Haws, Executive Director of Umpqua Watersheds*

## Save a tree! GO PAPERLESS

Visit [umpqua-watersheds.org](http://umpqua-watersheds.org) and sign up for our

Umpqua-News e-mail list.

Then email us at [uw@umpqua-watersheds.org](mailto:uw@umpqua-watersheds.org) and let us know that you prefer an electronic newsletter!

# Conservation

# Restoration

## The Fight to Stop LNG

Umpqua Watersheds has been lending a hand in opposing the proposed Jordan Cove LNG terminal and connecting 36 inch, 234-mile Pacific Connector Pipeline. The proposal is to import natural gas from Pacific Rim markets (the largest being Russia), ship it in liquid form to Coos Bay, re-gasify it, and sent it on through a pipeline to primarily the California market. If built, the Pacific Connector would cross four National Forests, including the Umpqua, and two BLM districts.

**Updates:** The impacts of the proposed Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline are so great to the Northern Spotted Owl and to forest soils that the project is not allowed under the current Northwest Forest Plan. The plan would have to be amended to allow the project to go forward. The Forest Service already went through the scoping process for public comments on these amendments last July 2009. The BLM has yet to complete theirs. Both the BLM and Forest Service expect to combine their request for plan amendments in one NEPA document. It's very important both agencies receive hundreds of comments opposing these changes. We'll keep you posted and offer talking points when public comments are being accepted.

Coming up in February we expect legislation similar to the "LNG Fast Track bill", which was already defeated twice, to show up again when the new Oregon Legislator meets. This bill would allow private companies to apply for permits on private land without landowner consent, or even landowner knowledge. This is a clear assault to property owners across the state. While the primary motivation behind the bill is to speed up the LNG pipeline permitting process, this would change the permitting process for many projects in the future.

*Diane Phillips*

## TAKE ACTION

To stop this legislation, call your State Representative and tell them what you think. No one should be allowed to apply for permits on your property without your knowledge. No private company should be allowed to take private property (or impact the Umpqua's wild resources) for profit when clearly there is no public need or benefit.

### Look to Attend:

"No LNG" Rally on the capitol steps in Salem in March 2011. Buses will be available from Douglas County.

**Learn More:** Contact Monica at [monicaLvaughan@gmail.com](mailto:monicaLvaughan@gmail.com) or (541) 521-1832 or visit [WeAgreeNoLNG.org](http://WeAgreeNoLNG.org) or [NoCaliforniaPipeline.com](http://NoCaliforniaPipeline.com) for updated information.

## A Creature Whose Time Has Come: The Beaver

Critical aquatic habitats are disappearing at a rapid pace. This is occurring just when we have become increasingly aware that anywhere from 50% to 80% of endangered species of North America are associated with wetlands. Climate change and urbanization encroach relentlessly on this type of ecologically foundational biosystem.

Nature regarded these habitats as jewels of the landscape: centers of life and biological activity from which the spokes from the wheel of sustainability spring forth. She also set a sentinel to guard and maintain these precious focal points. The beaver.

Castor Canadensis, the beaver, is a keystone species designated as an ecological engineer associated with wetland habitat. This species has done its work of maintaining reservoirs of precious water in the watershed for so long that countless species depend on them. We all know that dams have taken a great toll on our environment. Yet this humble animal has perfected its skills in such an ingenious way so as to sustain life through its dam building water impounding ability. Indeed, at one point in the history of continental North America, literally millions of beavers inhabited the landscape. Their beneficial dam building and riparian management activities could be seen everywhere from deserts to rich coastal estuaries. The once overflowing abundance and complexity of fish, mammals, insects, birds etc. discovered here were directly related to these developers and guardians of ponds. The decline of this keystone species is directly related to the decline of many other species.

Nothing frustrates the human race more than nature persistently getting in its way. Beavers are experts of doing just that. For that reason the beaver is currently designated as a nuisance species. It is in fact marked as a predator in Oregon, the Beaver State! With that status applied to them, they can be trapped and/or shot without repercussions by government agencies. In my opinion, we are shooting ourselves in the foot.

Forward thinkers are taking notice, however. Billions of dollars are being spent in the Western United States alone to do stream and aquatic habitat restoration. The beaver does this task very well. If some of those billions of dollars were spent educating and equipping us to interface with these guardians of our watersheds, great harmony and abundance would return to our life supporting wet zones.

Millions have lived without love. Nothing lives without water. Let's learn to live with Castor canadensis.

*Stanley Petrowski, UW Board of Director  
and Chair of the Restoration Committee*

## COME JOIN US!

State of the Beaver 2011 conference February 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 2011. It will again be held at the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians Convention Center in Canyonville, Oregon. Contact and information are available at [beavers@surcp.org](mailto:beavers@surcp.org).

# The Umpqua Lamprey

Time can help us deceive ourselves. What we see today as the condition of ecological function in our environment tends to imprint upon us. We accept that what we see is the standard we should go by. I think that is one reason some cultures respect and honor their elders. They've been around long enough to see change and have it as a reference point instilled in their psyche. For that matter, one of the reasons wilderness areas are frequented by so many hikers of so many persuasions is because it is an ancient reference point of what once was and what could be again. When one of these time traveled points of reference are no longer available, removed by death or destruction, we lose a real piece of reality. Seeing, touching, smelling and interacting with our present reservoirs of the past connects us to what has been and makes us, as those who are growing older with time, repositories of what once was. Books are powerful and can be effective tools to preserve memories. But they are not as potent as personal experience is to embed in us the tangible sensation we bring into ourselves when we connect with the web of life. When some aspect of life slips away our world is simplified and diminished. Our perspective of the past becomes lost in time.

I am leading up to something of import here. Though the principles and elements I have articulated above may be applied to many aspects of the web of life. I would like to focus in particular on the Pacific Lamprey.

Can you imagine what it would be like to have lived in the Umpqua Basin as a Native American? What was in their world that is not currently a part of ours? Too much has changed.

Consider the possibility that eels (Lamprey) were a large part of your yearly diet. Imagine all of a sudden that the eels disappeared from the river system. It would shock you and perhaps send you on a quest to discover what had eliminated this mainstay of the tribe.

Now consider Europeans arriving and tending to spurn the lamprey as a food source. Though they surely were in the river system in abundance at the turn of the century, humanity began to lose touch with this species. The lamprey began to slip from our memories and from our lives. How many people do you know who miss the Umpqua River lampreys? In our present society the lamprey is considered of low economic, recreational or cultural value. For the most part, if they disappeared it would hardly be noticed. Should this important native fish be missed? Yes. We are just now learning the important value this species has in relation to other life forms associated with aquatic habitat systems. Ask most folks and they will tell you that lampreys are an ugly fish that kills salmon. But in fact many young salmonids, fish species and aquatic creatures of the Umpqua live on lamprey larva. Often you hear the complaint by fishermen that sea lions are a big cause of the demise of salmon runs. Who knew that sea lions prefer eating eels over salmon? Lampreys generally stay in the estuaries to hunt their prey; the perfect place for sea lions too.

In 1966 46,785 Pacific Lampreys passed of Winchester Dam on the North Umpqua River. In 2001 34 Lampreys

were counted at the Dam. Please read the previous sentence again. In less than 4 decades this vital component of the web of life in the Umpqua Basin river system has all but disappeared. I am fairly certain that the numbers of the lamprey in the South Fork are probably worse if they haven't been extirpated altogether.

Habitat degradation due to human impact with its attendant rise in water temperature, loss of critical stream geomorphic characteristics, poor water quality and diminished flows have all contributed to the loss of this important link in our world. We do not miss this fish because it is not a part of our cultural makeup. We do not depend on them to survive like our Native American brothers did. We think they are ugly but nature does not. They are not listed as threatened.

Do yourself and the world a favor. Touch, see and smell an Umpqua Eel and store some naturalist memories for the ones who follow after...if you can.

*Stanley Petrowski, UW Board of Director  
and Chair of the Restoration Committee*

## North Umpqua

We trail your winding pathways  
And ponder your timeless flow  
Your revel in the thunderstorm  
And gobble tiers of snow

Riparian wonders surround you  
Douglas Firs stand sentinel beside you  
Verdant moss drapes maple branches  
Sword ferns promenade your banks

From cascades to cascade  
Deep calls to deep  
Each flume a matchless sculpture  
Each rapid a swirl of mastered art

You Flow ever onward  
To meld with ocean brine  
And return in pearls of thunder  
Your strength surges with the tempest  
Your clear water stoked by mounds of snow

Larry Bogart



# Wilderness

## UW's Wild On Wilderness Committee moves forward with Oregon Wild & Environment Oregon in promoting the Crater Lake Wilderness Proposal

In early September, Oregon Wild's Wilderness Coordinator, Erik Fernandez, approached the WOW committee with a proposal to join forces in seeking final protection for thousands of acres in the Umpqua under the Crater Lake Wilderness proposal. The WOW committee and the Umpqua Watersheds board looked at the invitation from many different perspectives. Ultimately, it was decided to accept a partnership role in propelling the Crater Lake plan through the necessary hurdles as we approach our Congressional delegation.

WOW recognizes the advantages in joining Oregon Wild, (formerly Oregon Natural Resources Council) and Environment Oregon, in this proposal. Environment Oregon describes itself as a state-based, citizen-funded advocacy group working for a cleaner, greener, and healthier Oregon, with a membership of over 35,000. As a national icon, Crater Lake carries the recognition and ready appreciation from all Americans. While not all Americans know the significance and beauty of the Umpqua, through this wilderness proposal they will become acquainted with the Umpqua.

It would be politically difficult to argue against greater protection for our only National Park in Oregon, especially in view of the current threats to it and its adjacent lands. Logging operations planned for areas adjacent to Crater Lake National Parklands include the D-Bug Timber Sale and the Rainbow Salvage Timber Sale, as well as one on the Rogue River side, By-Bee Timber Sale. In addition to these threats, budget cuts for Crater Lake are having a deleterious effect. While one half million people visit Crater Lake, up from the past two years by 7%, funding for our National Park continues to plummet. Combined, these forces are impacting our park system with fewer park rangers, park programs, park keepers and important maintenance projects.

Although Crater Lake might serve as the focus of the publicity, 74 percent of Umpqua Watershed's original "Wild Umpqua Wilderness" proposal has been brought into the Crater Lake Wilderness proposal. Separately, many of our proposed wilderness areas overlapped, particularly those backcountry lands that bordered the Rogue Umpqua Divide Wilderness. With the merger, a hybrid proposal provides further advantages to the entire wilderness proposal. Important mid-elevation roadless areas included will protect critical linkages and connectivity for wildlife. Especially with scientific projections on the effects of global climate change for the Pacific Northwest that include the continuing loss of snowpack in the Cascades, longer spring and

autumnal seasons, milder winters, and disturbing fluctuations between droughts and periods of high precipitation, it becomes more apparent that we need to protect these important back country roadless areas. The importance of including these mid-elevation islands of remnant native forest are necessary for DNA distribution as migration patterns change. The resilience of our forest and her creatures to the changing climate is optimized through protection of these areas, in conjunction with the areas at the crown of the Cascades...in places like the additions to the Rogue Umpqua Divide Wilderness, Mt. Bailey and the Oregon Cascades National Recreation Area, an extremely scenic, and mostly roadless area.

The additional areas identified for inclusion into the Crater Lake Wilderness proposal include Bulldog Rock, Last Creek, and Donnegan Prairie, Calf Copeland with Twin Lakes, Bitterlick Creek, Mt. Bailey and more.

Other citizen groups are echoing the need to protect Crater Lake, the mother to the Umpqua. The nonprofit mountaineering, education and conservation group based in Oregon, the Mazamas, have stepped forward to endorse and applaud our wilderness proposal. John Rettig, Conservation Chair of the Mazamas was quoted as stating: "Whether it's budget cuts inside the park or threats to its surrounding habitat, it's time for Oregonians to stand up for Crater Lake." Recently, Fred Sproat of the U of O Outdoor Club, made a public plea to the Oregon's federal delegation to commit to protecting Oregon's most unique places, including our one National Park. Additionally, the Obama administration has prioritized our national parks with the "America's Great Outdoors Initiative". The Initiative aims to protect America's greatest places and reconnect Americans with the outdoors. This Initiative can only help to focus the light on our efforts for greater levels of protection for the National Park nearest and dearest to our backyard.

WOW sees the Crater Lake Wilderness as the first phase in a multi-phase commitment to protect the Umpqua. By working with Oregon Wild and Environment Oregon, we are enlisting the enthusiastic support from sister organizations. We are also setting the stage for the second phase, which will be wilderness wildlife survivability corridor in the Umpqua. As we garner the scientific and economic arguments that support our expanding wilderness protection to all of these and more remaining wild areas, we hope you will join us by contacting Susan Applegate, 541-849-3500, or by contacting Umpqua Watersheds, (541) 672-7065 to ask specifically to be put on our WOW list.

*Susan Applegate, Chair of Wild On Wilderness Committee*



### View the Wilderness Proposal Map

Go to [www.umpqua-watersheds.org](http://www.umpqua-watersheds.org) and click on the Wilderness button



# Education

## Members Hike Reopened McDonald Trail

Early last November, half a dozen UW members rediscovered all four miles of the McDonald Trail in the North Umpqua. This trail was recently reworked by Oregon Youth Conservation Corps members from Phoenix Charter School. They bucked many large trees which had fallen across the trail and redug all four miles of tread. The almost exclusively downhill hike featured large mushrooms bursting through the duff, grand vista viewpoints of the North Umpqua River, and at one point in the trail a rare stand of large old growth cedar. The trail is well-known to many hikers in the Umpqua for the McDonald Homestead 1.2 miles up-trail from the North Umpqua Trail. Remains of the cabin and many scattered antiquities can be found at the site. The upper trailhead can be accessed through a series of old logging roads connected to Panther Creek Road from Apple Creek Campground. Shuttling vehicles to the upper trailhead made the 2,200 ft loss in elevation during the hike a pleasant saunter. Please check the Umpqua Watersheds website for more upcoming hikes this spring.

*Thomas McGregor, UW Board of Director  
and Chair of the Education Committee.*



## Dues For News

Umpqua Watersheds will be updating our membership list in the near future. A number of you who have not renewed your membership have still been receiving courtesy copies. In order to make the best use of our member's generous contributions, we will be deleting non-paying supporters from our mailing list. To stay informed of conservation issues that threaten **YOUR** forests, please renew your membership today – we can't do it without you!

### Update Your Membership

Visit [www.umpqua-watersheds.org](http://www.umpqua-watersheds.org) and click the Donate Button  
Come by the UW Office and pick up a membership envelope.

## UW Gains Science and Wisdom from New Scientific Advisory Council

In mid-November, Umpqua Watersheds' newly formed Scientific Advisory Council met with board members and representatives from sister conservation organizations for a day in the field, an evening of good food and conversation, and a debriefing the following day at UCC. Organized by UW's Executive Director Cindy Haws, the S.A.C. comprises senior scientists who will keep us up-to-date on current research and provide seasoned insights to UW's board and staff.

With us in the field from Oregon State University were physiological ecologist Dr. Richard Waring, forest ecologist Dr. David Perry, and wildlife biology and leading authority on Northern Spotted Owls Dr. Eric Forsman. We were joined by fellow conservationists Doug Heiken from Oregon Wild, Dr. Chris Frissell and Kelly Crispen from Pacific Rivers Council, and Francis Eatherington from Cascadia Wild. From UW, Cindy was joined by board members Dr. Ken Carloni, John Patrick Quinn, Thomas McGregor, Chris Rusch and former board presidents Bob Allen and Penny Lind. Dr. Dennis Odion, a fire ecologist from Southern Oregon University, and Dr. Bob Anthony, a wildlife biologist also from OSU contributed by email but were unable to attend.

Our first day began with a general discussion of wildlife habitat and large wood recruitment, tree physiology and predicted responses to climate change, fire ecology forest dynamics, and current proposals for managing "moist" and "dry" forests. We then headed into the field to analyze and critique a "dry forest" stand east of Riddle that had been marked for thinning by Drs. Norm Johnson and Jerry Franklin (see Fifteen Years of Collaboration in this issue). Discussions during dinner that night and at UCC the following day were sobering but intrepid, and nothing short of inspirational.

The insights we gained from spending two days with leading scientists in the region proved invaluable as we formulate our response to new proposals for Spotted Owl recovery and forest restoration on the Umpqua. We are deeply indebted to these visionary experts for the time and thought they have invested in the stewardship of our 100 Valleys.

*Ken Carloni, UW President of the Board of Director*

# Watersheds Update

## New Energy at Umpqua Watersheds

### Courtney Gallimore

### Intern

Courtney has been with Umpqua Watersheds since August 2010 performing in an internship capacity as our Volunteer Coordinator. She has desired to be a Wildlife Biologist since she was five years old. She is currently in the process working towards a degree at UCC. She has said recently, "Working with everyone at the U.W. has been an awesome hand's on experience giving me a glimpse into what my career may be like. I think that the hardest part of what I do for them is finding all the information about people who have been there in the past in order to update the systems. Even though it is hard and sometimes frustrating, it is very rewarding." The best part with Courtney is we are assured we know whomever takes her place will have a much better system to interface since she has truly placed her heart in her internship with us. Thank you Courtney!!



### Cris Salazar

### Volunteer

Originally from San Jose, California, Cris moved to Roseburg in 1998 and has been here ever since. As a lifelong wildlife and outdoor enthusiast, he found the Umpqua Valley as a proven great place to live; providing excellent hiking, camping, and fishing opportunities. During the summer of 2010, he began volunteering for Umpqua Watersheds, participating in various efforts to begin restoring wetlands in the Tiller Ranger District. They identified numerous species of native and non-native plants, fish, amphibians and mollusks. Also he aided UW with ground-truthing in the Umpqua National Forest, helping to determine the present conditions of the roads, with the hopes of closing those near sensitive Wilderness Areas. During this time, Cris was able to gain some valuable field experience. And having recently received his Associate's Degree from UCC, he plans to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Science at OSU in the fall.



## Volunteers Needed

### What Can You Do To Help?

#### In the Office

Folding Parties, assisting with errands, filling newspaper clippings

#### In the Field

Collect field data and pictures, assist the conservation and restoration team in the field, Roadtruth, invasive species surveys

#### In Outreach

Lead or assist on a hike to your favorite spot, write an article for the 100Valleys, help plan for the concerts, forums, and other events

#### In a Committee

Help plan for the Banquet, River Day and Brewfest  
Join the Wild On Wilderness, Conservation, Restoration and Education committees

## Outside ► In; Corps of Advisors

Over the past 15 years, Umpqua Watersheds built its legacy and reputation as a nonprofit grassroots conservation organization. A group of skilled, talented and active volunteer advisors contributed to this community organization's success. Today, those valuable volunteers have become and remain active supporters.

This year, the Outside > In; Corps of Advisors was formally developed by the board to continue that important leadership contribution.

Umpqua Watersheds has developed the advisory body, separate from its board of directors, to gain input and support and to assure that decisions have been weighed from diverse perspectives.

Umpqua Watersheds depends on the advice of its Corps of Advisors to provide:

- Fresh intellectual perspectives
- Objectivity and balanced input
- Unparalleled cumulative experience
- Deep knowledge of Umpqua Watersheds and the ecosystems we protect.
- Support to further Umpqua Watersheds goals and objectives.

Umpqua Watersheds' 2010 Corps of Advisors are:  
Leslee Sherman, Finance  
Bob Allen, Historian  
Penny Lind, Nonprofit Leadership

SAVE THE DATE

## 25th Annual River Appreciation Day

Saturday, July 16th 2011

Whistlers Bend Park

# 1st Annual Umpqua Brew Fest a Great Success

Neither rain, nor cold, nor gloom of night, could keep Umpqua Watersheds from hosting the 1st Annual Umpqua Brew Fest at the Douglas County Fairgrounds! With great music, great food, and some of the finest regional microbreweries represented, our first foray into hosting this event was a great success. The event truly was, "all about the water" just as our posters so aptly stated!

Those in attendance were able to taste, smell, and hear a variety of beer, food and music that the Fairgrounds had not experienced in quite a while! Courtesy of the efforts of Chewie Burgess, Jim Ince, and Patrick Starnes, we had beers from over twenty microbreweries represented for people to sample. Food was provided and sold by local restaurants Anthony's Italian Cafe and Smokin' Fridays Barbeque, along with the Umpqua Watershed's own Richard Chasm barbequing oysters courtesy of the good folks at Umpqua Aquaculture, Inc. The musical acts ranged from traditional Irish, to jazz, to alternative rock, to funk-rock, to blues master and headliner, Terry Robb.

At one point during the late afternoon/early evening, attendance swelled to an estimated 800 people. The Umpqua Brew Fest Pilsner glasses proved to be a huge hit with the crowd, in that we only heard 2 break the entire evening! Along with the beer, food, and music, the crowd showed great interest in the information presented about our organization and what we are doing to preserve our watershed and wilderness areas. A great deal to those volunteers that sat behind the tables and answered questions, sold T-shirts, glasses, tokens, and raffle tickets. Also thanks to the WOW Committee for their wilderness display and involvement, and special thanks to volunteer Courtney Gallimore, for signing up many new members to join us in our cause!

Also, thanks needs to go to all the volunteers that helped to make this happen. Steve Bahr added a lot of keen insight as an amateur brewer and participant to many other brew fests; Sarah Davis, Virginia Elandt and Mary Oleri did a marvelous job of keeping the tokens flowing from sales to pourers and back. And to everyone else that helped in every aspect of the event...we could not have done it without you, and our thanks is deep and profound.

UW board President Ken Carloni said it best when he observed, "There are people here that I have never seen at any of our events before!" Next year we expect that will be said again! Keep the third weekend in September of 2011 open...the 2nd Annual Umpqua Brew Fest will be upon you!

*Walter Long III, UW Board of Director  
and Board Liaison to the Wild On Wilderness Committee.*

## It Takes a Village to Raise a Brew THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

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## Want to Sponsor Umpqua Brew Fest 2011?

Contact us 541.672.7065 or [uw@umpqua-watersheds.org](mailto:uw@umpqua-watersheds.org)



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15th Annual Banquet  
Our Forest, Our Legacy  
February 12th 2011

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