

CASCADIA QUARTERLY



(left) O&C land on Coos Bay BLM, could be threatened under WOPR Jr. Old growth rainforest like these in Oregon's coastal mountain range store more carbon than virtually any other place on earth. (Francis Eatherington) (right) Feb. 25, 2014 mudslide above a road in Unit 2 of the Buck Rising timber sale on Roseburg BLM. (Francis Eatherington)

WOPR JR. Coming Up BLM to Serve Clearcuts and Mudslides

by Francis Eatherington, Conservation Director

Most of 2.1-million acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands in western Oregon are designated O&C lands because they were given to the Oregon and California railroad at the turn of the last century, and then returned to the federal government when the railroad was caught illegally selling the land. Now these public BLM lands provide a refuge of big trees in a sea of private industrial clearcuts, and offer the American public clean water, recreation, and some of the best carbon sequestration potential in the world, thereby mitigating climate change at no cost.

Over the last five years the BLM has averaged logging 214-million board feet from these lands, or about 50,000 log trucks every year, mostly from non-controversial thinning in old clearcuts. It is a program that is largely not challenged and often times supported by our organization.

Now, the BLM believes they have to log more, a lot more, and that they must start clearcutting again.

You remember the “Western Oregon Plan Revision” (WOPR) that we stopped a few years ago that would have radically ramped up clearcutting. Now we have WOPR Jr., BLM’s newest proposal to revise their management plan to allow more logging. We’ve been turning out the public to hearings, and we expect a draft environmental impact statement on the logging plans this fall.

However, the BLM isn’t waiting for WOPR Jr. to start clearcutting again. Recently, the Buck Rising timber sale was clearcut in the Myrtle Creek watershed southeast of Roseburg, BLMs first clearcut in many years. It is ugly, destructive, and damaging to wildlife and the watershed. As clearcuts do, during recent heavy rains, the soil gave way resulting in a big landslide. It wasn’t as big as the recent Washington state landslide that killed dozens of people, but it was perpetuated by similar clearcut logging practices and wet weather.



Cascadia WILDLANDS

we like it wild.

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Executive Director

currently in final stages of hiring

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Clouds and Promises

from Executive Director Bob Ferris

Have you ever looked at the *Hot Issues* word cloud that sits in the lower righthand corner of our homepage? I visit it regularly to make sure we are fulfilling our promises both to the wildlife and wild places we have pledged to protect and to our supporters, like you, who have asked us to act as stewards to protect these habitats and critters.



This cloud is an ongoing visual representation of the work and information we share as text on our website. It is a virtual storyboard of our actions – the more actions taken, the larger the word. It describes our geography and defines our priorities. It identifies our heroes as well as our foes and trials. It is also dynamic and ever changing.



The good news is that we are doing what we said we would in the proportions we promised. In addition, it seems that daily we take on greater challenges, buoyed by your support and that of others. In short, the words in our Hot Issues cloud – like our diverse work – grow as more and more people are drawn to our wild message, lean and mean operational model, and growing list of accomplishments.

Internally, we are growing too (*you can meet Rance and Rory on page 3*) as we update our conservation and campaigns plan for the coming year and enter our spring fundraising cycle. We are hoping that you and others will do what you have done in the past, and I'd like to ask that you consider increasing your gift this time.

Your support helps us continue to keep our promises to wildlife, wild places, and you. There are more members of our wild group than ever before, and your increased support helps us realize the promise of Cascadia Wildlands' geographic and programmatic scope. The next time you are on the CascWild.org homepage, please take a moment to look at the Hot Issues and consider giving to support our actions. I hope you will enjoy, as much as I do, watching as our virtual storyboard grows.

Please help us keep it wild!

Bob

Elliott Injunction Met with Forest Disposal

Proposal to Privatize 3,000 Acres Sparks Outcry and Lawsuit
by Francis Eatherington, Conservation Director

Our successful lawsuit that halted clearcutting in marbled murrelet habitat on the 93,000-acre Elliott State Forest has been met with a proposal by the State of Oregon to begin privatizing the forest to the highest bidder. On April 11 bidding closed on the first three Elliott State Forest sales — 1,453 acres of lands that were former reserves for the imperiled seabird before the state's Habitat Conservation Plan was eliminated in 2011.

The press reported that Seneca Jones Lumber Company bid on at least one of the Elliott sales and that one of the Jones sisters, Kathy, said it was to stand up to “eco-radical” environmental groups and “elitists sent in from D.C.” The company also suggested that the murrelet is not really endangered, and its clearcuts will be good for the Elliott. Two more parcels totaling 1,275 acres are expected to be auctioned off this fall. One parcel contains the highest endangered coho salmon production in the Oregon Coast Range,

according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

On April 21 the State revealed that Seneca was the high bidder on the East Hakki Ridge parcel, and Scott Timber won the other two parcels. The State of Oregon is now finalizing the sale of the three parcels for \$4.5 million dollars, a full \$8 million dollars under what just the timber was appraised at. Cascadia Wildlands and allies immediately filed a legal challenge to the East Hakki Ridge parcel as a state statute prohibits this portion of the Elliott State Forest from being privatized.

Earlier, the State had interviewed potential buyers and found that when it came to the murrelet, the timber industry said they “could skirt the law without consequences.” But the State also determined “the appraisal cannot be based on an illegal use of the property,” so they reduced the price.

When the State awards the land to timber companies at pennies on the dollar, they know it's not because the timber companies intend to protect the murrelet, especially when one of them bragged they intend to clearcut it.

Cascadia Wildlands is working to confront the disposal and on a permanent solution to solve the Elliott problem. Most of the Elliott is designated “common school fund land,” which mandates it to generate revenue for the State's education budget.



Rance Shaw

Rance graduated with a B.S. in Biochemistry from Boise State University before attending the University of Oregon School of Law. He is currently an Environmental Law Fellow working on the Conservation Trust Project. During summer months, Rance can be found paddle boarding or riding his longboard.



Rory Isbell

Rory was born in Oregon, but grew up exploring the arid basins and ranges of Arizona. Graduating from the University of Arizona in 2009 with a degree in Geography, Rory then moved to Oregon where he worked in geospatial sciences for three years. After traveling the world for a year with his fiancé, Rory began law school at the University of Oregon in 2013. When not in the law school library, Rory hikes, bikes, camps, climbs, skis, and paddles his heart out.



Conservation Intern Erin Grady in the Lean Dean timber sale proposed for clearcutting in 2015. (Francis Eatherington)

continued on p. 5

SUMMER LEGAL INTERNS

Conservation Round-up for Cascadia's Northern Reach

Small Victories Piling Up in South-central Alaska

by Gabe Scott, Alaska Field Representative

Small victories have been piling up in Alaska. It's starting to feel like spring.

Thanks to all of you who helped with the Cordova oil spill response port campaign. This little deepwater port project is a lynchpin to development on the Copper River and Prince William Sound, so it's important we hold the line. Opposition to the Shepard Point road and its industrial deepwater port, and support for practical alternatives, dominated the public comments. Hopefully the Army Corps of Engineers will do the right thing and deny the permit. Meanwhile, we're working with Eyak Preservation Council to develop plans for one of the alternative locations in Cordova.

Nationally, there has been some progress in the fight against approving AquaBounty's genetically modified salmon, aka Frankenfish. Kroger and Safeway, the #2 and #4 groceries in the country, have joined the rising tide and forsworn AquaBounty's genetically modified fish in their stores. While the final Food and Drug Administration decision and its timing remain a mystery, market

pressure is becoming untenable.

On the Tongass National Forest, the Big Thorne old-growth timber sale remains on hold, pending consideration of the massive clearcutting project's impact on the Alexander Archipelago wolf. State and federal officials are holding what they call a "wolf task force" — although in this case the acronym, WTF is more apt — to think long and hard about whether clearcutting several thousand acres of old-growth is a bad idea, given that wolves seem to be disappearing as a result.

A powerful clue came recently when Greenpeace and the Center for Biological Diversity won a 90-day finding that listing may be warranted on their petition to add this unique wolf on the federal endangered species list. This is another step forward in the long process to ultimately listing the A.A. wolf. That's an immensely powerful tool that could protect wolf habitat.

Alaska politicians hate the Endangered Species Act. In fact they hate legal barriers to development of every stripe. Which brings me to



(above) Alexander Archipelago wolf in front of her den. (ADF&G, Person & Larson, 2013)

happy death of Alaska House Bill 77. It's not often we lobby, but helping kill HB77 was an exception. HB77 was the governor's wide-ranging bill to "streamline" all kinds of permitting, by erecting barriers to public participation and legal challenges. An inspiring tide of public opposition overwhelmed the politicians, and recently the bill died unceremoniously.

It was surreal to testify before the legislature by teleconference, along with citizens from the Arctic coast, Bering Sea coast, Gulf coast, interior, and southeast. It was heartening to remember how many of us there really are.

The Alexander Archipelago Wolf

Also known as the Islands wolf, the A.A. wolf is a subspecies of the gray wolf and primarily resides in areas in and around the Alexander Archipelago in the Tongass National Forest.

(right) Alexander Archipelago wolf pups exploring outside their den. (ADF&G, Person & Larson, 2013)



SPRINGFUNDRAISING

2014

Cascadia WILDLANDS

we like it wild.



Dear Cascadia Wildlands supporter,

Entering our fifteenth year as a 501(c)3 organization, Cascadia Wildlands had many notable victories in 2013. We won big on Oregon wolves, the Elliott State Forest, the Coos Bay coal terminal, and suction dredge mining in Oregon. But perhaps our biggest victory in 2013 was attracting the attention of more people—like you—who like it wild.

We know we are an organization that can win victories against tremendous odds, but we also know that our ability to rack up successes and expand our program activities is absolutely tied to your willingness to support our important work. You do make a difference.

We have great plans to continue our core actions to protect wolves on the state and federal level in Cascadia and beyond; curtail clearcutting on federal forests in Oregon and Alaska; advance a permanent conservation solution for the 93,000-acre Elliott State Forest; and block the liquefied natural gas export terminal in Coos Bay. All mission critical actions.

But we also want to help lead the effort to reduce or eliminate suction dredge mining for gold in Washington State's salmon rivers and continue our efforts in Oregon to limit this destructive practice. Currently, there is a moratorium on the use of this motorized river vacuum in California and use reductions in Oregon and Idaho. The big battle ground is Washington, and we need to stand resolute against this ridiculous, gold-fever driven northern migration.

Please help us keep it wild!

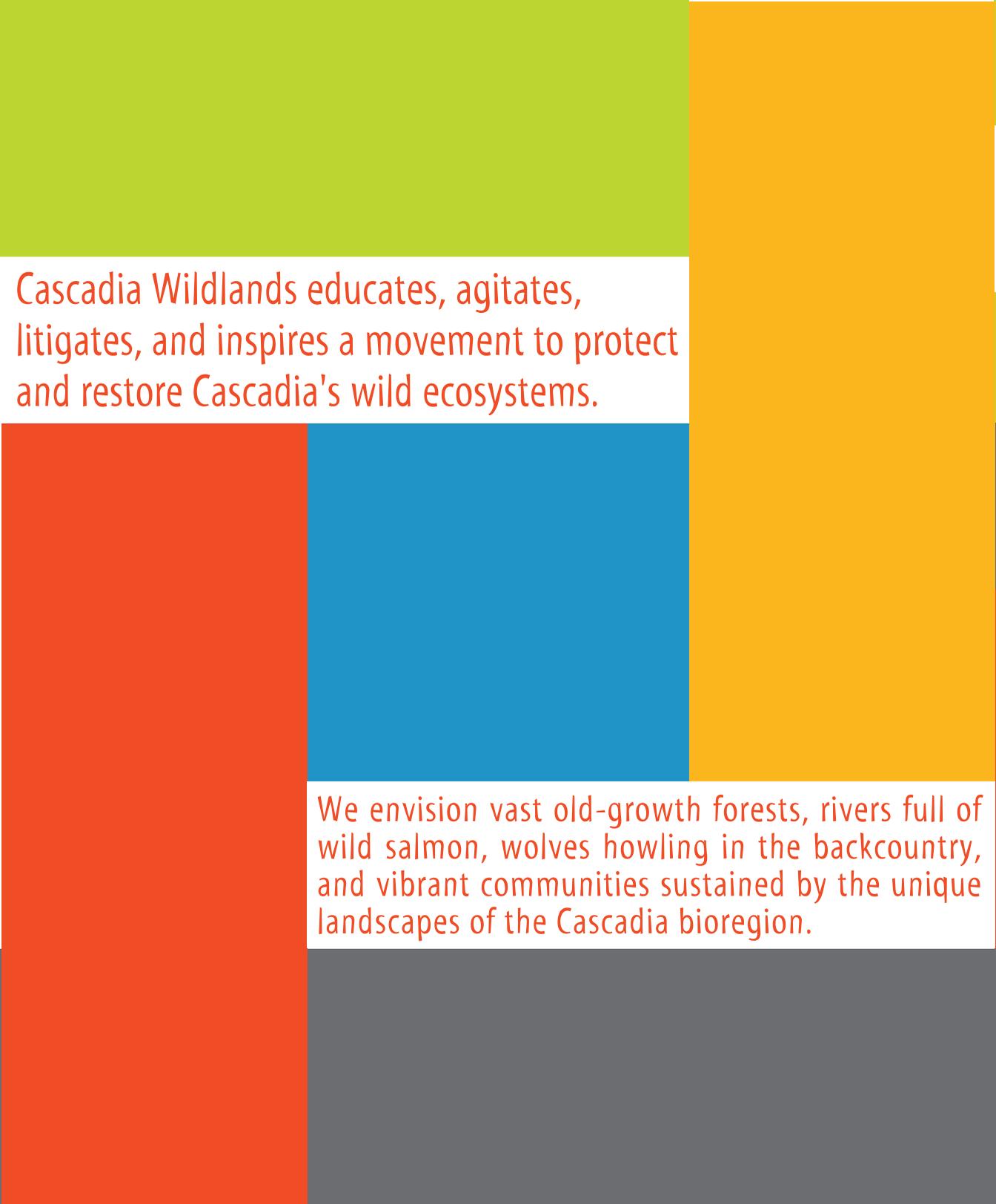
In addition, we want to expand our work on other troubled carnivores in Cascadia, such as coyotes, cougars, bears, and wolverines. We want to stop neglectful or harmful practices allowed by state wildlife agencies like coyote derbies or unrestricted trapping. We also want to bring much needed reform to the rogue federal program Wildlife Services that acts as the hired gun for predator-hating ranchers and trophy hunters, as well as seeking bans on lead bullets and retail sales of harmful and cruel rodenticides that make their way into the food chain and kill non-target predators.

So much to do, but none of it happens without your help as partner activists, vocal supporters, and investors in wildlands and wildlife. The good news on all these fronts is that Cascadia Wildlands is one of the most effective, efficient, and respected biodiversity conservation groups in the West. That means your activism gets results, your voice brings more benefits, and your financial support goes farther. Please take a moment to help us today with a generous contribution.

Keeping it wild,



Bob Ferris
Executive Director



Cascadia Wildlands educates, agitates,
litigates, and inspires a movement to protect
and restore Cascadia's wild ecosystems.

We envision vast old-growth forests, rivers full of
wild salmon, wolves howling in the backcountry,
and vibrant communities sustained by the unique
landscapes of the Cascadia bioregion.

“Into The Wild” for Wolves April 12

A Wildly Fun and Successful Night

by Kaley Sauer, Outreach and Communications Manager

Thank you to everyone who came out to “Into The Wild: A Benefit to Restore Wolves in the Cascades” at Luckey’s on April 12th. Wolf ears abounded, and our group howl at midnight demonstrated our solidarity for this beautiful species we serve to protect. With your help, we raised a grand total of \$1,064!

Over 160 of you came and showed your support by dancing to the rockin lineup and fine groovin tunes of: Sonic Bent and John Shipe, Uncle Stumbles, The Rosannas, and local DJ’s Kozlow, Casual Swagger, and RobNo, with live vocals by Tailor Groove. Thank you musicians, who all donated their time. Thank you to Luckey’s for hosting, and for donating a whopping 90% of the door!

And thank you to Ninkasi Brewing, who donated \$1 from each pint sale, \$97 total.

“Into The Wild” was a wildly fun night that reminded us once again of the wonderful friends and supporters we have. We are so thankful that you chose to come out and help us make the evening a night to remember!



Taylor Groove dropping fresh rhymes about wolves while DJs Kozlow, wearing neon wolf ears, and Casual Swagger spin. (Cascadia Wildlands)

Holy Cow Foods Supporter Spotlight

by Kaley Sauer, Outreach and Communications Manager

Holy Cow Foods is a donor for our upcoming Hoedown on May 10th. This is just the latest contribution Cascadia Wildlands has received from our long time supporter and friends at Holy Cow.



Holy Cow Foods is a family-owned organic food enterprise located in Eugene, Oregon. Founded in 1990 by Anton Ferreira and Katherine Lavine, they offer outrageously delicious vegetarian and vegan cuisine from around the world. With the goal to support organic farmers and help people to make food choices that are healthier for them and for the planet, that’s why they support organizations like us. *Thanks Holy Cow!*

Elliott Outcry, continued from page 3

However, the revenue doesn’t have to come from logging, and since timber receipts from the Elliott have always been a small part of the school fund, the State should remove the trust designation to help relieve pressure to log the Elliott.

This is the only state forest in Oregon with native, unlogged forests, and it has a high potential to provide high-quality recreation, clean water, fish and wildlife habitat and other ecosystem services for us and our children.

WOPR Jr., continued from page 1

This early example of the devastation that clearcuts bring should have deterred the BLM, but the agency is still intent on clearcutting the White Castle timber sale, a beautiful, native forest over 100 years old, also in the Myrtle Creek watershed. We have sued the BLM to save the forests at White Castle, and the chain saws are silenced until the courts hear our case.

We have to stop the proposal to ramp up clearcutting in WOPR Jr., halt the threat of new landslides in western Oregon, and stop the killing of our endangered wildlife that depend



White Castle. (Francis Eatherington)

on BLMs older forests for their survival. Visit our website for more information about BLM forest management and for an opportunity to write the BLM a letter telling them what you think about all this.

For more info and to make your voice heard, visit CascWild.org. Then click on “Take Action”.

Gold Fever and the Rush to Destroy Salmon Habitat

Cascadia Expands Reach to Curb Suction Dredging in Washington

by Bob Ferris, Executive Director

For more than 150 years, gold rushes — big and small — have damaged and polluted our waterways and had devastating impacts on our salmon and steelhead. In light of this, and given the tenuous status and great value of our salmonids, it seems amazing that we would ever allow individuals infused with “gold fever” back in our waterways and watersheds. But we have, in the form of suction dredges that vacuum up river bottoms and motorized sluices like highbankers that destroy portions of slopes near waterways.

Suction dredgers argue that seasonal closures protect fish and that dredges actually improve fish habitat and water quality by cleaning gravel, removing lead fishing weights and mercury. The reality is that suction dredging and high banking destroy the structural integrity of gravel spawning beds and of erosion-prone, riverside slopes. In addition, suction dredging kills invertebrates needed by growing fish, and their removal of buried lead and mercury cause more problems than they solve.

The next big suction dredge-driven gold rush is shaping up in Washington

State. Not because the State has unusually large gold deposits but because it lacks the regulatory and enforcement wherewithal to deal with an influx of migrating dredgers streaming in from states that do. As a consequence Cascadia Wildlands is working to build a broad coalition in Washington to protect salmon waters from this motorized invasion. In addition, we are active participants in efforts to put regulatory teeth in the 2013 suction dredge legislation in Oregon as well as providing what support we can in defending California’s 2009 moratorium from legal attacks and the nearly constant shenanigans and lawlessness of The New 49ers.

As suction dredging restrictions increase across the face of Cascadia, we are seeing these battles become meaner and louder. This is evidenced by dredgers’ recent efforts to get Idaho legislators to “outlaw” the federal Environmental Protection Agency. We knew this kind of silliness was going to happen, and we also understand that we are dealing with a group of people fully infected with “gold fever.” This “disease” clearly increases their willingness to



A gold mining suction dredge, spews out a plume of sediment. (Photo courtesy of Karuk Tribe, Orleans, CA.)

bend the truth, develop more elaborate myths of impact denial, and be freer with electronic bullying and physical threats.

We do not enjoy these confrontations or non-rational arguments, but we understand what is at risk and that keeps us at it. All our allies are resolute in our commitment to create legal and regulatory mechanisms in the Pacific Northwest that keep suction dredge miners out of salmon habitats when and where they should not be. We hope you will join this effort.

Visit us online at CascWild.org and click “Take Action”.

Cascadia Wildlands is proud to partner with Sequential Biofuels for their
“Driving Change” Program

Visit either Eugene SQ location, and make your usual purchase. When you pay, let them know that you want your purchase to benefit Cascadia Wildlands. It’s that easy!

SeQuential Biofuel’s gas stations at 18th & Chambers and on the McVay Hwy near Lane Community College, **will donate 5 cents per gallon of fuel and 5% of in-store purchases to Cascadia Wildlands** whenever you let them know you want Cascadia Wildlands to be the recipient of your “Driving Change”.



Get Down at the 11th Annual Hoedown

Saturday, May 10, 2014 from 6:00pm - 10:30pm

by Kaley Sauer, Outreach and Communications Manager

It's time again for our annual Hoedown for Ancient Forests! Grab a partner or two and head on down to Avalon Stables outside of Cottage Grove for an evening of family-friendly fun. Carpooling or taking the bus from Cascadia's world headquarters in Eugene are strongly encouraged. Secure your spot on the bus and get your \$5 bus ticket today.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Admission includes dinner, dessert, and two drink tickets. Ticket, bus, and volunteer sign-up page are all available at CascWild.org. Volunteer two hours at the event for complimentary entry.

The evening will feature food, game, drink, live bluegrass, and wild merrymen. Square dancing with caller Bob Ewing, music by Blue Flags & Black Grass, vegetarian chili dinner, local microbrews courtesy of Ninkasi and Oakshire, wine, sandwiches from Cheba Hut, and an assortment of desserts.

Lane United Football Club's Red Aces will also be in attendance, so you can buy season tickets as well as kick around the soccer ball. Other games include a costume contest for best outfit (one adult and one child will win), water balloon toss, and sack race. A raging bonfire and s'mores will



2013 Hoedown. (Cascadia Wildlands)

close out this monumental evening. For more info, and photos from 2013, please visit us at CascWild.org

This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with community members, talk with staff about our work, and make merry in the country. Benefit events like the Hoedown help sustain our conservation work, and wouldn't be possible without the support of our always generous sponsors, donors, volunteers, and supporters. *Thank you all!*

BUSINESSES GIVE BACK

A sustainable planet is essential to sustainable business. That's why more and more companies are actively investing in Cascadia Wildlands. Business support saves wild places from imminent destruction and wildlife from extinction. *Please join us in thanking and patronizing the visionary businesses that recently supported our work with generous cash contributions:*



FOR THE PLANET

RECIPIENT

Business Champions
(\$10,000+)

Mountain Rose Herbs

Business Champions
(\$5,000-9,999)

Patagonia, Inc.

Business Sustainers
(\$1,000-2,499)

Coconut Bliss
Tactics Board Shop

Business Partners
(\$2,500-4,999)

Pivot Architecture

Business Friends
(\$250-999)

Backcountry Gear Ltd.
Medicine Flower
River Jewelry
Southern Explorations
Sundance Natural Market
Green Solutions Printing

Cascadia Wildlands is a proud recipient organization of 1% for the Planet, an alliance of businesses committed to leveraging their resources to create a healthier planet.

Please help us thank the following businesses that are supporting our upcoming Hoedown with their generous donations and in-kind contributions:

Café Mam **Cheba Hut** Dana's Cheesecake Bakery **Eugene Weekly** Great Harvest Bread Co.
Hey Bayles! Farm Holy Cow Foods **Hummingbird Wholesale** Janine Nielsen (Avalon Stables)
The Kiva **Kore Kombucha** Lane United Football Club's Red Aces **Mountain Rose Herbs**
Ninkasi Brewing Oakshire Brewing **Organically Grown Company** Sundance Naural Foods
Surata Soyfoods **Sweet Life Patisserie** VooDoo Donuts **Wendy Gregory Photography**

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THANK YOU!

spring 2014

- ↓ WOPR JR. Coming Up
Clearcuts and Mudslides
- ↓ Elliott Sell-Off/Solution
- ↓ Victories in
South-central Alaska
- ↓ Suction Dredge Mining in
Washington State
- ↓ Annual Hoedown
for Ancient Forests

what's
inside?

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPRING AND SUMMER EVENTS

11th Annual Hoedown for Ancient Forests!

DATE: May 10, 2014 from 6pm to 10:30pm in Cottage Grove
Live blugrass by Blue Flags & Black Grass, as well as square dancing!
Tickets \$20 in advance, includes dinner and two drinks. Tickets, bus
reservation, and volunteers sign-ups available online now. CascWild.org

Pints Gone Wild! Benefit every first Monday of the Month

Music 6 - 7:30pm, Event 6 to 9pm at the Ninkasi Tasting Room Patio.

OUR OUTREACH AND MERCH TABLE WILL BE SET UP AT THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY EVENTS, COME SAY HI!

Wildflower Festival at Mt. Pisgah	May 18, 2014
Oregon Country Fair	July 11 - 13, 2014
String Summit	July 17 - 20, 2014
Whiteaker Blockparty	August 2, 2014
Eugene Celebration	August 23 - 25, 2014

* For the most current event calendar, updates can be found on our website.