

CASCADIA QUARTERLY



Places like Devil's Staircase could become threatened under the new BLM forest plan revision. (Tim Giraudier)

Order Up: WOPR Jr. on the Plate of Oregonians

New BLM Forest Planning Process Underway

by Francis Eatherington, Conservation Director

Remember the WOPR (Western Oregon Plan Revisions), the Bush administration's scheme to increase logging on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land by 500%? Lucky for us, the Obama administration cancelled it, agreeing with our lawsuit and correctly noting that the agency did not go through proper consultation over impacts to Oregon's endangered wildlife that depends on our public forests.

Instead of forest planning under the WOPR, the BLM reverted back to the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan, a science-based regional strategy (including Forest Service land) that protects imperiled wildlife with a system of well-spaced reserves. About half of the

reserves were clearcut before they were set aside, so restoration thinning is allowed to help restore them. In fact, the BLM has been able to meet the Northwest Forest Plan's timber targets solely by thinning old clearcuts. The agency stopped pushing for clearcutting old growth several years ago due to increased concern over plummeting spotted owl populations and public resistance.

However, thinning in plantations does not yield as much revenue as clearcutting. With the end of federally appropriated county payments (which replaced timber receipts in 1995), there is great clamor as to how to ramp up logging on BLM lands to fund counties.

Cascadia WILDLANDS

we like it wild.

staff

Nick Cady

Legal Director

Sally Cummings

Operations Manager

Francis Eatherington

Conservation Director

Bob Ferris

Executive Director

Josh Laughlin

Campaign Director

Gabe Scott

Alaska Field Director

board of directors

Laura Beaton

Jeremy Hall, President

Paul Kuck

Lauren Padawer

Sarah Peters

Justin Ramsey

Tim Ream

Tim Whitley, Secretary

Steve Witten, Treasurer

advisory council

Kate Alexander

Amy Atwood

Jason Blazar

Ralph Bloemers

Susan Jane Brown

Alan Dickman, PhD

Jim Flynn

Timothy Ingalsbee, PhD

Megan Kemple

Pollyanna Lind, MS

Beverly McDonald

Lauren Regan, AAL

contact

PO Box 10455

Eugene, OR 97440

541.434.1463

info@CascWild.org

WWW.CASCWILD.ORG

A Final Farewell

from Executive Director Kate Ritley



“Goodbye” is probably my least favorite word in the English language. Saying goodbye to the amazing staff, board, volunteers, and supporters of Cascadia Wildlands is exceptionally difficult. This visionary organization, and the extraordinary people who work tirelessly to make that vision a reality, have been at the center of my life for the past seven years.

Together we have fought to protect endangered wolves and watched as they began to recover across Oregon. Together we defeated the Bush administration’s Western Oregon Plan Revisions, or WOPR, which would have opened up old-growth and streamside forest reserves to clearcutting. Together we launched campaigns to halt native forest destruction in Oregon’s McKenzie River watershed, protect Devil’s Staircase as Wilderness, end old-growth logging on the Elliott Rainforest, prevent oil spills in Alaska’s Copper River, restore the forests and salmon-bearing streams of Alaska’s Lost Coast, and much more. I am immensely proud to have been part of this truly righteous, effective, and powerful organization.

As hard as it is to say goodbye, it is with great pleasure that I introduce our new director, Bob Ferris. Bob has worked in the conservation movement for 30 years and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to Cascadia Wildlands. He is excited to continue Cascadia Wildlands’ long tradition of educating, agitating, and inspiring people to protect the wild ecosystems of our amazing region. Please join me in welcoming Bob and continuing to support the critical work Cascadia Wildlands will do in the years ahead.

Thank you for the great times we’ve had together, for your support and generosity, and for allowing me the great privilege of leading Cascadia Wildlands.

Kate

Cooking the Goose up the McKenzie

On May 7, Cascadia Wildlands, Oregon Wild and the Western Environmental Law Center filed a legal challenge against the Goose Project near McKenzie Bridge, OR, that would aggressively log 2,100 acres of forest, including in a potential wilderness area, in stream-side reserves and in endangered species habitat. The suit falls on the heels of months of passionate opposition to the project by local landowners, some who didn’t hear about the timber sale until trees boarding their properties were flagged. Stay tuned.

Big Energy's Bait and Switch

Jordan Cove Gas Headed for Export at Coos Bay

by Francis Eatherington, Conservation Director

In 2005 Jordan Cove Energy Project notified the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) it wanted to import natural gas into Coos Bay. To ship natural gas overseas it has to be compressed, or liquefied, and is called liquefied natural gas (LNG). To get the regassified LNG to market, Jordan Cove teamed up with a company called Pacific Connector to build a 230-mile long pipeline to the California border near Klamath Falls. Pacific Connector is owned, in part, by energy giant Veresen based in Alberta, Canada.

In December 2009 FERC completed studies for the import terminal, concluding that the United States needed to import natural gas. This gave Pacific Connector the power of eminent domain over hundreds of families living along the proposed pipeline route in southwest Oregon.

Years before 2009 it was clear that we didn't need to import natural gas. Our domestic supplies had been assured for the next hundred years due to the new (but polluting and controversial) "fracking" technology. Jordan Cove's not-so-hidden agenda was to export natural gas. But claiming we needed gas allowed Pacific Connector to receive a "certificate of public convenience and necessity," aka the power of eminent domain for the pipeline.

Then in September 2011 Jordan Cove announced they would export natural gas instead. Even though the scam was obvious, FERC decided they would not reconsider the pipeline, even with no public need for exporting gas. To make matters worse, a study by the Department of Energy found that our natural gas prices could rise by up to 54% when we start competing for gas on the world market. Locally, dredging of Coos Bay and building the pipeline through old-growth reserves would wreak havoc on the natural environment to facilitate the pipeline and movement of the gas.

Jordan Cove admits we need increased gas prices to "spur exploration and development of shale gas [fracking]." Our world is dying because we have explored and developed fossil fuels too much. But Jordan Cove insists: "The vast shale gas resource will support a much larger demand level than has heretofore been seen in North America."

Climate is global. It is not time to improve our energy infrastructure so Asia can burn our fossil fuels. We need to tell FERC "no," not in our back yard, not anywhere. Visit www.CascWild.org for more information on this campaign to halt the LNG terminal and pipeline in Coos Bay.

Dirty Coal Also Headed for Export at Coos Bay?

Global energy firms have their sights set on ports in Cascadia, including one in Coos Bay (same port as proposed LNG export terminal) to export coal mined from the Powder River Basin in southeastern Montana and northeastern Wyoming. Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber just spoke out publicly about the need to more broadly analyze the health, social and environmental costs associated with shipping US coal to Asia. Cascadia Wildlands is keeping an eye on this development.



PACIFIC LITTLENECK CLAM *Protothaca staminea*

The Pacific littleneck clam is native to Oregon, and one of its most essential spawning grounds is Coos Bay. The bay's sandy-rock muds provide protection and plenty of decaying plant material for the clams. However, littlenecks are highly susceptible to human-induced changes. High siltation in streams that feed the bay caused by irresponsible logging within the Coast Range smothers and kills littlenecks. Additionally, corporate interests are attempting to build massive export terminals for coal and liquified natural gas in Coos Bay, which will require extensive dredging, destroying littleneck habitat. This clam is a vital part of our coastal ecosystems, an important part of the heritage of Oregon's coastal communities, and a key factor in local economies.

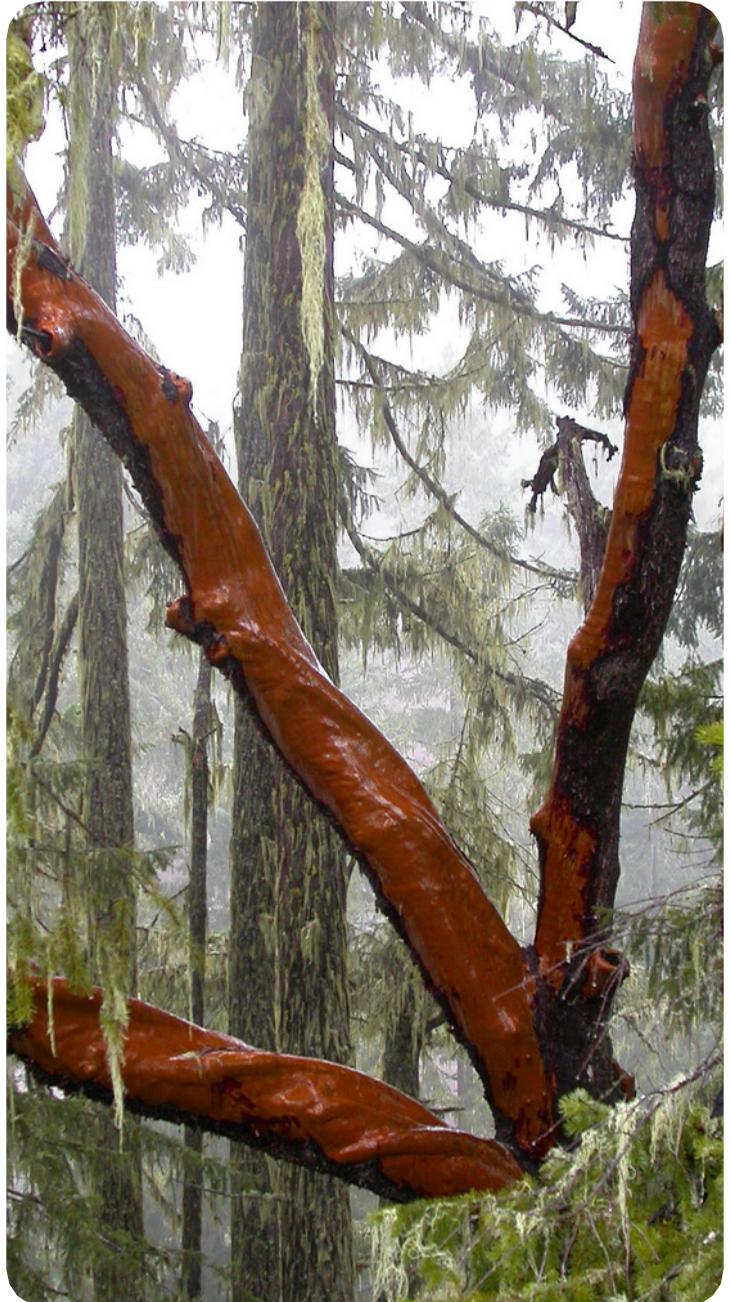
Help Cascadia Wildlands oppose projects that impact the Pacific littleneck clam and destroy a part of Oregon's coastal heritage.

continued from p. 1

One idea to generate county funding is “pilot projects.” Two of the three “pilot projects” are for the “wet forests” in the Coast Range. Their thinking is that we need more regeneration harvests (aka clearcuts) because we don’t have enough young forests for wildlife that depends on brush. Accordingly, the BLM developed a wet forest pilot project for the Coos Bay and Roseburg BLM districts. These projects target, in part, healthy, mature forests that are on track to become old growth. Clearcutting these stands would set the clock back even further for old-growth forest expansion. Additionally, there is an abundance of young forests with brush habitat for the wildlife that need it, but there are several species threatened due to a shortage of older forests. Nonetheless, the wet forest pilot projects are moving forward.

Cascadia Wildlands has a close eye on the BLM projects and remains fully engaged in the pilot project planning. Ominously, these pilots will be included in the recently announced western Oregon BLM plan revisions, also known as WOPR Jr. Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar was in Oregon a few months ago to kick off the planning that is expected to, once again, veer away from the 1995 Northwest Forest Plan.

The BLM is considering a single Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for all six BLM districts in Oregon. The proposal will include plans for extracting biomass, herbicide use, the new spotted owl recovery plan, forest carbon science, and how to make more money by logging public forests. The first round of public comments ends June 7. Afterwards, the BLM will develop a draft Environmental Impact Statement and ask for more public comments. A final decision is not expected until 2015. Visit www.CascWild.org to stay apprised of the issues to best inform your comments on WOPR Jr.



Pacific madrone on Roseburg BLM lands which are scheduled for a management revision this year (Francis Eatherington)

TAKE ACTION

VOLUNTEER

GIVE!

@ WWW.CASCWILD.ORG

Deterring Conflict Before It Happens

Guard Dogs as a Tool to Protect Livestock from Wolves

by Andrew Van Dellen, Spring Intern and Josh Laughlin, Campaign Director

As wolves continue to make their remarkable recovery across Oregon, it is critical we be proactive to reduce conflict between them and livestock. One tool that has been used worldwide for centuries to deter predator species is livestock protection dogs (LPDs). In the US, they have mainly been used to ward off medium sized and solitary predators such as, coyotes and cougar. However, their use in confronting large and pack predators, such as bears and wolves in the Rockies, has been increasing and may offer lessons for Oregon as the wolf population here continues to grow.

Cascadia Wildlands has been researching the feasibility of using LPDs in northeast Oregon to prevent additional livestock depredations by wolves. However, significant roadblocks exist. Research and interviews suggest finding a willing rancher who has the resources for an LPD is difficult. LPDs require extensive, time-consuming training in order to be effective. Because wolves typically hunt in packs, more than one LPD is recommended, which further complicates the placement and cost of utilizing this tool. Research suggests multiple LPDs should be varying ages to ensure the younger dogs learn from those with more experience. LPDs need to be bonded as pups with the herd they are protecting, which means it will be at least three years before there are multiple dogs that are old enough to work.

The list of effective LPD breeds is long and varies by country; however, in the US, common breeds are the Great Pyrenees, Akbash, Anatolian Shepherd, Komondo and Maremma. Livestock protection dogs are specifically bred for their ability to guard their animals and shouldn't be confused as pets. They are highly trained and work through the night when most predators hunt. LPDs can be very effective as an alert tool but are more often used to physically protect their herd. Interactions between LPDs and predators can result in a fatality of either the dogs or

the predators.

Spiked collars can also be used with LPDs which enhances defense against a predator's attack. However, they should only be used in certain circumstances and rarely around fencing to prevent entanglement.

Livestock protection dogs aren't a fool-proof solution to livestock depredations, rather a tool that should be explored further in Oregon. Ultimately, those at risk of losing livestock will have to find the right combination of tools that work for them.

As wolves continue to make their historic recovery back into the Pacific Northwest, we must be vigilant in our efforts to reduce conflict before it happens. With the proper mix of commitment, location, breed, training and perseverance, livestock protection dogs may be another tool in the toolbox to do just this.



Livestock protection dog bonding with calves (APHIS)



CW Focus: Patagonia Intern Andrew Van Dellen

For the past month, Cascadia Wildlands was graced by the presence of Andrew Van Dellen, an employee of Patagonia, Inc's Reno office. The company encourages its employees to connect with its grantees to learn and offer skills that benefit both the organization and individual. While here, Andy spent time in the proposed Devil's Staircase (pictured above) and Wild Rogue Wilderness areas and advocated for their protection. Among other tasks, Andy extensively researched livestock protections dogs as a non-lethal tool for ranchers living in wolf country, a critically important subject with wolves returning to Oregon. His research will be incorporated into our new website which will be launched soon. Thanks for all your help Andy and to Patagonia for offering this mutually beneficial program.

May 20: Mt. Pisgah Wildflower Festival Visit Cascadia Wildlands' outreach table at the not-to-be-missed wildflower and music festival, from 10 am-5 pm at Buford Park near Eugene.

September 4: Pints Gone Wild! Continues Join Cascadia Wildlands at Ninkasi Brewing Company for another fantastic event after the summer hiatus. Live music begins at 6 pm with Trivia to follow at 7. The tasting room is at 272 Van Buren St in Eugene.

October 1: Pints Gone Wild! Meet us at Ninkasi Brewing Company for live music at 6 pm and Trivia at 7. Half of all pint sales goes to Cascadia Wildlands. Drink a beer, save some forests, what more could you ask for? More Pints Gone Wild! scheduled for the first Monday of the month through August 2013.

December 8: Wonderland Auction Mark your calendars now for the Wonderland Auction hosted in the EMU Ballroom at the University of Oregon.

Thank you to all of our individual and family supporters and the many volunteers who help us protect wild places! Huge thanks to the foundations and community groups that have recently made substantial contributions to support our work:

444S Foundation	Earth Friends Conservation Fund	Mazamas	Norcross Wildlife Foundation
Alaska Conservation Foundation	Fund for Wild Nature	Mark Frohnmayer Donor Advised Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation	Patagonia
Astrov Fund	Furthur Foundation	Roger Millis Donor Advised Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation	Sperling Foundation
Ben & Jerry's Foundation	Kenney Brothers Watershed Foundation	McKenzie River Gathering Foundation	Strong Foundation for Environmental Values
Brainerd Foundation	Klorfine Family Foundation	Meyer Memorial Trust	Suwinski Family Foundation
Burning Foundation	Laird Norton Foundation	Mt. Rose Herbs	University of Oregon Outdoor Program
Charlotte Martin Foundation	Leotta Gordon Foundation		Wilburforce Foundation
Deer Creek Foundation	Loeb-Meginnes Foundation		Winky Foundation

THANK YOU!

In Beer We Trust

A Big Cheers to Ninkasi Brewing Company

If you've been to a Cascadia Wildlands fundraiser before, you've likely enjoyed Ninkasi beer. Ninkasi Brewing Company has been generously supporting our events with product donation since its first batch was ready for consumption in 2006. The fine ales have helped fuel robust bidding at the annual Wonderland Action and square dancing and howling into the wee hours at the Hoedown for Cascadia's Ancient Forests.

Over the past 12 months, Ninkasi graciously hosted "Pints Gone Wild!," a first-Monday-of-the-month benefit for Cascadia Wildlands, where half of every pint sale went to support our conservation work. On the patio and in the tasting room, we were graced by incredible local talent, including Opal Creek, ReidLong Experiment, Alder St. Allstars, the Sean Peterson Jazz Experiment and the Whiskey Chasers. "Pints Gone Wild!" will resume for another 12 months beginning on Tuesday, Sept 4 (Monday, Labor Day, is an observed holiday).

We send out a big thanks to the visionaries at Ninkasi, including co-founders Nikos Ridge and Jamie Floyd (pictured) and the rest of the crew, for supporting the conservation work of Cascadia Wildlands.

— Josh Laughlin



Nikos Ridge and Jamie Floyd, co-founders of Ninkasi Brewing Company (Imagine Photographics)

WWW.CASCWILD.ORG

Check out our website to stay in-the-know and connect with your community. Sign up for e-alerts, join the cause on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and instantly take action on timely issues. (Cascadia Wildlands will never share or sell your information.)