

Oregon Wild

Winter-Spring 2014 Volume 41, Number 1



Happy 50th to Wilderness
AND AN OREGON LEGACY



Working to protect and restore Oregon's wildlands, wildlife, and waters as an enduring legacy for future generations.

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COVER PHOTO: BEN CANALES Crater Lake National Park is an Oregon gem. But to ensure its protection, along with hundreds of other wild areas that give our state its character, we must make 2014 the Year of Wilderness.





From the Director's Desk Keeping time in the Wilderness

Sean Stevens, Executive Director

Five decades doesn't seem like much for an 800-year old cedar. For a river that's been carving a canyon for millions of years, a half-century goes by in a blink.

But, for us humans, fifty years is a long time. Two generations. More than half a life.

The disparity in the way we experience time compared to how the natural world around us does is profound. It reminds me that human efforts to define wilderness are inherently confounding endeavors.

At different times in human history wilderness has been: a dangerous place waiting to be tamed; a bounty existing to be exploited; and a haven for solitude and adventure seekers. It has also always been defined more in relation to how humans treat it than for what it actually is.

Fifty years ago, when Americans demanded protections for what was left of our pristine public lands, Congress responded by enacting the 1964 Wilderness Act. They gave Wilderness (with a capital W) a very

anthropocentric definition, calling it, "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man" (maybe Congress knew that women had a lighter touch on the land).

In essence, Wilderness is better off without us – and our chainsaws, oil derricks, concrete dams, and bulldozers. Yet, even as we try to define Wilderness as apart from us, it is the connection we feel to these special places that inspires us to work to protect them.

Without this deep love of the wild, a rag tag group of students and activists would not have gathered forty years ago to form the group that would become Oregon Wild. We wouldn't have been able to protect almost two million acres of Wilderness – from the North Fork John Day to the Sky Lakes Wilderness. We wouldn't have saved the last of Oregon's old-growth before it was all lost to the chainsaw.

With the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act and the 40th anniversary of

Oregon Wild in 2014, we have plenty to celebrate. We'll celebrate like humans do – parties, telling stories, and giving thanks to the dedication of so many. Personally, I will remember that any good anniversary must be equal parts celebration of the past and recommitment to the future. In other words, Oregon Wild isn't done yet – not by a long shot.

As for the wilderness itself (areas already protected or waiting for their day in Congress), the celebration will be muted. We'd like to think that the wolf howls and the owl hoots will be a little louder in 2014 – that the mountains will shine a little brighter in the winter sun. In reality, the river will keep cutting through the canyon, tree rings will form at the same pace, and each living thing will fight for survival unaware of the occasion.

The celebrations are good for now, but the Wilderness is forever.



Here's to the preservation of the world – a happy 50th to Wilderness

Marielle Cowdin, Membership Associate



US FOREST SERVICE
Eagle Cap circa 1900.

“Peace will come to the hearts of men when they realize their oneness with the universe. It is everywhere.”

– Black Elk

Last July, I found myself in Oregon’s Eagle Cap on a solo trek. I’m generally not a morning person, but on this particular day I was compelled to break camp for an early morning trail run along Hurricane Creek. I checked my watch - 7:30 A.M. - but the sun seemed high. As I started up the trail the hush made me feel I had discovered nature’s morning ritual, and I feared somehow my presence would disturb the quiet sequence of events. But I carried on, splashed through an icy creek and tried my best to run nimbly through the woods and across the meadows.

The stillness was both peaceful and unnerving. Pausing for a breath, I admired the swath of Indian paintbrush at my feet. It beckoned like a soft bed of vermilion and for a moment I wasn’t in Oregon anymore. I was back where Wilderness first took hold of me...

I was fourteen. My mother pointed out the wildflowers and medicinal plants by their scientific names, but I

already knew the Indian paintbrush, my grandmother’s favorite. As we meandered through the old-growth pines in Colorado’s Indian Peaks Wilderness, I thought about mountain lions and black bears. We started at high elevation and reached tree line quickly, greeted by the strong, icy breeze of the alpine tundra. The tiny and delicate flora that hid nestled around each rock held my attention at each switchback and I could see the top of Mount

Audubon looming above. With each challenging step I began to relish the fact that I was transforming into a tiny speck. Perhaps I’d turn invisible.

Winded and wind-burned, I scrambled up the final boulder field. My muscles ached and it took me a few moments to fully grasp my surroundings, but a breathtaking panorama all at once unfolded. Colorado’s Continental Divide is a true wonder of the natural world, a formidable ocean of undulating rock



KHRISTIAN SNYDER Wildflower meadow
in the Three Sisters Wilderness.

and snow stretching into infinity. I realized I had completed my first 13,000-foot summit and I hardly felt attached to the ground. In truth I was a bit nervous that the wind would pick me up and send me hurtling through the space below like a rogue balloon, but feeling all at once powerful and completely powerless was exhilarating.

Wilderness is...

As a concept, wilderness manifests so many things. Wilderness is adventure. Wilderness is art – it is poetry and music, prose and paintings. Wilderness is fear and hope and life and death. It is love. Wilderness is power and weakness, a visual and infinite timeline. It is the canvas that



inspires us, and the stage on which all life begins, ends, and finds peace. Wilderness is the core of everything living, and still, is so much more.

Before I could walk, my parents hiked Colorado's rugged wildlands with me strapped to their backs and the sweet smell of Ponderosa has been the smell of home ever since. As I've continued exploring the wild, I've felt the satisfaction that comes from hardship, from struggle and perseverance; the richness of food, the sweetness of water; the energy that circulates from air to lungs, sun to eyes, earth to toes; the ache of muscles and the sharpness of air. I've never felt more alive or more content with my place and purpose. For me, wilderness is where everything makes sense. Wilderness brought me to Oregon.

Like apple pie

"Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul alike."
– John Muir, The Yosemite (1912)

America's foundation is the land. The mountains, the rivers, the valleys, the trees have witnessed every piece of our history and have shaped where we've settled, failed, or thrived. In 2014 the Wilderness Act turns 50, a remarkable milestone and an anniversary deserving grand celebration. While conservation has always had its challenges – swimming

against the current of industrial growth and private interests – the winning battles fought make the Wilderness won all the more sweet. As we enter 2014, we deserve to savor half a century of protections, enjoy our wilderness in the coming year (see sidebar), and reflect on how it came to be.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 set a precedent for our relationship with the American landscape. It established the National Wilderness Preservation System, initially protecting 9.1 million acres of federal land, and produced a formal mechanism for designating Wilderness – the highest level of environmental protection we have today. Written by Howard Zahniser of The Wilderness Society, it constructed a legal definition for "wilderness," with a surprisingly lyrical elegance. It states:

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.

For a nation born out of expansion, settlement, and an insatiable desire to tame and control our surroundings, this language holds incredible weight. It recognizes the intrinsic value of the natural environment, its significance

Put on your Wilderness party hat!



Former board member Jim Baker enjoys an early Oregon Wild celebration.

For the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act and the 40th anniversary of Oregon Wild, we've got big plans in store – and we want to include you in the celebrations!

Throughout 2014 we'll have special Wilderness hikes, Wilderness-themed Wild Wednesday presentations, the return of our Oregon Wilderness Conference, and much more. Mark these dates and join us as we celebrate the special wildlands of Oregon.

January to March (TBD)
Anniversary Kick-off Parties
(Portland, Eugene, Bend, Ashland)

February 27 – March 2
Public Interest Environmental Law Conference (Eugene)

June 6-7
Oregon Wilderness Conference
(Portland)

June 7 – September 13
Oregon Wild Summer hikes series
(Trails across the state)

October (TBD)

Call of the Wild annual benefit
(Portland)

Whether you can make it out to these special events or not, we want to hear from you!

We know that each of you has a special connection to our Wilderness landscape that can be expressed in many ways. Please send us:

- Stories about your favorite Wilderness experiences (and let us know if you are willing to tell us that story in person as we collect video recollections)
- Memories of the inspirational champions who helped protect a slice of Oregon
- Historic photos of Wilderness areas through the years

Send all your great stories, photos, and more to wilderness@oregonwild.org or to: Wilderness Stories, 5825 N Greeley, Portland, OR 97217



for the American landscape, human and non-human species, and our national identity. Despite immense capitalistic enterprise and privatization in the United States, this stand for public land, for the greater good, and for a natural legacy is something extraordinary.

In Oregon, the Wilderness Act marked the beginning of our modern identity. Though Oregon's peoples have

always found a deep connection with the land, since western expansion its protection has not always been at the forefront of our values. But Oregon's landscape defines our state, and its rivers are its lifeblood. Areas including the Eagle Cap, Three Sisters, Mount Jefferson, the Strawberry Mountains, Mount Washington, Diamond Peak, and the Kalmiopsis were already recognized as special wild places, but the

Wilderness Act of 1964 gave them the Wilderness designation that preserved them forever.

The Act of 1964 also paved the way for the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984, which protected over 860,000 acres including the North Fork John Day, Bull of the Woods, Sky Lakes, Mount Thielsen, Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness and many others (see page 8). Getting

an area to the point of designation can be a long and complex affair (see recipe below), but if successful, the reward far outweighs the effort. With the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009, Oregon Wild spearheaded protections for over 202,000 acres across the state, including 127,000 around Mount Hood and the Columbia River Gorge.

If not for the Wilderness Act of 1964, Oregonians today might not be able to enjoy a hike in the Gorge or lose themselves in the Strawberry Mountains for a weekend. I might have never been able to visit the glacial tarns in the Three Sisters Wilderness or wake up to a sunrise over Broken Top. If not for the Wilderness Act, visitors to the Eagle Cap might have never had the chance to hear the lone howl of a native wolf and Journey (OR-7) might never have made his 3,000-mile trek that continues to inspire the nation. The Wilderness Act protects the Oregon we love.

The preservation of the world

"Without enough wilderness America will change. Democracy... must be fibred and vitalized by regular contact with outdoor growths – animals, trees, sun warmth and free skies – or it will dwindle and pale."

– Walt Whitman

America needs wilderness to survive. It seems melodramatic, but

it shouldn't come as a surprise that we require clean air to breathe and clean water to drink. Though the veil of civilization may have convinced us otherwise, only wilderness holds all the essential elements for life – things no corporation can provide. In designating Wilderness, we ensure not only our own survival, but also give future generations a chance to live and live well. In wilderness we protect our watersheds, allow for clean air, provide a buffer against global climate change (see sidebar page 7), and preserve critical habitat for endangered fish and wildlife.

Wilderness is also our classroom, a living museum, and an evolutionary library. It contains the questions and answers that help us understand our place and how we must move forward to live. Nancy Newhall, who wrote *This is the American Earth* with Ansel Adams, stated, "The wilderness holds answers to more questions than we yet know how to ask." Regardless of lifestyle, location, socioeconomic status, or political beliefs, safeguarding wilderness and the fundamentals for life benefits every Oregonian and every American. As Thoreau once said, "In wilderness is the preservation of the world."

But wilderness endows us with far more than survival tools. Protected wildlands offer myriad opportunities for outdoor recreation – and we Oregonians do love to play! Hiking, camping, fishing, rafting, horseback

RECIPE FOR WILDERNESS (Steve Pedery, Conservation Director)

Wilderness can seem magical when floating the Wild Rogue, or hiking in the Eagle Cap. But Wilderness isn't protected by magic—it takes an act of Congress and a lot of hard work from dedicated Oregonians who cherish our state's wild places.

- * Start with a wild area on federal public lands. Add a core group of people who love and want to protect it and put together a draft Wilderness proposal with maps and a case statement for why the area should be protected.
- * Next, bring Wilderness supporters together to craft a plan for winning Wilderness protection for the area. Identify a US Senator or Representative as a potential legislative champion.
- * Heat things up with slideshows, public hikes, a web site, and activities that raise awareness of your area and the need to protect it.
- * Throw in a generous helping of outreach. Meet with other Wilderness supporters from your region, the federal agency that manages the land, and key community leaders. Take a news reporter out to learn about the campaign, and take your legislative champion out to visit the Wilderness proposal first hand. Respond to opposition—modify your proposal if you have to, but keep stirring the pot!
- * Bring your Wilderness campaign to a boil by asking your champion to introduce Wilderness legislation. Back them up with phone calls, letters, emails, and other communications from Wilderness supporters. Then start educating other Members of Congress about why your area deserves protection, starting with other leaders in your state.
- * Simmer for as long as needed. Wilderness campaigns take time to win!

riding, and hunting are all enjoyed in and enhanced by protected Wilderness. For outdoor enthusiasts there is no substitute for pristine rivers, ancient forests, rugged peaks, and sage-covered desert; no substitute for the sunrise over Waldo Lake or catching that wild trout on the fly.

Oregon is a state of outdoors where we live, work, and play – and our economy is fast reflecting this new reliance on outdoor recreation and the tourism that follows. According to the Outdoor Industry Association, between the out-of-state visitors seeking out our outdoor adventure mecca and locals enjoying their own backyards, recreation generates nearly \$13 billion in consumer spending in

Oregon alone each year. And that figure is growing.

Yet on Wilderness, Oregon fails to live up to its green reputation. Though we embrace our ties to our wildlands and tout our recreational opportunities, in practice we've neglected the stewardship required to carry them forward. While our neighbors in Washington, California, and Idaho have 10%, 15%, and 8% of their lands permanently protected respectively, Oregon has a mere 4% protected as designated Wilderness. We can do better Oregon, and we deserve better.

As we enter 2014 and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, let us make it clear to our elected

officials that the recreation we enjoy, the clean water we drink, the fresh air we breathe, and the stable climate we so desperately need to survive, all depend on the preservation of our public lands. Let us help Oregon live up to the green standard it's held to nationwide. Let us give Oregon a future. Let us make 2014 the year of Wilderness.

I came to Oregon for its wilderness, but I stay to fight for it. I hope you'll agree it's worth fighting for. ☺

Take Action!

Visit www.oregonwild.org to learn more about Oregon's proposed and designated Wilderness and how you can make Oregon Wilderness your legacy.



DAVE GARLOCK Mount Jefferson Wilderness



JOEL ELLIS

In Wilderness lies hope for climate solutions

Doug Helken, Conservation & Restoration Coordinator

John Muir said, "In God's wilderness lies the hope of the world." This was true 50 years ago when the Wilderness Act was passed, and it's even more true today in the face of global climate change. Fifty years ago few understood the existential threat posed by fossil fuels and deforestation, that our climate was destined to change and that protecting forest wilderness could provide an important part of the solution.

Forests absorb and store carbon that is emitted from fossil fuels and land use change. To help forests store more carbon we need to let them grow. Protected forests with old-growth trees

store large amounts. Logging halts photosynthesis and carbon capture and then initiates decay processes that transfer carbon in the trees and soil back to the atmosphere.

Forest conservation, including the strong legal protection of the Wilderness Act, helps protect growing forests from logging and helps keep that carbon safely stored over the long term. Protecting forest Wilderness not only helps mitigate climate change, but also furthers our efforts to protect water quality, wildlife habitat, recreation, and quality of life, and associated economic opportunities.

Let's make 2014 the Year of Wilderness!

Jonathan Jelen, Development Director

With a mere 4% of Oregon protected as Wilderness, we're lagging far behind our neighboring states. And with so many amazing places still at risk – from Crater Lake and the Rogue River to Devil's Staircase and the last unprotected areas on Mount Hood – there's no time to waste. In 2014 we'll celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. This milestone gives us a great opportunity to expand our Wilderness outreach and build even more support to permanently protect these pristine places. But we need your help.

Please consider a special contribution today to help us turn proposed Wilderness areas into protected Wilderness areas that future generations can enjoy.

Take Action! Use the included envelope on this page to send in a special contribution, turn this map green, and make Oregon's Wilderness your legacy.



North Fork John Day Wilderness

This area includes the headwaters for one of eastern Oregon's most important salmon and steelhead rivers, the John Day.



Eagle Cap Wilderness

Known as Oregon's Alps, Eagle Cap is the largest intact landscape in Oregon at 558 square miles.



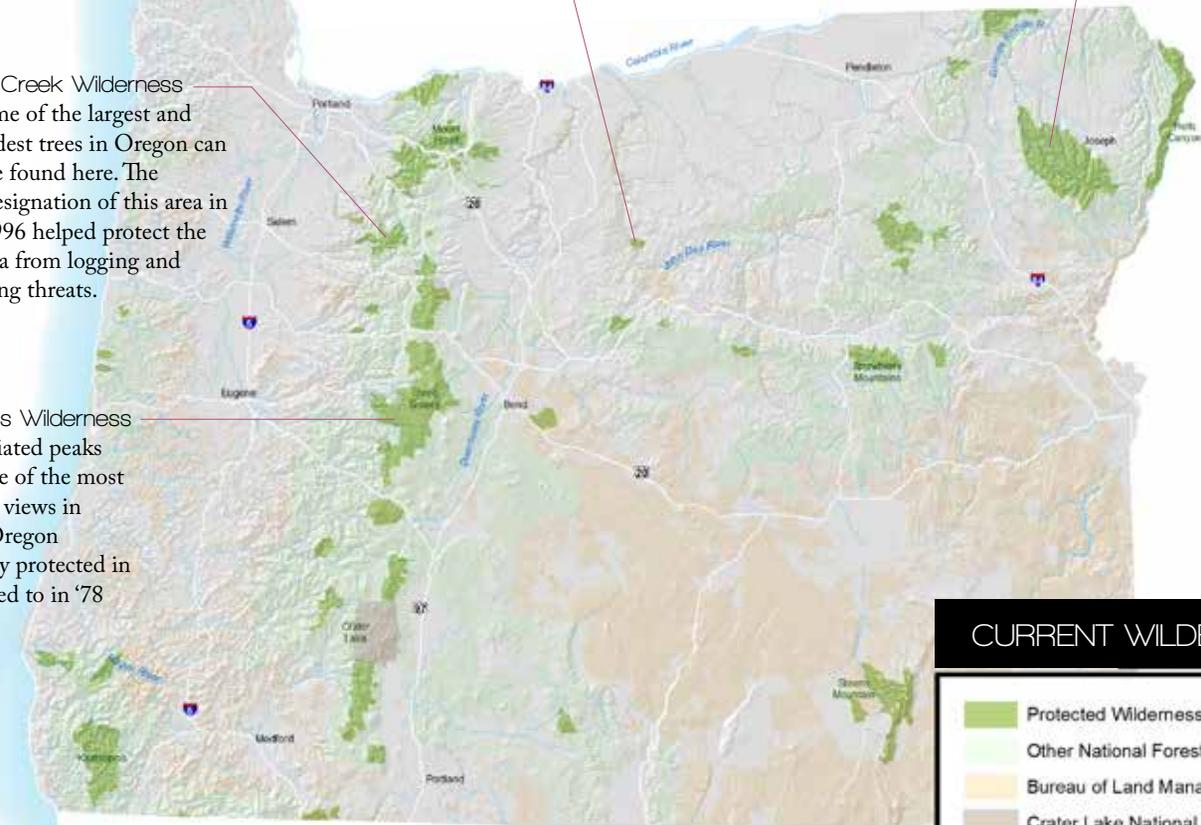
Opal Creek Wilderness

Some of the largest and oldest trees in Oregon can be found here. The designation of this area in 1996 helped protect the area from logging and mining threats.



Three Sisters Wilderness

These glaciated peaks offer some of the most stunning views in central Oregon (originally protected in 1964, added to in '78 and '84).



CURRENT WILDERNESS

- Protected Wilderness
- Other National Forest Lands
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Crater Lake National Park

PHOTOS THIS PAGE FROM LEFT: KHRISTIAN SNYDER; STAN NEWMAN; BRETT COLE; CHERYL HILL
 FACING PAGE FROM LEFT: JOHN McANULTY; DAVID TVEDT; AMY TWIEST; BEN CANALES; GABE HOWE

OREGON'S WILDERNESS FOOTPRINT

Erik Fernandez, Wilderness Coordinator



Mount Hood Wilderness
While a number of gems around the mountain were protected in 2009, several natural treasures slipped through the cracks including Boulder Lake, Tamanawas Falls, and Bluegrass Ridge.



Devil's Staircase
The old-growth forests surrounding the mythical waterfall called Devil's Staircase are some of the last in the heavily logged Coast Range.



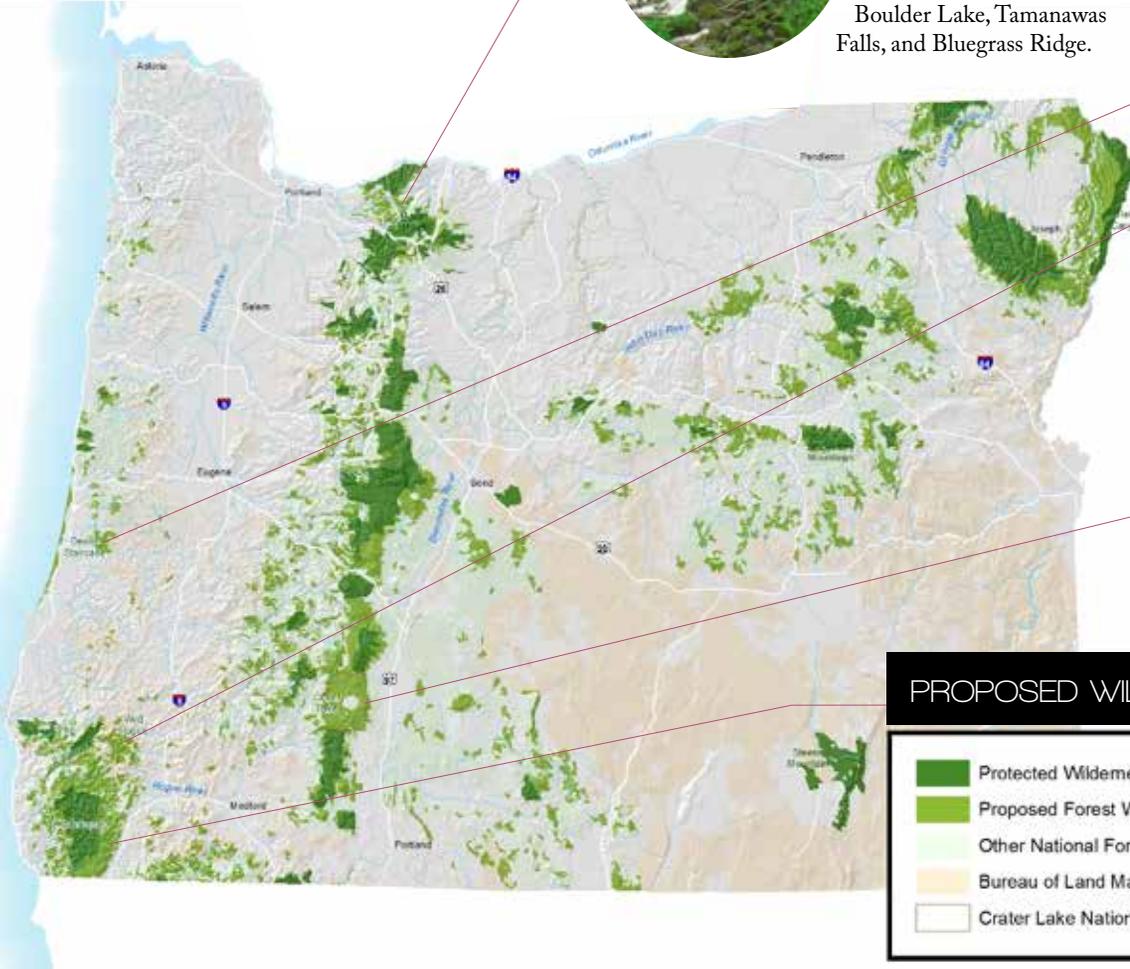
Wild Rogue
Pending legislation would protect the world-class rafting and salmon runs along a stretch of the Rogue River that has been recently threatened by logging proposals.



Crater Lake
Proposed Wilderness includes the backcountry of the park, the wildlife corridors that enter and exit, and the headwaters to the Deschutes, Klamath, Rogue, and Umpqua Rivers.



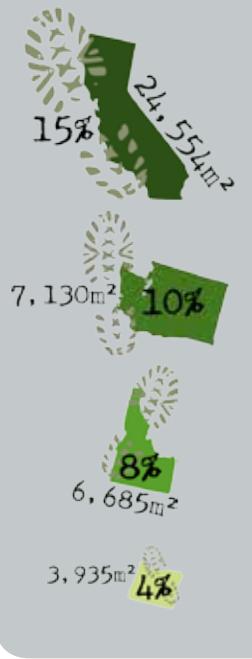
Kalmiopsis
One of the most biologically diverse areas in North America, these incredibly sensitive forests are threatened by ATVs and destructive mining projects.



PROPOSED WILDERNESS

- Protected Wilderness
- Proposed Forest Wilderness
- Other National Forest Lands
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Crater Lake National Park

PROTECTED WILDERNESS BY STATE
(PERCENTAGE OF LAND AREA AND SQ. MILES)



A wild call, a wild answer

Tommy Hough, Communications & Outreach Coordinator



GREG GOMEZ

Long-time Oregon Wild fans know fall is when we hold our annual benefit event and announce the winners of our Outdoor Photo Contest. But this year marked something of a new beginning for Oregon Wild's annual autumnal gathering, re-launched and re-christened as *Call of the Wild*.

Featuring a camp-inspired setting at Union/Pine in Southeast Portland, a sold-out crowd of over 300 Oregon Wild supporters, fans, and outdoor advocates enjoyed fireside-ready snacks and food, along with beer, wine and other adult beverages from supporting Oregon Wild sponsors. A special thanks in particular to Pro Photo Supply, Pacific Pie Co., Art de Cuisine, Simpatica, and Migration Brewing.

With a slideshow backdrop of this year's Outdoor Photo Contest submissions,

attendees gathered to mingle and chat, got an up-close look at framed prints of this year's finalists (thanks to Art Heads Custom Framing), bid on and won dozens of great silent auction items, and enjoyed the acoustic blues stylings of Joe McMurrian.

Some guests found themselves face to face with a rather tame, yet flirty bear, only to be caught mid-silliness by photographer Greg Gomez. Oregon Wild was also fortunate to have photographer Kelli Pennington on hand, who shot a fantastic gallery of photos featuring the faces, fun, and wonder of the evening.

After a few words from Oregon Wild Board President Daniel Roberston, Executive Director

Sean Stevens announced the winning names in this year's Outdoor Photo Contest, awarding grand prize nods to photos of Crabtree Valley, Waldo Lake, Harsin Butte on the Zumwalt Prairie, and a spectacular starry night time-lapse photo of the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

Thanks again to all who attended or supported the event, including all our sponsors – you helped raise over \$26,000 to help keep Oregon a special place to live, work, and play! Your generous support makes our work possible and made *Call of the Wild* one of Oregon Wild's most successful events.

We look forward to celebrating our 40th anniversary with you next year, so stay tuned! ☺



KELLI PENNINGTON

OUTDOOR PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS
WILDLANDS Twilight in the Eagle Cap Wilderness (Wallowa County) by Kelly Morgan (Beaverton) · WATERS Wildlife Mud Dier at Harsin Butte (Wallowa County) by Alan Hirschmugl (Gresham) · ENDANGERED PLACES Crabtree Valley (Linn County) by Brad Goldpaint (Bend) · WILDLIFE Mute Deer at Harsin Butte (Wallowa County) by Pete Springer (Portland) · WALDO LAKE (Lane County) by Brad Goldpaint (Bend)



Winter walkabouts

Rob Klavins,
Wildlands & Wildlife Advocate

Edward Abbey once wrote, “It is not enough to fight for the land; it is even more important to enjoy it.” No one fights harder for Oregon’s public lands than Oregon Wild and you – our members and supporters. Whether wandering through spring wildflowers, having summer campouts, or seeking mushrooms and salmon in the fall, we try to keep Abbey’s credo in mind.

When the days get short and the snow falls, lots of people hang up their hiking gear and go torpid. We think that’s a big mistake, and that’s why we’re offering more than half-a-dozen free snowshoe hikes this winter.

There’s a sense of solitude, stillness, and adventure that is unique to snowshoeing. If you’ve experienced it before, you know. If you haven’t, there’s never been a better time to try.

All our hikes are led by experienced guides and easy enough for beginners. They’re also led by the people who know our public lands best and have plenty to offer to veteran snowshoers seeking new vistas, secret old-growth groves, and winter wildlife.

To learn more and sign up, check out: oregonwild.org/about/hikes_events



AMBER COLLETT Snowshoeing in Lost Creek



Saturday, January 11

White River Snowshoe
(Portland) Easy to Moderate

Wilderness Coordinator Erik Fernandez leads an excursion through the stunning White River Canyon on Mount Hood’s east side.



Saturday January 11

Marilyn Lakes Snowshoe
(Eugene) Moderate

Slide past frozen lakes and through snowy forests in the Maiden Peak Roadless Area for a view of Diamond Peak.



Wednesday, January 15

Lost Creek Snowshoe
(Portland) Easy

Traverse a mossy Tolkienesque valley on your way to old-growth forests recently targeted for logging on the western flanks of Mount Hood.



Friday, January 17

Twin Lakes Snowshoe
(Portland) Moderate

A perfect trip for beginners and experts alike. Enjoy the views and beat the crowds on this leisurely weekday hike led by Jonathan Jelen.



Saturday, January 25

Salmon River Meadows
(Portland) Easy to Moderate

Search for signs of abundant wildlife amidst the last remaining low-elevation meadow habitat in the Mount Hood area.



Sunday, January 26

Twin Lakes Snowshoe II
(Portland) Moderate

This segment of the Pacific Crest Trail has it all: old-growth forests, lakes, and spectacular straight-line views of the summit of Mount Hood.



Saturday, February 1

Diamond Creek Falls
(Eugene) Easy

Shed the winter blahs as Old-growth Campaign Coordinator Chandra LeGue leads a short trip to two frozen waterfalls near Willamette Pass.



PROTECTED WILDERNESS



PROPOSED WILDERNESS



DRINKING WATERSHED



WILDLIFE

Porcupine Loop snowshoe adventure

Chandra LeGue,
Western Oregon Field Coordinator

Last March, with a foot of fresh snow on the ground, a friend and I snowshoed the 4-mile Porcupine Loop at Swampy Lakes Sno-Park. Just a few miles east of Mount Bachelor, Swampy Lakes sits at 5,800 feet, on the north side of Hwy. 46, and is part of a large roadless (but unprotected) extension of the Three Sisters Wilderness.

We took turns breaking trail through the silent lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, and mountain hemlock forest, thankful for the blue diamonds marking the trail through the unmarred snow. The trail skirted the edge of the open expanse of Swampy Lakes, and led us to Swampy Shelter, our halfway point, where we met up for lunch with friends who were cross-country skiing. Turns out we needed the energy from that lunch, as Telemark Butte loomed before us. Trail guides say this is a 400 foot climb, but it felt like 4,000 feet through the fresh snow. Up, up, up we went, spouting clichéd words of encouragement to keep up morale.

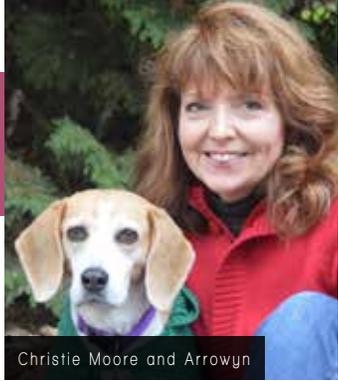
On a clear day the payoff of a view would be awesome, but our reward was simply taking a long breather and knowing there were no more hills between us and the parking lot. We earned our fresh snow snowshoe badge that day, and look forward to a follow up. A flat follow up!



SHANNON ROSE Chandra celebrates making it to the top of Telemark Butte.



Joanie Beldin



Christie Moore and Arrowyn

KEEPING IT WILD: Volunteers of the Year

Our work covers a lot of ground, so our small staff can't stress how much we appreciate and admire the volunteers that give their time to Oregon Wild. Whether helping in Portland or Eugene with administrative tasks, distributing seasonal newsletters around town, organizing for important campaigns, or tabling community events, our volunteers make the work we do possible – and then some. But every once in a while volunteers come along that go above and beyond. Joanie and Christie found Oregon Wild only a year ago, and have committed themselves at every turn to advocacy for Oregon's wildlands and wildlife. On behalf of the whole Oregon Wild crew, thank you both for your incredible passion and dedication.

Joanie Beldin (Portland, OR) and Christie Moore (Boring, OR)
Members since: 2012
Oregon Wild volunteers since: 2012

OREGON WILD: How long have you been giving your time as a volunteer and what drew you specifically to Oregon Wild?
JOANIE: Two years ago, when I moved to Portland from Washington state, I was excited to explore this new part of the northwest with its unique landscapes. My involvement with environmental organizations over many years taught me that it takes a lot of very hard work

to keep these places intact. So it was exciting to find Oregon Wild, doing the hard work of protecting the natural places and wildlife that make

Oregon special. I knew I wanted to get involved in some way.

CHRISTIE: My volunteer experience began as a young adult working with children in various public education systems. I moved to Oregon in 1980 and fell in love with this magnificent state, and as I raised my daughter, I eventually became a volunteer coach and coordinator. Passionate about service and Oregon, I went back to college and obtained a BS in civil engineering. Because of the recession, I sought to augment my resume through volunteer work and in October 2012, the staff of Oregon Wild graciously accepted my offer to provide services as a volunteer.

OREGON WILD: Are there particular places in Oregon or particular Oregon Wild campaigns that inspire you to give your time?

JOANIE: Oregon Wild's commitment to helping protect and restore our wolves was definitely a major draw for me. This is an issue that I've been aware of and involved in for over 35 years. While the story of the wolves across the country continues to be disheartening, Oregon Wild's dedication and efforts give me hope that Oregon's wolves will know a secure future.

CHRISTIE: Five years ago, I found myself single but wishing to continue exploring Oregon. Oregon Wild's hiking program met this need and far exceeded my expectations. I also discovered their fun Wild Wednesday events. The knowledge I gained, the kindness and concern I saw for the wild, and the like-minded friends I made along the way made Oregon Wild my favorite non-profit organization and I soon became a member.

OREGON WILD: Why do you think volunteering for Oregon Wild is worthwhile?

JOANIE: In 2012, I had the privilege to join Oregon Wild's Wolf Rendezvous. In the aftermath of this incredible retreat, I was inspired to find a positive way to help make a difference. I believe that education is key to change, so sharing information with the public and gaining supporters at tabling events was a very positive fit. Developing a table devoted to the wolves has been especially rewarding. I'm grateful to the Oregon Wild staff for these opportunities and their support.

CHRISTIE: During the past year, I've assisted Oregon Wild with a variety of office tasks. These opportunities have allowed me to remain current with my computer skills as well as get to know the very dedicated and hard-working staff at the organization. I began to better understand their huge mission and the relentless work it takes from each and every staff member to accomplish even the smallest of goals.

OREGON WILD: What has been your most enjoyable and/or rewarding experience as an Oregon Wild volunteer?

JOANIE: The zoo events! The fall event in particular was amazing. Our wolf table drew almost non-stop crowds and the response was really heartwarming – especially hearing many kids exclaim: Wolves are my favorite animal! Visitors left knowing more about our wolves as well as Oregon Wild. It was by far the most rewarding – and fun – tabling experience I've ever had – thanks in no small part to a great team of volunteers.

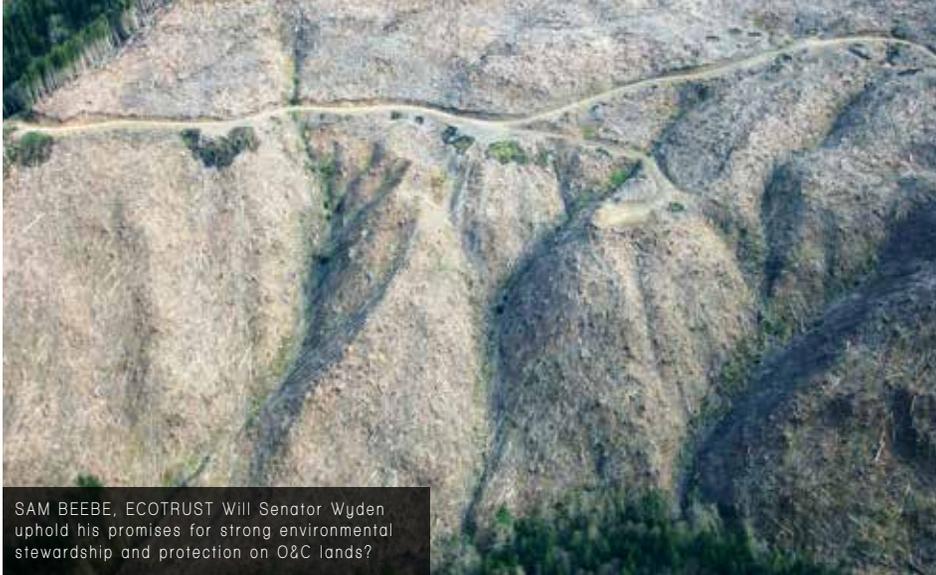
CHRISTIE: Throughout the year, I assisted Oregon Wild in their efforts to promote their campaigns – from making telephone calls and rallying in front of Senator Wyden's office, to tabling special events such as Green Action Day, the Mississippi Street Fair, and zoo events. Together, with other volunteers and staff, we met many wonderful people who shared our concern for our environment and habitat. The experiences gave me feelings of hope and pride. Anyone who's interested in volunteering and making a difference in Oregon should contact this outstanding organization. ☺

Take Action!

Join Joanie, Christie, and the rest of the Oregon Wild crew as a volunteer. Visit www.oregonwild.org to find out more.

Conservation round-up

Steve Pedery, Conservation Director



SAM BEEBE, ECOTRUST Will Senator Wyden uphold his promises for strong environmental stewardship and protection on O&C lands?

A clearcut is still a clearcut

Backlash from conservationists and a veto threat from President Obama did not stop the U.S. House of Representatives from passing HR 1526 in September, a terrible bill some have dubbed the “public lands privatization act.” The vote wasn’t a surprise, but what has raised eyebrows is how vigorously Representative Peter DeFazio has defended the bill, in particular the portion that transfers 1.6 million acres of public “O&C” land into a clearcut logging trust. One novel argument is that he should get credit for saving the public lands in Western Oregon that don’t go into the clearcut

trust. Similar logic would be setting your neighbor’s house on fire, and wanting credit for saving the garage.

On November 26th Senator Wyden released his long-awaited “Oregon and California Land Grant Act of 2013,” a plan to bail out some Western Oregon county budgets through increased logging. Wyden’s logging plan doubles cutting levels in BLM forests, and uses euphemisms like “eco-forestry” to mask what is essentially clear-cutting. It also abandons commitments to maintain strong environmental protections like the Northwest Forest Plan and Endangered Species Act, and backs away from

promises to include new Wilderness designations.

The elephant in the Klamath Basin

The summer of 2013 saw another brutal drought in the Klamath, with “permanent” National Wildlife Refuge wetlands again going dry. Earlier this year, Senator Wyden and Governor Kitzhaber launched a Klamath Basin Task Force to develop a legislative proposal for resolving the perennial Klamath water crisis. At Wyden’s request, Oregon Wild participated in the group and has strongly advocated for the interests of wildlife. With a final meeting scheduled for December, it remains to be seen whether the task force will address the elephant in the room—that demand for water must be reduced.

2013 Oregon Legislature Recap

In the current political climate, victories for clean water, wildlife, and public lands can be scarce, so we are very happy to celebrate three big legislative wins from the 2013 session in Salem. Working with a coalition of groups, we passed a measure to protect Waldo Lake from noisy and dangerous sea planes. We passed legislation to address the explosion of destructive suction dredge mining on Oregon’s rivers. And we enacted a legal settlement that resolved years of conflict over wolf conservation, giving our state the most progressive wolf recovery plan in the nation. ☺



PHOTOS BY BRETT COLE Water demand in the Klamath Basin must be reduced for the sake of wildlife.

In wolves we find wilderness

Rob Klavins, Wildlands & Wildlife Advocate

There may be no more potent symbol of wilderness than the wolf. America's formerly abundant wolf populations were once nearly eliminated. As society's views on wildlife evolved they were brought back from the brink, only to face an uncertain future left in our hands.

For forty years, Oregon Wild has been the state's leading voice for Oregon's wildlands and wildlife. However our commitment to conservation stands on a legacy that long precedes us. Whether for spiritual, economic, or ecological values, there's no single right answer to the question of "Why wilderness?"

Oregon's nascent wolf recovery has been a tremendous validation of the legacy of dedicated conservationists who have fought to protect our

natural heritage. Wolves are also turning out to be pretty good stewards themselves.

The story of Journey (OR-7) captured imaginations around the world when the young wolf became the first in Western Oregon since 1947 and the first in California in nearly a century. His continuing 3,000 mile-plus journey (pun intended) took him on a tour of some of the state's most magnificent landscapes.

Born on the edge the Eagle Cap Wilderness, Journey traversed wilderness and roadless areas to pass within a few miles of where Oregon's last wolf bounty was collected. He spent time searching for a mate and hunting in areas that remain threatened by resurgent efforts to

exploit some of the state's last unprotected, pristine areas.

Wolves and other big wildlife like cougars and elk need big wild places to thrive. But science is beginning to show that those places also need their native inhabitants as well.

Aldo Leopold once said, "To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of intelligent tinkering." Oregon scientists have shown what a tremendous effect the absence and return of native hunters are having around the world. The return of wolves to places like Yellowstone has meant a healthier, more resilient landscape. That's good for all the species that share this changing world – including humans.

With less than 50 known adult wolves in the entire state, they're a long way from fully carrying out their natural role in Oregon. However, thanks to our work, your support, and help from our allies, they're getting a fighting chance.

After lethal control, legal battles, and long negotiations, Oregon again has the most progressive wolf plan in the West. It's far from perfect, but it means killing wolves is the option of last resort in Oregon. In 2013, every known wolf pack produced pups and



ODFW A trail camera captures this female wolf from the Imnaha Pack in Wallawa Whitman National Forest on June 22, 2011.

less than a dozen livestock were confirmed lost to wolves.

Even so, recovery remains precarious. Old prejudices die hard and wolves continue to be at the center of a campaign of misinformation and fear. Anti-wildlife interests have found a surprising ally in the Obama administration, which has continued to push a plan to strip wolves of critical federal protections against the advisement of many of its own scientists.

Tenuous though it may be, wolf recovery is back on track. Responsible journalists are beginning to cover the story, businesses are seeing the benefits of healthy wildlife populations, and recent polling shows continued overwhelming support for wolves in Oregon and across the country.

It's no wonder why. Some have said that without wolves, wilderness is just

scenery. That may be overstating it. But when I looked at the faces of the Oregon Wild staff this summer as we were serenaded by members of the Imnaha Pack, it was clear that the return of wolves to Oregon's landscape means something more.

Our work isn't done. Wolves still need help and other Oregon natives like wolverines, sea otters, and condors have even further to go. In the coming year, we'll continue to fight for wildlife. Equally important, we'll keep working to protect the places they need to thrive.

For them. For us. ☺

MARY STRICKWORTH
Members of the Oregon
Wild Wolf Rendezvous
explore the wolf country in
the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

JONATHAN JELEN



WILDERNESS STORIES



Wendell Wood (L)
and Tim Lillebo (R)

Bald-faced
hornets and
bourbon – show
'em a good time

by *Tim Lillebo,*
Eastern Oregon
Wildlands Advocate

Saving Wilderness
isn't always done

by writing letters, drawing maps, and taking pictures. Taking a Senator, Representative or Congressional aide out to see a place first hand, where they can have a good time and learn why it's worth saving, will do more than any map, photo, or letter. I've done a lot of these trips over the last four decades. Sometimes they go well. Sometimes they don't.

We once showed a Senate staffer a spectacular area in eastern Oregon with magnificent views, old-growth pine, and elk herds on all sides. Unfortunately, the staffer was stung in the face by a vicious bald-faced hornet near the end of the tour. We spent the rest of the trip climbing cross-country out of a canyon while their face swelled up to the size of a basketball. "Bald-faced Hornet Gulch" did not make it into the next Wilderness bill.

The same staffer visited another relatively "average" roadless area – no high peaks, few spectacular views, and the tallest waterfall was

a whopping two feet. However, we had lunch on a small 10-foot rock cone, and while we were eating a bald eagle soared in, chased by two raucous ravens. The eagle dove so low it almost knocked the hat off the Congressional staffer. Even though the staffer accused us of "using wires and stuffed birds," that rock cone is now protected forever in the Bridge Creek Wilderness.



PICCOLO NAMEK
The bald-faced hornet

We can't control the weather, but we can compensate. On a horse trip to a roadless area in the Blue Mountains, what was

supposed to be blue skies turned first into a bit of rain and snow and then into a deluge. We assumed the area was lost. But we had done our homework, and after applying copious quantities of the staffer's favorite bourbon, miraculously the North Fork John Day became the largest eastern Oregon area added to the 1984 Wilderness bill.

Of course we also use satellite imagery, maps, and science to make the case for saving wildlands and rivers. But it often comes down to a simple matter of logistics. Get a Senator,

or their staffer, out there in the wilds. Show 'em a good time and you've got one of the best shots at protecting Wilderness.

A serendipitous wilderness
adventure

by *Wendell Wood, Wildlands Interpreter*

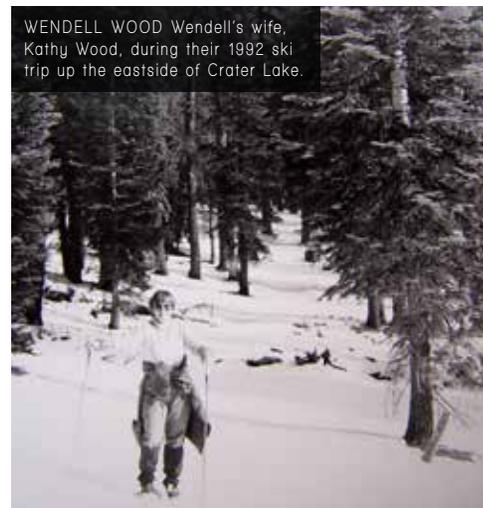
As we look ahead to future Wilderness designations within and around Crater Lake National Park, I'm reminded of one of my most memorable cross-country skiing experiences along its far eastern side some 20-plus years ago.

The first snows had come, but the lower elevations on the eastside of the Cascades were not yet blanketed. In my old Ford Bronco, my wife Kathy and I drove up Winema National Forest log roads to the roadless eastern boundary of Crater Lake National Park. An old map I found buried in our Eugene office showed a trail to the rim of Crater Lake that paralleled Anderson Bluffs on the eastside. The Park Service explained to me that this trail was no longer maintained, constructed decades earlier in a vain attempt to provide future fire control.

At the edge of the park boundary the snow was deep enough to ski on, so we parked the car and headed cross-country into the woods. This forgotten trail took us past some of the park's most stately, old-growth western white pines. While we never expected to get to the rim we just kept on going and, much to our surprise, by mid-afternoon we had arrived at Kerr Notch overlooking Crater Lake and Phantom Ship.

When we reached the top, we noted no ski tracks other than our own on the lake's far back side. Suddenly, along the rim road came three skiers circling the entire lake. Spotting us, I heard one say, "Oh good, someone has broken trail just ahead." To their astonishment we explained we had "come from down there" (pointing downhill off to the east). Overall, our trip resulted in less than a thousand-foot net elevation gain, with much less physical effort and mileage required than their multiday trip around the entire Crater Lake Rim.

Never expecting to get as far as we did, we had only minimal provisions, so we hastened our return falling down the icy slopes knowing the sun was setting soon. We got back to our car on this late November day just as it grew dark – tired, but a little heady with our accomplishment. ©



WENDELL WOOD Wendell's wife,
Kathy Wood, during their 1992 ski
trip up the eastside of Crater Lake.



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GET

THE BEST OF OREGON & MORE

KEEP
OREGON WILD



Each year, the Willamette Week's **Give!Guide** helps create a community of giving to support dozens of Oregon non-profits, and Oregon Wild is once again honored to be a part of it.

The **Give!Guide** offers great incentives to reward you for your donations AND – with the help of our generous business partner **BASE CAMP BREWING COMPANY** – we're able to offer this special giveaway:

Anyone who donates \$50 or more to Oregon Wild through the Give!Guide will get a free, special edition pint glass from Base Camp. And the first 24 supporters who donate \$200 or more via the Give!Guide will get one of Base Camp's awesome stainless steel growlers!

To support Oregon Wild and the other great non-profits in this year's **Give!Guide**, please visit: www.giveguide.org.

**THANK YOU FOR
HELPING US KEEP
OREGON WILD!**