

OUTDOORS WEST

Spring 2009

The Official Publication of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs

Volume 32, No. 1



American Pica on Tatoosh Range in Mt. Rainier National Park.

Please join us to explore the Inland Northwest
FWOC's 77th Annual Conference
CONSERVATION CHALLENGES AND
OPPORTUNITIES IN AN UNPREDICTABLE ECONOMY
The Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute
Spokane, Washington • August 28th to 30th, 2009

CONTENTS

President's Message	3
2008 Convention Report	4-5
FWOC News	6
2008 Resolutions	7
Siskiyou Project	8
Conservation Updates	9-10
Club News	11-13
Book Reviews	14
2009 Conference	
Registration Form	15
Calendar	16



COVER PHOTO BY JOHN MARTIN:
American Pika in Mt. Rainier National Park. The pika lives at high elevations in mountainous talus slopes and being covered with fur is susceptible to overheating and therefore threatened by global warming.

FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS

Established in 1932 for the Mutual Service and for the Promotion of the Proper Use, Enjoyment and Protection of America's Scenic Wilderness and Outdoor Recreation Resources

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Indian Creek Botanical Mission Selma, OR	Santiam Alpine Club Salem, OR	Willapa Hills Audubon Society Longview, WA
Klahhane Club Port Angeles, WA	Seattle Audubon Society Seattle, WA	Winter Wildland Alliance Boise, ID

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Raelene Gold

With the dramatic changes in the government in Washington, DC and to our collapsing economy, these are definitely times that present great challenges as well as new opportunities. The Federation itself was begun in 1932 at the depth of the depression spurred by the desire to help each other out. Many of the outing clubs in the west that had been formed in the early 1900's joined in to help the Mazamas of Portland complete the lodge they were building, by each bringing their local stone for the fireplace. The event resulted in a sense of community that began a tradition of shared events and outings, lodges and awareness that they could be more effective working on conservation issues together. They started a Resolution process, where each club could submit a Resolution to be adopted by the whole organization. They also formed inter-club Legislation Committees to promote the passage of legislation on these issues.

The consequences of the unanticipated economic decline are cascading downward affecting everyone,



*Raelene snowshoeing
at Mazama, WA.*

including our member clubs, their membership, and the foundations and donors on which they depend. The Federation was recently awarded a grant from the Sierra Foundation, out of the Michael McCloskey Fund, for the publications of our newsletter, *Outdoors West*. We are very grateful to the Sierra Foundation and to Michael McCloskey for this grant. It makes us appreciate the many foundations that make grants to environmental organizations. Besides the Sierra Foundation, the Mountaineer's Foundation, the California Alpine Club Foundation and the Mazamas also receive tax-deductible donations and award grants for environmental projects. I hope those who are able will consider donating to these, as well as their member clubs.

In the meantime, legislation is rapidly being developed by the Congress that will affect many of the issues we have long worked towards and now is the time I hope we can again work cooperatively to make progress on our shared conservation objectives.

FWOC ANNUAL CONFERENCE – AUGUST 28-30, 2009

CONSERVATION CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN AN UNCERTAIN ECONOMY

This year's annual FWOC convention, updated to a conference, will be held this summer on August 28-30, 2009 at the Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute in Spokane, Washington and hosted by member club, the Hobnailers. Our meeting site is a beautiful Japanese Cultural Center, a part of a Japanese University serving exchange students, situated on the 90 acre forested grounds of historic Fort Wright, an 1895 to 1957 military post. The Centennial Trail transverses the property as it runs 60 miles beginning at the Idaho state line and ending at Nine Mile Falls, in the beautiful Riverside State Park. The park covers 10,000 acres along 9 miles of the Spokane River and includes basalt monoliths, Ponderosa forests, Indian petroglyphs and the Spokane House Interpretive Center, an early fur trading post, all providing an interesting area for field trips.

The program being developed will consider the new challenges facing recreational and environmental organizations and the conservation work they champion because of the economic downturn, along with new opportunities with the new administration. Former Sierra Club Executive Director, Michael McCloskey will open with a presentation on "How Nature Was Protected During the New Deal." Spokane area conservation presentations will include on Centennial Trail by Jon Rascoff, the Northwest Inland Land Trust by Christ DeForest and the Conservation Futures Project by John Bottelli. Other presentations will be on the water issues in the Columbia River basin and funding for National Parks, Monuments, Forests and Wildernesses in the inland northwest and Idaho and Montana. See the registration form, page 15.

OCTOBER 2008 CONVENTION

SAVORING THE SISKIYOU

The Federation's 76th Annual Conference held October 10th to 12th at the Siskiyou Field Institute in Selma, Oregon brought together the beauty of place, uniqueness of flora, dedication of conservationists, innovation of local business and the marvel of cuisine – courtesy of Kate Dwyer Catering. The result was a satisfying experience that was memorable and inspiring.

Many, many thanks to Selma resident, Jan Walker who created the program and events that shared so much of the area's richness with us. Thanks to the Siskiyou Project the Indian Creek Botanical Mission for being the host clubs and to the Siskiyou Field Institute for allowing our use of their site. The many locals that joined the event greatly contributed to the exchange of great conversation and ideas at the event.

Julie Norman, Deputy Director of the Siskiyou Project, opened with an "Overview of the Biodiversity of the Siskiyou." Julie has been with the Siskiyou Project since 1998, previously being President of the Headwaters Environmental Center in Ashland and a well-known leader in forest protection, receiving the Wilderness Society's Environmental Hero Award in 1988. She is currently working on a documentary film on the Klamath-Siskiyou, the mountains bridging the Cascade and Sierra ranges. She explained how their unique geography, geology and weather have resulted in remarkable biodiversity and unique endemic plants. This was amply illustrated by the beautiful slides of spring and summer wildflowers taken by naturalist **Romain Cooper**. **Romain** later led a field trip exploring the Deer Creek Center grounds introducing the group to a meadow and hillside covered with the rare *Darlingtonia*, a glorious green snakehead shaped insect eating plant.

Tim Hermack, President of Eugene based, Native Forest Council, which he founded in 1988 with David Brower, addressed "Forests of the Future." His organization seeks to preserve and protect American public lands from destructive practices. With an economic background, Tim is an expert in environmental economics offering data documenting uneconomic forest practices. Summing up, he advocated: revoking corporate personhood, the public funding of political campaigns, free access to the media and restoring real democracy to make our country great again.



Julie Norman and Panelists, Barry Snitkin, Mort Mondale, Joe Fontaine and Mike McCloskey.

Wildlife Biologist **Steve Niemela** talked about forests and wildlife and some of the difficult to resolve conflicts between wildlife and domestic animal and pets.

There was a fascinating presentation on the use of mycorrhizal fungus, which is so important in old growth forests, applied to farming and restoration work by **Dana Zozaya** who is with a local business, Mycorrhizal Applications (www.mycorrhizae.com).

Ecologist **Rich Nawa** addressed the issues of developing a Trail Management Plan for motorized vehicle use in the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest. Fisheries biologist, **Ian Reid**, reviewed the status of fish species in the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.

Lesley Adams from the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center alerted everyone to the devastating consequences to Oregon's BLM forestlands from the Western Oregon Plan Revisions (WOPR).

Saturday night, **Sue Densmore**, from Friends of the Oregon Caves Chateau, spoke about the Oregon Caves National Monument's upcoming 2009 Centennial celebration events and the Oregon Caves Chateau's restoration efforts planned for its upcoming 75th Anniversary, both occurring in 2009, which is also the 150th anniversary of Oregon Statehood. For the event dates, see www.FriendsOCAC.org. There was a field trip to the Monument on Sunday.

Roger Brandt, a local, retired National Park Service Ranger last at the Oregon Caves National Monument,

OCTOBER 2008 CONVENTION

gave the Keynote, a powerfully reasoned, persuasive economic argument against the clear-cutting of forests and the BLM's Western Oregon Revision Plan. Though promoted as a boon to local rural, struggling economies by timber and mining interests, these activities' benefits are very short-term, while resulting in long-term damage to a sustainable tourist economy and rural retirement and recreational property values in rural areas. From the perspective of one acre of land, as timberland, it has value in producing jobs or revenue just one out of eighty years, whereas as recreational, tourist or residential property it produces sustainable jobs and revenue annually. He emphasized how the clear-cutting BLM's checkerboard lands will result in lowering the property values of adjacent acreage, as business and residential purchasers are looking for attractive landscapes and views, especially as telecommuting makes rural areas a workable choice.

Barry Snitkin led a panel regarding possible conservation opportunities with a new administration. Michael McCloskey stressed the importance of restoring the many environmental regulations suspended by the Bush administration such as the Roadless Rule, the ESA survey and management requirement, the NSO and Marbled Murrelet recovery plans, wolf delisting, and the banning snowmobiles in Yellowstone. Julie Norman noted that the victories achieved in the 1994 Clinton Forest Plan have been vulnerable to a hostile presidency, which Earthjustice attorneys valiantly have worked to challenge. Julie believes concern about climate change provides an opportunity to protect forests and soils as traps and holders of carbon. Joe Fontaine noted that climate change, which was denied by the Bush administration, has resulted in higher temperatures and increased conifer mortality in the southern Sierra Nevada. He urged the

need to reduce stress on these lands by restoring natural and prescribed fire, reducing air pollution and exotic species and protecting migratory corridors. He advocated the use of active landscape management to assist the natural system survive climate change. Local resident, Mort Mondale, a brother of the former Vice-President Walter Mondale, said the Siskiyou were in the corporate "bullseye" of the Bush administration's Oregon BLM forestry plan (WOPR). He believes environmentalists have to learn to reframe their issues so people see conservation as in their own interests.



Mae Harms, Raelene Gold and Leonard Murphy at Deer Creek crossing.



Conventioners on fieldtrip.

FEDERATION NEWS

FWOC AWARDS

Polly Dyer was the recipient of the Federation's Conservation Award at the 2008 Annual Convention. This was more than well deserved, as Polly has been a leader in the northwest conservation movement for about 60 years. She was introduced to conservation through her marriage to John Dyer, a Sierra Club member and mountain climbing partner of David Brower. After they moved to Seattle in the 1950's, the couple helped to form the Northwest chapter of the Sierra Club. Polly was also active in the Mountaineers serving on the Conservation Committee and as the Mountaineers representative to FWOC conventions. Polly served as the first woman President of FWOC in 1957-9 and involved the Federation in sponsoring the first Northwest Wilderness Conference. She testified in Washington DC for the 1964 Wilderness Bill. Polly has continued her work for wilderness preservation and on wilderness conferences up to the present.



Polly Dyer with Conservation Award and Michael McCloskey, FWOC Policy Advisor.

Shirley Cameron was the deserving recipient of the FWOC Service Award. Shirley is a long-time member of the Obsidians. She has been a FWOC Executive Committee member and State VP for Oregon, until her recent move to Arizona led her to now being the State VP for Arizona. Shirley writes the popular Club News for *Outdoors West*, sharing the activities of member clubs.

NEW MEMBER CLUBS

The Federation welcomes the **Siskiyou Field Institute** in Selma, Oregon, where we held our recent convention at its Deer Creek Center. We are excited to be joined by an educational and research organization which offers a year round program of outstanding natural history courses and hiking, rafting, birding and botanizing adventures in the Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion. It also offers a Naturalist Certificate for those seeking deeper knowledge or for professionals seeking to enhance their skills. The Institute publishes an annual catalogue of its programs which can be obtained by calling 541-597-8530 or through its website at www.thesfi.org. The Deer Creek Center on 850 acres also offers accommodations for groups wanting to explore the area and at certain times is available for retreats and special events. Check it out at www.deercreekcenter.org.

The Federation also welcomes the **Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society**, headquartered at the Dungeness River Audubon Center in Sequim, Washington. The Society promotes birds and conservation as community educators, volunteers and stewards. The Center offers many educational programs and has a partnership with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe. Their big annual event is the Olympic Birdfest, featuring lectures and birding fieldtrips, held on a weekend in early April. For more information go to: www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org.

WHAT TO DO WITH THE RESOLUTIONS?

- Write about the Resolutions you feel the most strongly about!
- Write to the appropriate elected officials: the President, Senators, Representatives and State Legislators.
- Write "letters to the editor" of local newspapers on topics of interest to its readers.
- Stay alert to needed environmental changes in your area.
- Plan to attend next year's FWOC convention and share your issues with others.

WILDERNESS 2008 CONFERENCE

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE 76th ANNUAL CONVENTION Siskiyou Field Institute, Selma, Oregon October 10–12, 2008

Please go to our website www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org and click on a particular resolution for the entire text and contact. FWOC encourages member clubs to support, promote and take action on resolutions they concur with.

RESOLUTION #1:	Revise Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Plan
RESOLUTION #2:	Support Growing and Eating Organic Products
RESOLUTION #3:	Support Reduction of Unnecessary Nighttime Lighting
RESOLUTION #4:	Require That All Terrain Vehicles Have Readable License Plates
RESOLUTION #5:	Support Selection of “No action” Alternative for Warm Springs Casino Environmental Impact Statement
RESOLUTION #6:	Support Humane Removal of Wild Horses and Burros from Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge.
RESOLUTION #7:	Support Removing Four Lower Snake River Dams to Restore Wild Salmon to Nevada
RESOLUTION #8:	Oppose Palomar Liquefied Natural Gas Pipeline Route
RESOLUTION #9:	Oppose Proposed Liquid Natural Gas Facilities at Bradford Landing, Warrenton and Coos Bay, Oregon
RESOLUTION #10:	Support Extension of Federal Tax Credit for Reducing Carbon
RESOLUTION #11:	Oppose Political Censorship of Government Environmental Documents
RESOLUTION #12:	Support a Cow-Free Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument with Wilderness
RESOLUTION #13:	Support Establishment of Biological Corridors
RESOLUTION #14:	Protect the Endangered Species Act
RESOLUTION #15:	Support Establishment of Gold Butte National Conservation Area and Wilderness
RESOLUTION #16:	Support Wilderness Protection for Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park
RESOLUTION #17:	Support Eastern Sierra Wilderness
RESOLUTION #18:	Regarding Reopening Offshore Oil Drilling Along California, Oregon and Washington
RESOLUTION #19:	In Remembrance of Clifton Merritt
RESOLUTION #20:	In Remembrance of John Dyer
RESOLUTION #21:	In Remembrance of John Sieberling
RESOLUTION #22:	In Remembrance of Nancy Russell
RESOLUTION #23:	Thanks to Convention Hosts

Thanks to the Resolution Committee: Chair Joe Fontaine, Bugs Fontaine, Marge Sill and P. Sydney Herbert.

SISKIYOU WILD RIVERS PROTECTION & COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT CAMPAIGN

By Julie Norman

Siskiyou Project is working with supporters in Southwest Oregon and Northwest California to secure a new designation from the U.S. Congress. We seek better protection for the rivers and forests in the Siskiyou Wild Rivers area, and we want to promote nature-based tourism and forest rehabilitation for local economies.

Our campaign showcases the area's biological diversity, wild salmon streams, recreation opportunities, and big wildlands.

WHERE IS THE SISKIYOU WILD RIVERS AREA?

This giant block of public lands lies in the western Siskiyou Mountains between Grants Pass, Oregon and the Pacific Coast. The core of the Siskiyou Wild Rivers area is the one million acre Siskiyou National Forest, which already has 240,000 acres designated as Wilderness or Wild and Scenic River. Adjacent to this core are Medford BLM lands in the Illinois Valley and along the Wild Rogue River.

ACTIVE LEGISLATION

Working with a coalition of groups in 2008, two bills passed through U.S. House and Senate committees. One

would designate 13,700 acres as the *Copper Salmon Wilderness* and extend the *Wild and Scenic Elk River*. A second bill would expand the *Oregon Caves National Monument* and phase out grazing. These bills are likely to pass in 2009 in an omnibus bill.

A third bill would add 142 miles of tributaries to the *Wild and Scenic Rogue River*. This will have a better chance now that Senator Jeff Merkley has replaced Gordon Smith.

NEW PROPOSAL FOR NATIONAL SALMON AND BOTANICAL AREA

Siskiyou Project is also promoting a landscape-scale designation called the *Siskiyou Wild Rivers National Salmon and Botanical Area*. At the heart of this proposal is the 179,000 acre Kalmiopsis Wilderness and the 250,000 acres of Inventoried Roadless Areas that surround it. Valuable old-growth forests in the headwaters of the Illinois River are also included, to provide connectivity for migrating plants and animals from California.

This proposed designation would provide Americans with a legacy of Wild Rivers, Wild Fish, Wildflowers, Wildlife, and Wild Lands.

It would also bolster quality of life and expand economic opportunities for local restaurants, motels, RV

parks, outfitters, and forest contractors. The natural assets on our public lands can provide an enduring foundation for businesses and jobs for young people.

Please remember the Siskiyou Wild Rivers area in your conservation work in 2009. Visit www.siskiyou.org for details.



Hiker overlooking the Wild Rogue River.

Photo by Ken Crocker

CONSERVATION UPDATES

OMNIBUS PUBLIC LANDS BILL

The landmark Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009 was signed into law by President Obama on March 30, 2009 after passing the Senate (s.22) January 15th by a 74–21 vote and finally the House (HR146) in March. The bill included 160 separate land and water bills and will protect 2 million acres of wilderness in nine states and over 1000 miles of wild and scenic rivers, add 2800 miles to the National Trails System and authorize the National Landscape Conservation System.

The bill received unusual bipartisan support in the Senate where Republican Senators from the western states of Alaska, Idaho, Wyoming and Utah spoke and voted for the bill. Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and Chair of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) led the support for the bill, while Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK) provided opposition with arguments based on its expense the withdrawal of public lands from oil and gas exploration.

Most of our member organizations celebrated the victory achieving long sought campaign goals, though there are compromises in the bill on issues that have been long opposed. Some of the highlights in states we have members include:

California:

- 105 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers
- Eastern Sierra and Northern San Gabriel Wilderness
- Riverside County Wilderness
- Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP Wilderness
- Additions to the Hoover, John Muir, Ansel Adams, Agua Tibia, Cahuilla Mountain, Santa Rosa and Orocopia Wildernesses

Colorado:

- Rocky Mountain NP Wilderness

Idaho:

- Owyhee Public Land Management

Oregon:

- Mt. Hood Wilderness
- Copper Salmon Wilderness
- Cascade Siskiyou National Monument including the Soda Mt. Wilderness
- Oregon Badlands Wilderness

- Spring Basin Wilderness

- Oregon Caves National Monument protections

Utah (Washington County):

- Black Ridge near Zion NP
- Bull Valley Mountains

Washington:

- Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail

Wyoming:

- Wyoming Range Withdrawal Area
- Wild and Scenic River designation for Snake River watershed

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

Environmentalists are hoping that Secretary Salazar will overturn the Bush Administration's last minute regulations that eviscerate the Endangered Species Act by allowing federal projects to proceed without consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The deadline to do so is May 9th.

SALMON PLAN

Judge James Redden of the 9th District Court will soon rule on the adequacy of the Bush Administration's 2008 Salmon Plan affecting Columbia and Snake River salmon which most environmental groups declare is inadequate to protect and recover healthy populations of salmon. Judge Redden has twice rejected the federal plan stating it doesn't do enough for salmon and steelhead protected by the Endangered Species Act.

OIL AND GAS DRILLING

Secretary of the Interior Salazar delayed the decision and extended the comment period on President Bush's 5-year plan for oil and gas drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf. The Secretary attended hearings in Anchorage, San Francisco, New Orleans and Atlantic City in April. The Governors of Washington, Oregon and California all opposed the lifting of the 27-year moratorium on OCS drilling.

Secretary Salazar also announced he would cancel 77 oil and gas leases in the Redrock Wilderness of Utah, which were issued by the Bush administration before leaving office.

CONSERVATION UPDATES

AMERICA'S ARCTIC

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Coastal Plain Wilderness Bill S.231 has been introduced by Senator Lieberman and currently has twenty-five cosponsors. The companion HR39 will be introduced by Representative Markey (D-MA) and is awaiting a Republican lead cosponsor.

The Bush Administration's Plan to open 73 million acres of the "Polar Bear Seas," to oil and gas drilling was opened to an extended comment period during March. The Chukchi and Beaufort Seas off the north coast of Alaska are the home of polar bears, bowhead and beluga whales, seals, walruses and seabirds as well as the native communities that depend on them. Most environmental group urge a time-out for the development of a comprehensive Arctic conservation and energy plan based on a scientific assessment of the health, biodiversity and functioning of Arctic ecosystems greatly impacted by climate change.

FEDS JOIN OREGON'S APPEAL OF BRADWOOD LANDING LNG TERMINAL

The US Department of Justice has joined the State of Oregon's appeal of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's September 18, 2008 approval of the proposed Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal at Bradwood Landing, 20 miles up the Columbia River in Clatsop County. Governor Kulongoski and the State Department of Environmental Quality requested the rehearing based on the need for an assessment of the impact on water quality and salmon species. The appeal has also been joined by the State of Washington and many environmental groups led by Columbia Riverkeepers. Thanks to FWOC members groups, the Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Mazamas and the Willapa Hills Audubon Society, that worked on this issue.

NEVADA

By Marge Sill

Nevada has moved closer to outlawing any new coal-fired power plants with the decision of Nevada Energy, the utilities company in both Northern and Southern Nevada, to postpone indefinitely the proposed coal-fired power plant in White Pine County. This decision was

made mostly because of economic considerations in White Pine County by the LS Power Company, an out-of-state company that plans to sell power to Las Vegas or other places. However, with the downturn in the economy and the consequent reduction in building in Nevada, attention has turned to the development of alternative energy – solar, geothermal, and wind and the necessity for conservation.

MADRONE WALL, OREGON

By Joe Hargrave

Eagles and hawks do soar above the Madrone Wall, an oxidized basalt cliff complimented by rich Pacific Madrone trees, which is planned to be a park. The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs responded to access issues and mining in a 2000 resolution. Deer also quietly wander the site through second stand forest owned by Clackamas County, which has been recently holding public meetings. The Madrone Wall park planning meetings have been taking place over the past few months. There is concern over the possibility that the County can still log above the cliff for monetary gain, as it is presently zoned as Timber. There were three (3) designs perpetuated at these meetings held in Fall 2008 with the most comprehensive Concept Plan selected; dispersed parking with ADA access to Highway 224 (required by the County for public access), a bus stop, restrooms, kiosk, hiking trails all around the forty-four acres and also rock climbing. There would be potential seasonal park closures for habitat. The goal is still to gain open access to this small parcel of land in a timely manner. It has been closed to the public since 1997, though the county has given permission for outings to explore and catalog the flora and fauna and more recently for volunteers to clear invasive species and pickup trash. Public input and pressure is helping and is necessary to keep the park movement going, which has been kept informed by the Madrone Wall Preservation Committee and many other organizations that have signed on and helped fund the preservation effort including the FWOC and member clubs like the Mazamas.





CLUB NEWS

Compiled by Shirley Cameron



To be included in Club News, please remember to send your club's newsletter by mail or email to Shirley Cameron, 35479 Ross Lane, Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or shirleycam@pacinfo.com

CALIFORNIA

A new roof graces the CALIFORNIA ALPINE CLUB's Alpine Lodge. It was necessary to repair the rafters and fascia boards but after volunteers installed the R-14 insulated roof, they estimated it will last fifty years!

The Board of Directors adopted a resolution which encourages and supports operating the club in a manner that considers its impact on the environment. A few actions to be taken: Prepare meals that are organic or locally grown as much as possible; The trustees will choose products and materials that are least harmful to the environment; Encourage carpooling; Build a compost pile.



The remarkable newsletter of the CONTRA COSTA HILLS CLUB, called "Knapsack," is a group effort by dedicated members. Many members help with circulation and mailing but special mention goes to the editor, Jo Anne Schultz, for setting up the eye catching publication and to Fred Mock, a true professional who prints the newsletter with so many color photos of the club's activities.

As in some other clubs, an opportunity is given for members to contribute to the Conservation Fund at the same time that they pay their yearly dues. This year, nineteen members took this opportunity to promote conservation.

The club's annual meeting on March 22, 2009, will feature Win Hayward, past president of the FWOC as •

For 96 years, the TAMALPAIS CONSERVATION CLUB has been working on behalf of Mt. Tam. Now they

are creating a newly designed interactive website with the aim of the site becoming the hub for Mt. Tam activities, a source of information and guidance.

The "Tamalpais Guardian," their newsletter, reports there is a bill before Congress changing Golden Gate National Recreation Area to National Park status. The bill was proposed by Speaker Pelosi. It caught the community by surprise, but it seems the current policies and level of recreation will remain unchanged.

COLORADO

The GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS announces a Broadband Boot Camp with the goal of training leaders in wilderness advocacy and activism techniques. Due to a generous grant from the Ben & Jerry's Foundation, it will be offered at no cost to the participants.

The participants at the "Broadwalk at Spring Basin," held near the town of Fossil, Oregon, advocated wilderness designation for 8,600 acres of a unique volcanic area that overlooks the Wild and Scenic John Day River. Local land-owners, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and the Oregon Natural Desert Association developed the proposal and the bill has been introduced. The participants had a challenging job – pulling barb wire to take down fences. They were up to the challenge though and learned they had removed more than a mile of fence on behalf of wildlife. Good Job!

NEVADA

In "Toiyabe Trails," the newsletter of the TOIYABE CHAPTER OF THE

SIERRA CLUB, we learn that no longer will junked cars and piles of debris mar the views north of Mono Lake. There was a generous donation of a 480 acre conservation easement to the Eastern Sierra Land Trust. The donors worked with contractors and volunteers to remove the debris and start the process of revegetation.

The Toiyabe Chapter donated \$500 toward the sponsorship of the annual fund raiser to benefit Clair Tappaan Lodge. The profits of the fundraiser helped the Lodge meet the Sierra Club Board of Director's deadline to break even by the end of September 2008.

There is a controversy over WHO owns Lake Tahoe – a few hundred influential people with lakefront property OR the citizens of the whole country who love Lake Tahoe. In October, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency voted to approve 125 more private piers and 1,862 more buoys on Lake Tahoe, essentially privatizing the lake. The vote was close and there will be an effort to reverse the decision. Aside from all the other important considerations, the air and water quality in the Tahoe Basin will be negatively impacted, making it harder to restore the lake's clarity.



FRIENDS OF NEVADA WILDERNESS volunteers partnered with the Forest Service to clean up the graffiti that had defaced twenty rocks, trees and logs along a popular trail to Church's Pond in the Mt. Rose Wilderness. They were armed with rubber gloves, wire brushes and spray bottles of biodegradable graffiti remover.



CLUB NEWS

Compiled by Shirley Cameron



In July, five volunteers and a crew leader from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers came to the Highland Ridge Wilderness at the south end of Great Basin Park. For their "vacation" they built 120 feet of post and rail fence and a horseback riders' access gate along the boundary of the park and rehabilitated five vehicle routes. In spite of the heat, daily thunderstorms and rattlesnakes, they said they had a great time. One of the group, originally from Zimbabwe, remarked on how similar Nevada's high country was to his homeland.

OREGON

It's a great way to move! The OREGON CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB, along with NW Region Sierra Club and the Columbia group, moved their office headquarters by bike. They had nine bikers pulling trailers. They each made two trips for the short 0.8 mile trip. One person made three trips with his high-capacity home built rig. The bike trailers traveled a total of 15.2 miles. Their new address is: 1821SE Ankeny St., Portland, OR, 97214

The chapter has joined with other groups to challenge the permit issued by the Oregon DEQ for the Umatilla Chemical Weapons Disposal Facility. Part of the concern is the burning of "secondary waste," which includes hazardous materials. The Army wants to burn the waste in incinerators that have been proven not to work. The objective of the challenge is to have a safer, more environmentally protective disposal process for all the mustard agent stored at Umatilla. The same bulk mustard agent was neutralized in Maryland with no environmental violations because residents of Maryland demanded the safest approach.



The Research Committee of the MAZAMAS received twenty-nine proposals in 2008 (five Standard, twenty-three Graduate Students, two Youth). They are funding the research of three Standard, five Grad Students, and two Youth. Some topics of research are "Can the Olympic Marmot Survive in a Warming World?", "Forest Dynamics in High-Elevation Whitebark Pine Forests," "The Natural Range of Variability in Critical Mountain Ecosystems" and "Permaculture Garden Summer Program 2009 – Madison High School."

Jim Whittaker, the first American to stand on the summit of Mt. Everest in 1963, was the featured speaker at the annual banquet on November 22nd. He led the first American ascent of K2. He organized and led the successful 1990 Mt. Everest Peace Climb. This climb put twenty men and women from three superpowers, the U.S., China, and the Soviet Union, on the summit to help focus the world's attention on environmental issues. Some know him as the President and CEO of REI. In 1999, he wrote "A Life on the Edge: Memoirs of Everest and Beyond."

Blind students from the Washington State School for the Blind are able to hike with Mazama leaders. There is advice for other clubs wishing to do the same thing: One adult for each student on the hike; suitable trails with level hiking surfaces yet still challenging; find trails that offer tactile and auditory experiences.



Wanted! Responsible dog owners! A member of the TRAILS CLUB OF OREGON, on a backpack trip, reported seeing two dogs attack a deer, bringing it

down, chewing on it and breaking a back leg. A woman jogger came down the trail, unaware of what her dogs had done. She was reported to the State Police but they arrived too late to confront her.

The "Trail Blazer" informs us of free topo and trail maps by Gravity College that digitized hundreds of thousands of miles shown on USGS quadrangle maps. The database includes every National Park, National Forest, State Park, State Forest, BLM area, Wildlife Refuge and Grassland in the continental USA. You can search and zoom by trail name, park name, mountain name, or state. Every trail shows distance, elevation profile and difficulty score and a 3D flythrough function lets you digitally hike the trail. You can print unlimited free maps. (<http://gravitycollege.com/>)

The "Trail Blazer" reported that sixty five representatives of conservation and recreation organizations, government agencies and community leaders met at the Government Camp Mazama Lodge in September for a full day of exploring a variety of topics pertaining to the increasing recreational demands on the Mt. Hood National Forest. It was particularly important given that the staff of the National Forest was reduced from 500 to 136 full time employees. Ideas were offered such as unified lobbying strategies, providing summit info to the media and having follow-up meetings to monitor progress.



Information about the High Cascade Forest Volunteers annual training weekend appeared in the newsletter of the CHEMEKETANS. At no cost to the participants, topics include first aid, CPR, crosscut and chainsaw certification, trail maintenance and trail crew leadership



CLUB NEWS

Compiled by Shirley Cameron



and Pacific Crest Trail stewardship. People can spend time hiking the PCT or maintaining lakeside campsites. There is free tent and RV camping and professionally catered meals will be served. For more information: Judy Mitchell, Forest Volunteer Coordinator. hayjudy@comcast.net or Google High Cascade Forest Volunteer Training.

We learned from their newsletter "Chemeketa" that in Dec. 2007 the Oregon State Parks Commission purchased 319 acres along Beaver Creek, near the Happ Wetland Preserve owned by the Wetland Conservancy. The Beaver Creek ocean tributary connects old growth Sitka Spruce and woodland upper watershed with beach coastal dunes, estuary/marsh habitats downstream. It sounds like a fine opportunity for canoe and kayak enthusiasts. Suggested put-in: the free Ona Beach State Park Beaver Creek boat ramp on the east side of Hwy 101. (7 miles south of Newport).



FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE reports that the oversized house that has dominated the bluff's edge at Cape Horn is being dismantled by Green Home Construction. More than 70% of the materials will be recycled and reused through the Gorge Re-Build It Center in Hood River. The property is expected to be transferred to Forest Service ownership. Friends of the Columbia Gorge will work with the Forest Service to create an overlook to honor Nancy and Bruce Russell. For the first time, the Oregon Supreme Court will preside over litigation involving the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. The court will review three appeals at the same time. A coalition of

landowners, businesses, and conservation organizations led by Friends of the Columbia Gorge is challenging decisions made by the Gorge Commission that weaken the Gorge Management Plan. Decisions could come in spring 2009.



After an increase in the carpooling rate to nine cents a mile, members of the OBSIDIANS were reminded of the history of their car pooling costs. The May 1948 "Bulletin" noted that due to the higher cost of auto operation, plus the difficulty of getting sufficient transportation for trips, the Executive Committee recommended that car drivers be given one and one-half cents per mile. The cost of gas in 1948 was twenty-five cents a gallon. At an unknown time, it was raised to 3 cents a mile. In Feb. 2000, the rate was increased to five cents a mile when gas was \$1.60 per gallon. In June 2005 it was raised to seven cents a mile with gas at \$2.40. At this last increase to nine cents, gas was around \$4.00 per gallon.

The committee doing the planning for the effort to give visiting Olympic Trials and Bach Festival spectators a look at Oregon's natural wonders reflected on the experience and lessons learned. It was disappointing that the primary target market was mostly not reached. But twenty-two hikes were led with 116 participants and the visitors who did the hikes sent Emails and letters that were very positive. Also, there were a number of local non-members who might become members. The committee learned which hikes were the most appealing. Much was learned in the area of publicity. With the worldwide exposure on the Internet, local media coverage, AAA magazine, Obsidians may never have had so much publicity.

A template for future news releases was created, along with examples of how to generate a variety of news and feature angles for an event.

WASHINGTON

"Traildust," the newsletter of the HOBNAILERS, tells of arrangements for acquiring Antoine Peak Conservation Area, about 1000 acres of land just outside the urban growth boundary. Antoine Peak forms a spectacular backdrop to Spokane, Spokane Valley, Liberty Lake and Newman Lake. It is part of an important wildlife corridor that stretches north to Mount Spokane State Park and into the Selkirk Mountains. It is home to elk, moose, black bear, deer and eight species in decline. Many streams cross the property providing critical water and recharging the source of drinking water for more than 500,000 people. Spokane County will contribute monies. The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board has approved the funding for the last two phases and recommended the monies be included in a capital budget request.



A team of Scouts spent time over two days brushing the new WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB's trail system. When completed, the club will have 5K for snowshoe and skiing. This is a good way for Scouts to collect their trail work merit badge.

Club members are urged to sign up for multiple year memberships: 3, 4, or 5 years.



BOOK REVIEWS

Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution and How It Can Renew America by Thomas L. Friedman published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York, 2008. Review by Raelene Gold.

This is an important book that's ideas are clearly influencing the current national discussion and legislation in Congress. For those interested in getting a deeper grasp of energy issues on a broader global level, this book is a great help. As a Pulitzer Prize winning New York Times foreign affairs columnist and author of four other bestselling books, Mr. Friedman has the overall grasp of the global situation, to address our current climate, energy and financial dilemmas. The title describes how global warming, globalization's creation of a new middle class, and a global population explosion is bringing the world to a crisis, and how American needs to lead the world in a new energy revolution.

The major parts of the book deal with, first "where we are," then "how we got to where we are," and finally "how we move forward." Mr. Friedman is a strong proponent of Energy Technology being the solution to our problems of climate change, oil

scarcity, dependency on foreign oil, and treasury exported to the Middle East. He believes the United States needs to be the global leader in the Energy Technology revolution like it was in the Information Technology revolution. This "Code Green" would make the United States the world's leader in clean power and energy efficiency systems. The chapter I found most pragmatic was: "The Energy Internet: Where IT Meets ET."

Friedman proclaims this as not your grandfather's environmentalism, which it isn't. Environmentalists have made preservation of natural resources and natural systems as a priority over the economy. Here the ailing economy and the environment are to be transformed together. The question is will the merger of problems and their solutions help either. Environmentalists are often the first ones raising issues about environmental damage that also accompanies alternative energy development.

Another concern about the book is that he, along with most others, doesn't foresee global falling oil and gas prices and financial meltdown, which obviously alter many of the equations here in ways we are just beginning to see.



Field Guide to Shrubs of SW Oregon, text and photos by Jan Walker and Max Bennett. Available for \$7 payable to OSU Extension Service, send to: Shrub Guide, Jackson County Extension, 569 Hanley Road, Central Point, OR 97502.

This eight-page, pocket-sized field guide is designed to help identify fifty-six of the most frequently encountered shrubs in the region. Each species is described in detail, including its habitat, leaves, twigs, fruit, and flower. Photos of the leaves, fruit, and flower of each species are shown. An easy-to-use series of dichotomous keys makes identification of unfamiliar species a snap. Included are illustrations of common plant parts and a glossary. This slim field guide is a wonderful companion to everyone's next foray into the amazing Siskiyou. The Federation is very proud of Jan Walker, our VP for Southern Oregon, for this contribution.

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SEND this form with your check payable to FWOC to:

Jack Walker
FWOC Treasurer
P.O. Box 129
Selma, OR 95738

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs 77th Annual Conference

CONSERVATION CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN AN UNCERTAIN ECONOMY

Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute + Spokane, Washington

Noon, Friday, August 28 until noon Sunday, August 30, 2009

Name _____ ☐ M ☐ F
Club or Organization _____ Delegate? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Cell _____ Email _____

FEES **Convention package:** includes convention registration, 3 meals (Saturday breakfast and lunch, Sunday breakfast), social hours and lodging in student two person rooms: \$100 \$ _____
Conference package without lodging: \$ 50 \$ _____
Friday only (includes social hour) \$ 15 \$ _____
Saturday only (includes lunch and social hour) \$ 25 \$ _____

NOTE: Fri. and Sat. dinners will be held at restaurants off site and are not included in fees.

Please join FWOC as an individual member: \$ 10 \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

I wish to share a room with _____

Check for information on:

- ☐ Transportation
☐ Carpools: ☐ (take riders)
☐ (need ride)
☐ Check for information on off-site
motels in area

Please complete ONE form for each
attendee and make check out to
FWOC for the **Total**.

Mail Check and form to:

Raelene Gold
(Questions: raelene@seanet.com)
4028 NE 196th St.
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155

**Please send in Registration by
August 24th**

2009 RESOLUTION PROPOSAL FORM

Submitted by _____ (Member Organization or Individual)

Contact Person _____

Email _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Date _____

Resolution Title or Topic _____

Background: Explain the issue, how the matter arose, why it is important, where it stands now.

Proposed Resolution: This is the FWOC's position or stand. Use the appropriate action verb. (For example: The FWOC urges... The FWOC opposes... The FWOC supports... The FWOC condemns... etc.)

Send in Word format by email or by mail to: George Nickas,
gnickas@wildernesswatch.org, PO Box 9175, Missoula, MT 59807

Deadline for submissions is August 7, 2009



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August 28–30, 2009

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Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute
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www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org

Oct. 1–5, 2009

Great Old Broads 20th Anniversary Celebration
Hikes and Speakers
Escalante, UT
www.greatoldbroads.org

April 8–11, 2010

Western Wilderness Conference 2010
Keeping the West Wild: New Aims, New Allies
University of California, Berkeley, CA
www.westernwilderness.org



Standing female hiker in Josephine Creek.

Photo by Richard Wilhelm