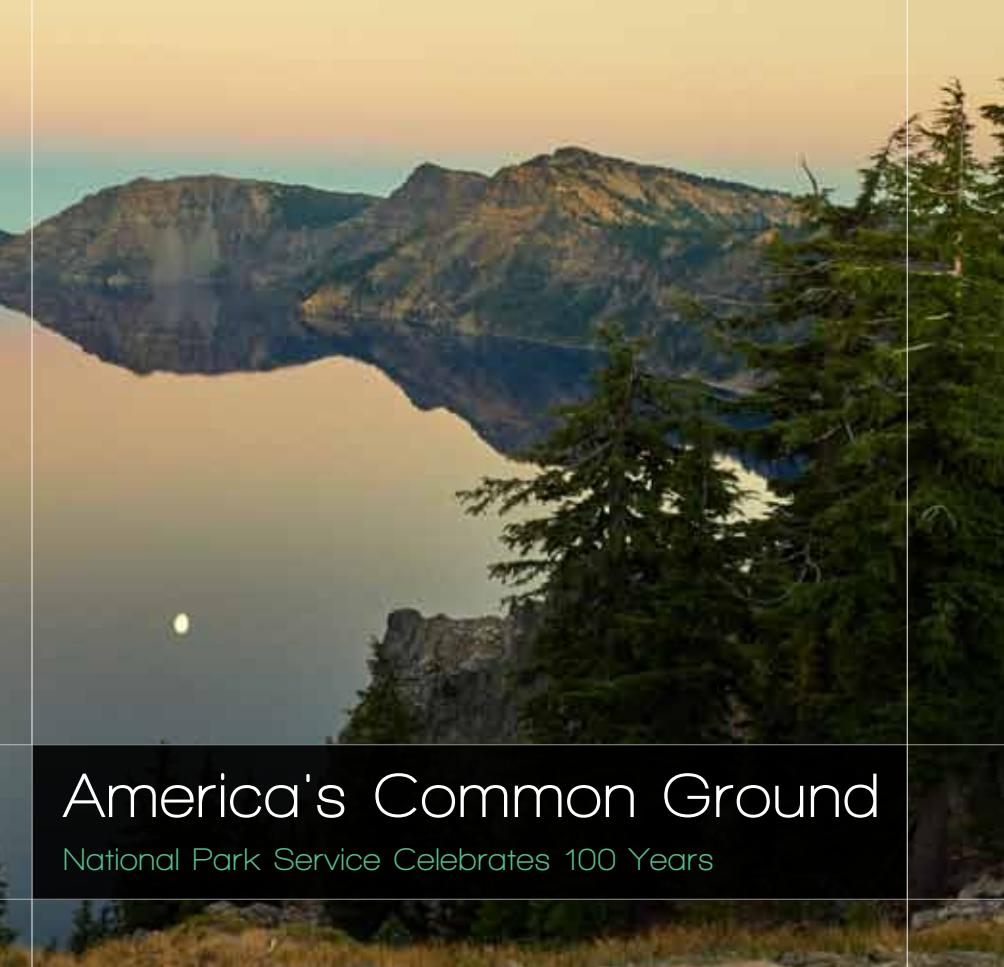


# Oregon Wild

Fall 2016 Volume 43, Number 3



America's Common Ground

National Park Service Celebrates 100 Years



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

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

America's common ground -  
100 years of the national parks

{4-7}

An Oregon wolf update

{12}

Call of the Wild: a camp-inspired benefit {back cover}



COVER PHOTO: KIM ELTON Establishing the National Park Service 100 years ago gave all Americans shared ownership of some of our most exceptional wildlands, like Crater Lake. Will we have the foresight to ensure better protections for these shared spaces and others that need preservation in the next century?



## From the Director's Desk Year, after decade, after lifetime

Sean Stevens, Executive Director

**Y**ear, after decade, after lifetime.

I remember hearing the wise words of Dave Willis as he accepted the inaugural *Tim Lillebo Wildlands Warrior Award* last year and being struck by the poetry and truth of the statement. Protecting the wild can take years of hard work, decades of perseverance, and sometimes even a lifetime.

It is the curse of the conservationist that many of our losses are permanent and our victories temporary.

Did we beat back the Bush-era WOPR clearcutting plan for western Oregon BLM forests in 2008? Yes. Is the Obama administration proposing a 37% increase in logging for these lands in 2016? Sadly, yes.

What happened after Oregon's wolves were spared a sniper's bullets

after our 2013 legal settlement forced ODFW to use lethal force as a last resort? The state legislature and Governor Brown bypassed the courts and codified the removal of wolves from the state endangered species list. Days later, four Imnaha Pack wolves were gunned down.

We've even gotten so used to fighting the same awful timber sales a decade after they were first proposed that we have a name for them: zombie timber sales. We're challenging a handful – Goose, Polallie Cooper, Loafer – right now.

It takes stamina, determination, and the backing of thousands of people just like you to keep our collective efforts going. We can't rest because we know that some piece of the wild will be destroyed, an endangered species will lose more of its habitat, if we get complacent.

Of course, there are certain campaigns that achieve permanence.

It's why we have been so committed throughout our history to pursuing the lasting protections that Wilderness designation affords. A funny thing happens once those places are emblazoned in dark green on the state map. People forget the controversy, forget why anyone ever thought a particular place

wasn't worthy of protection. They become embedded in our shared natural heritage.

We celebrate on page 6 a few of



**FRANK WALTER** The incredible landscapes that enjoy permanent protection today exist as a result of the visionaries who spent their lifetimes fighting for them. Let's honor and continue their legacies by working tirelessly to protect the places that remain vulnerable.

these people who were the quiet force behind saving the places that we cherish.

From time to time, it is essential to recognize those among us who carry on this sometimes thankless work. To help us do just that, please send in nominations for the annual *Tim Lillebo Wildlands Warrior Award*.

More details can be found here:  
[www.oregonwild.org/LilleboAward](http://www.oregonwild.org/LilleboAward)

Thank you for your support and for ensuring that someone is standing up for the wild – year, after decade, after lifetime.

# America's common ground – national parks as freedom in practice

Marielle Cowdin, Outreach & Marketing Coordinator



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE *Glacier Point, Yosemite 1890s.*  
Early advocates of public lands saw an opportunity  
to preserve some of our most magnificent and still  
untrammeled landscapes for the public at large –  
something that had not yet happened anywhere else in  
the world.

I've never been to Disneyland. Or Disneyworld. Or any of those iconic, childhood-defining franchise destinations. Judging by the commercials I saw frequently in the 1980s and early '90s, a Disneyland vacation is the peak of American childhood experiences; every kid wants and deserves it, I was told. How could I have such an enormous gap in my upbringing?

For one, my family was solidly lower-middle class — the kind supported by the single parent, the overworked and underpaid teaching kind. Second, I've always been terrified of alligators. You could chalk it up to being unnerved by Florida generally.

So rather than getting pictures taken with strangers wearing giant foam heads and waiting in long lines for the terrifying joy of riding Space Mountain, the family vacations of my youth took a different route. But they embodied something just as, and if I may argue more so, quintessentially American: visiting our national parks.

When my brother and I were kids, my mother would pack us up in our little silver Nissan Stanza, bundled in our coveted Ninja Turtle and Little Mermaid sleeping bags and armed with tiny boxes of cereal. From D.C. we went west into the Blue Ridge Mountains and set up our tent at a campground in Shenandoah National Park. We wandered the woods in search of deer and caterpillars, crunched around in the brightly-colored leaves, and waited for the fireflies to emerge after dark. We impatiently and eagerly devoured overcharred and undercooked hot dogs on sticks, somehow avoiding raw food-based diseases. We loved it.

Every summer, we made our annual flight west to Colorado to visit family and explore Rocky Mountain National Park. Away from the density and development of the east in this even wilder landscape, I summited my first peaks, earned views of the Continental Divide, scrambled up giant rocks, and discovered the terrifying joy of tumbling down snowfields at high speeds. I

learned the names of wildflowers, braved lightning storms, stood barefoot in glacial waters far longer than advised without losing toes, and practiced calling native wildlife (*which largely consisted of weird, loud squeaking at marmots*).

Here, I felt free and capable. Maybe it was the lack of oxygen. But these national parks and other

wildlands are where I developed my sense of self. In these landscapes I was unburdened by my social awkwardness, from societal expectations for my gender, age, or class.

Unencumbered by judgement from others and myself, I found hours upon days full of possibility. The only limitations were those of my own making. Well, that and



DAN COWDIN Enjoying the freedoms of wilderness in the clouds of Rocky Mountain National Park.

the laws of physics. I was hardly Peter Pan jumping from rock to rock in the wild, but out there, no signs told me I wasn't tall enough (or rich enough) to ride.

### The Old World and the New

*"National parks are the best idea we ever had. Absolutely American, absolutely democratic, they reflect us at our best rather than our worst."*

— Wallace Stegner, 1983

For better or worse, America is a young nation of competitive ambition, our history punctuated with a healthy mix of both celebrated and shameful achievements. We're number one when it comes to populations of bald eagles, best-selling solo musical artists, cheese produced globally, and citizens searching the internet for "jorts." We're also tops at incarceration, obesity, energy consumption per person, and healthcare expenditures. But there's one historical first the United States can undoubtedly take pride in: the invention of national parks.

Historian and nature writer Wallace Stegner often gets credit for calling the national parks "America's Best Idea." The phrase caught fire in the environmental crowd, and in this 100th year of the National Park Service, it's made for some great Park Service branding - and with good reason. As a caveat I will say, the "best idea" concept isn't so much about the parks themselves, but

rather the tenet of American ideals: a free and just society for all people. As a country we've taken a long road to achieve this, enacting amendment after amendment to become less discriminatory, more true to our founding principles, and to this day we still fall short. However, establishing the national parks was and continues to be one of the best examples of this goal in practice.

The national parks were also the first of their kind. When the earliest parks were marked for preservation in the mid-19th century - Yosemite and Yellowstone among the first - no tradition of rural nature parks existed anywhere else in the world.<sup>1</sup>

Protecting vast, beautiful landscapes had historically been reserved for the elite, the upper class, the wealthy landowner. In 1864, when Congress set aside Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove from development, our federal government became the first to preserve land for all. Maybe "America's Most Original Idea" or "America's Most American Idea," is more apt. But let's be honest, that's not as catchy.

The concept of preservation for the public good caught on though. Disparate interests came together as advocates, delicately united under the common ideology that wilderness

<sup>1</sup> Hans Huth, *Nature and the American: Three Centuries of Changing Attitudes* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1972), chap. 4.

## Lessons from Opal Creek

Arran Robertson, Communications Coordinator



PETER C BLANCHARD

off to protest in Salem and surround the Capitol Building with logging trucks during key debates. Oregon's timber-friendly politicians made sure that Opal Creek was removed from both the 1984 Oregon Wilderness Act and the 1988 Oregon Wild and Scenic

Rivers Act.

It wasn't until 1996 that the nearly 21,000 acre area was protected as Opal Creek Wilderness. Even then it took Mark Hatfield, as one of his final acts as a U.S. Senator, threatening to hold up the entire Congressional appropriations process for it to be designated.

As we consider the campaigns to protect Crater Lake, Mount Hood, the Owyhee Canyonlands and the Ochoco Mountains, this story provides important perspective. It was not so long

ago that the idea of an Opal Creek Wilderness seemed inconceivable. Now the idea that we wouldn't protect such a special place seems just as impossible.



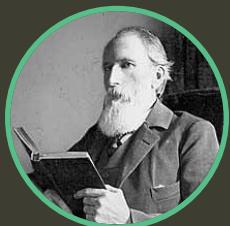
*After 20 years of effort, 28,000 acres of Opal Creek's ancient forest are permanently protected.*

### 1. Protected: Opal Creek Ancient Forest

Twenty years of hard work finally bore fruit when Congress passed the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996, protecting over 28,000 acres of pristine forest including the Opal Creek watershed. The next step is protection of Cedar Creek (left out of the bill) and the rest of the North Santiam watershed, which supplies Salem with its drinking water.

ONRC celebrates the protection of Opal Creek as their #1 accomplishment in an Oct 1996 edition of "Wild Oregon"

## Champions for the wild – Oregon visionaries



JUDGE JOHN B. WALDO  
In the late 1800s, Waldo was one of Oregon's first conservation voices – a champion for protecting the Oregon Cascades and Crater Lake from logging and livestock grazing. Waldo Lake Wilderness bears his name.



WILLIAM FINLEY  
A voice for Klamath wetlands and wildlife in the early 1900s, Finley battled poachers, land speculators, and agribusiness interests first with his camera and later as Oregon's first State Game Warden.



NANCY RUSSELL  
Founder of Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Russell campaigned to protect the area from sprawl development and was instrumental in the passage of the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area Protection Act in 1986.



BROCK EVANS  
A former Marine, Evans has helped secure Wilderness protection for public lands across the Northwest, stopped the damming of Hells Canyon, and aided in the formation of numerous conservation groups (including Oregon Wild).

held value for all – either in its symbolic and inherent qualities or as a commodity for public (non-extractive) consumption. By August 1916 when the “Organic Act” established the National Park Service, 35 national parks and monuments already existed for the new federal bureau to take under its wing – including Oregon’s own Crater Lake National Park.

These shared, democratic spaces helped solidify our national identity, or more accurately, what we still strive to be – a country of open doors and opportunity with “freedom” at its

heart. Through the parks we broke from the Old World – the one of monarchs and lords, of pre-determined class and fated lives. In this new society, protected public wildlands would allow the ordinary citizen to disengage from the daily grind. The grand scenery, free of typical cultural distractions, would give the working person freedom for contemplation, inspiration, and individual expression they were not otherwise afforded. In experiencing a place where success is something other than conquest, outside the society that tames and conforms, the

people are free to walk their own pace and face what is wild within.<sup>2</sup>

### Inconceivable

*“The exercise of imagination is dangerous to those who profit from the way things are because it has the power to show that the way things are is not permanent, not universal, not necessary... We will not be free if we do not imagine freedom.” — Ursula K. Le Guin, from *A War Without End**

<sup>2</sup> Joseph L. Sax, *Mountains Without Handrails: Reflections on the National Parks* (Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1980), chap. 2, 3.

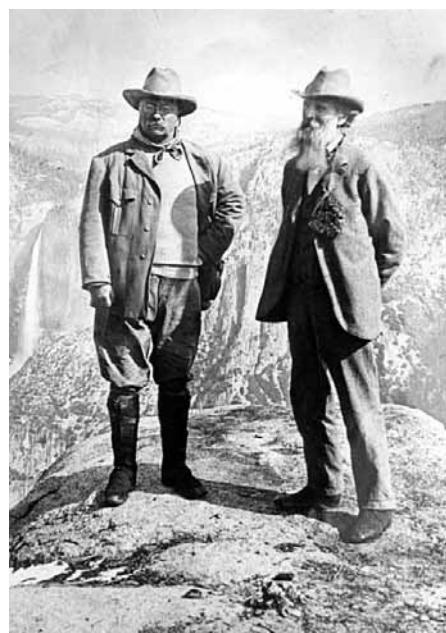
Our country has grown rapidly over the last century. The number of national parks and protected wildlands has grown too, with over 400 national parks throughout the 50 states. An America without National Parks and Wilderness is now inconceivable, but protection for public lands has grown increasingly difficult to achieve. Crater Lake has remained Oregon’s only national park, established back in 1902, and it still lacks the Wilderness protections most other western national parks hold. When it comes to further permanent protection for our public lands, politics and collective memory lapses present significant roadblocks.

Today, protected wildlands like Opal Creek Wilderness (see sidebar page 5), Three Sisters Wilderness, and Steens Mountain Wilderness are places most people adore and appreciate, even if they don’t fully comprehend or recall the politics that preserved them. This latter part is problematic, as the recent movement against public lands and its twisted rhetoric attests. How quickly we forget the value of our public lands and their vulnerability without higher protections. How quickly words like “patriot,” “liberate,” and “freedom” get co-opted and redefined to suit private interests under the guise of common benefit. The Bundys and their ilk are about as patriotic as a payday loan.

Capitalism and the free market are not the core of our nation; the

Second Amendment isn’t either. These are by-products of a democratic society, but they’re not the defining heart. Bald eagles can’t exist without protected public lands; the beauty of our country is embedded in our shared heritage and our shared legacies. The true patriots are the individuals and communities working to uphold them (see sidebar page 6), the visionaries who work for decades and lifetimes so our greatest assets remain in our collective hands.

Their successes have ensured no one comes to America empty-handed – as citizens, everyone holds a key to our most magnificent places. We are all



protectors of the lands that provide us clean air, clean water, habitat and healthy ecosystems - the things that all can (and do) enjoy without even having to step within the wilderness. In this lies our freedom and our wealth as a nation, lest we forget.

### Back to the future

*"A trout in a trout stream is more provocative than a trout in a fishbowl; an undeveloped forest is more likely to engage our concentration than the cornfield we see every day...the circumstances we*

*impose on ourselves have the power to shape our experience." — Joseph L. Sax*

So what happens in the next 100 years? When we reach the National Park Service bicentennial, will we look back with regret that we allowed our wildlands to be sold to the highest bidder; our forests and mountains paved, our rivers degraded, fishless and full of chemicals? Our wildlands already will face enough challenges with climate change without our more direct efforts to destroy what's in our best interest for small, short-term gains.



Continuing efforts to protect public lands is no doubt a difficult road, history has proved that. But we must not forget that the inherent values and the grandeur of Yosemite and Yellowstone, of Opal Creek and Mount Hood, are well worth the years of effort to guarantee their lasting place on the landscape and in public hands. If society makes us complacent, if we fail to see when our elected representatives are looking out for corporations as constituents instead of citizens, we'll lose what is most valuable: our most democratic place.

To keep it we must continue to imagine. We must imagine a world with and a world without our wild places. Imagine the Wild Rogue flowing free, or a Rogue dammed down to a trickle. Imagine Crater Lake crystal and blue with pristine, forested wildlands stretching for miles in all directions, or a Crater Lake roaring with helicopters and a backcountry scarred by clearcuts. We must continue to imagine so we may continue to fight like hell to protect them. ☺

### Take Action!

Visit [www.oregonwild.org](http://www.oregonwild.org) to learn more about Oregon Wild's proposals to protect our public lands and help save our shared heritage across the state.

## Pay it forward

Jonathan Jelen, Development Director



FRANK WALTER

Sisters or Mount Hood.

Looking upon the beauty of Crater Lake or standing in an old-growth grove in the Ochocos instills a similar sense of awe. But the question here is:

*"How have we not protected these amazing landscapes yet?"*

We owe it to future generations to protect the likes of Crater Lake, the Ochocos, Devil's Staircase, and the Wild Rogue. For my part, I'd like to pay it forward by helping protect the next generation's Wilderness experience.

Please stand with me by joining our Evergreen Society with a monthly gift at [www.oregonwild.org/donate](http://www.oregonwild.org/donate)

# Brewed to be wild – reflections on a year of Brewshed® Alliance

Marielle Cowdin, Outreach & Marketing Coordinator



**W**hen we started laying groundwork for the Brewshed Alliance at outreach events several years ago, we put out a sign: *Forests = Beer*. The concept was oversimplified, but it made for a great conversation prompt. Folks walking by our table would pause, raise a quizzical brow and ask, “How exactly *do* forests equal beer?”

“It’s all about the water,” we’d explain, going into the basics of water-in-beer percentages, the role of old-growth forests and the importance of overall forest health for watersheds. Many had never thought about this before and were intrigued. And when we officially launched the Oregon Brewshed Alliance in April 2015, the concept really

clicked in the public mindset – *great beer begins with clean water*.

Having Oregon’s brewing community deeply engaged played no small part. It’s remarkable how quickly an idea can spread when local, respected businesses lend their voices in support. Our seven charter partners – Widmer Brothers, Migration, Hopworks, Claim 52, Elk Horn, GoodLife, and Fort George – led the charge and before we knew it, we had 32 partners signed on to the Oregon Brewshed Alliance initiative in just over a year. Special brews like GoodLife’s Brewshed Session Ale brought the Alliance message straight to people’s homes, and regular partner-hosted happy hours, tap takeovers, and other creative events connected craft beer drinkers across the state with our forest and watershed efforts.

We celebrated last May with our first annual Oregon Brewshed Brewfest. Hosted by McMenamins Kennedy School, the fest featured 21 of our brewery partners, each pouring at least one special brew for attendees to enjoy along with games and a fantastic raffle. With over 200 guests in attendance, we raised well over \$5,000 for the Alliance and Oregon Wild’s forest and watershed work that night. The event also allowed us to honor our charter partners and introduce our “Brewshed Best” people’s choice awards. Wolves & People, which had

just opened its doors days before, won first place for their Instinctive Travels Saison, which has continued to get buzz in the craft beer scene since May. Second and third place went to Migration Brewing for their Straight Outta Portland IPA and Portland Brewing for their Rose Festival Lemon Blonde respectively. Congrats and many thanks to all Alliance partners and supporters who made the event an enormous success in year one!

To date, about \$25,000 has been raised through Oregon Brewshed Alliance events,





benefit brews, and other efforts. In recent months, we've even expanded Alliance partnerships to include non-beer craft beverage businesses by welcoming Happy Mountain Kombucha and Portland Cider Co. into the fold. We couldn't be more thrilled to grow the Alliance in this way and involve an even greater number of businesses and individuals in Oregon's craft scene. As the Oregon Brewshed Alliance initiative gets stronger, so does

our voice for our forests and watersheds – the lifeblood of our communities and our identity as Oregonians. We look forward to continuing to build this amazing program with you in the years to come. ☺

#### Take Action!

If your business is interested in joining the Oregon Brewshed® Alliance, contact Marielle at [mc@oregonwild.org](mailto:mc@oregonwild.org)



## OREGON'S WATER PROBLEM

Chandra LeGue,  
Western Oregon Field Coordinator

JASON GONZALES

Oregon has some of the best drinking (and beer-making) water in the country – in large part because so many of the rivers and streams we draw water from originate on public lands with strong stream and forest protections. A brewshed® like the McKenzie River in Eugene, the Bull Run in Portland, or Tumalo Creek in Bend benefits from protections that ensure forests and streamside vegetation naturally filter water through deep, rich

soils – keeping it cold, clean, and tasting great. Unfortunately, not all of Oregon's drinking and brewing water is protected. On the half of forested lands owned privately or by the state, state laws leave most streams inadequately protected from clearcuts, road building, and logging runoff filled with silt and chemicals. These include drinking water sources for rural communities and residents, and many coastal towns.

Brewshed Alliance members and supporters understand that protecting our forested watersheds is key to ensuring the success of Oregon's growing brewing industry, and for the health and well-being of everyone who lives, visits, and brews beer in Oregon.

**Take Action!**  
Join our Backyard Forest Action Group to learn more and get more involved in forest protection efforts



PHOTOS ©JIM DAVIS (LEFT TWO), FRANCIS EATHERINGTON (RIGHT)

## Conservation roundup

Sean Stevens, Executive Director

### One WOPR Jr. to go

The Bureau of Land Management seems determined to ignore laws like the Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts when it comes to the western Oregon forests they manage. In early August, Oregon Wild and our partners filed a legal challenge to the latest plan for logging (including clearcutting) on 2.6 million acres from the Coast Range to the Siskiyous. The new plan removes BLM forests from the requirements of the Northwest Forest Plan, and eliminates key protections for rivers and salmon. The wheels of justice will grind slowly, but we'll remain vigilant

in watchdogging new timber sales since the BLM has already released a new logging project under the auspices of the new plan.

### Militants versus the mountains

Over the last several years, Oregon Wild and our partners have explored how best to protect and expand recreational opportunities in the Ochoco Mountains, a secluded gem on public lands in Central Oregon. Our goal is to protect Wilderness-quality lands and old-growth forests, while safeguarding recreational opportunities and getting ahead of problems with overcrowding and

irresponsible and illegal use of public lands. We've hosted numerous town halls and information sessions to hear the views of local residents, as well as reaching out to the broader public in Oregon and beyond—the actual owners of this amazing landscape.

But the healthy dialogue between different Ochoco user groups took a dark turn in January. Emboldened by the Bundy occupation of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Prineville-area militia groups began disrupting public meetings by hurling insults and threats, and are now trying to convince the county commission to

adopt a natural resources plan that elevates logging and cattle grazing above all other uses of the Ochocos. Oregon Wild and our partners are still working through the feedback we received, while standing strong against Bundy copycats who want to shout down the voices of hikers, campers, anglers, equestrians and mountain bikers who love and use the land.

### Bargain shopping on the Elliott

In July, after months of anticipation, the Department of State Lands (DSL) issued the official assessed value of the Elliott State Forest in

southwest Oregon. DSL decided that the Elliot, the only state forest in Oregon with significant old-growth left, is worth just \$220 million. That's a far cry from early estimates of \$300 million to \$700 million by DSL. Conservationists now fear that the low-ball assessment may make it more likely for a logging company to snap up this public land with the intent of clearcutting its ancient forest. One question remains: will officials wait until after November's election when an entirely new State Land Board takes over responsibility for the Elliott? ☺

# Putting wildlife first on Klamath Refuges

Steve Pedery, Conservation Director

They have been called “the Everglades of the West.” Biologists have long known that the National Wildlife Refuges in the Klamath Basin are the most important wetland areas for migratory waterfowl west of the Mississippi River.

A century ago, Klamath wetlands were estimated to support as many as 10 million migratory waterfowl each year – one of the largest concentrations in the world. A century of agribusiness and irrigation

development has drained and destroyed many of the region’s wetlands, and the basin’s National Wildlife Refuges were created to protect what remains. Even in their degraded state, plagued by drought, as much as 80% of the birds that travel along the Pacific Flyway each year use the Klamath refuges to rest, feed, or raise their young.

Despite their importance, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service continues to lease over 22,000 acres of public land on Lower Klamath and Tule Lake

refuges to private commercial agribusiness. This shameful practice displaces wildlife and gobbles up precious water supplies. It has continued despite chronic water shortages, wildlife die-offs, and major declines in overall bird numbers. It also continued despite passage of the 1997 National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act, a law designed to ensure local economic interests don’t undermine actual wildlife conservation on refuge lands.

Last year, Oregon Wild, together with Portland Audubon and WaterWatch of Oregon, took the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to court over the abusive lease-land agribusiness program. The agency was already years overdue on a legally-required conservation plan to ensure agribusiness on the refuges does not undermine their primary purpose – wildlife.

This spring, we won the first round of this fight when the agency agreed to finally do its job and complete the

required plan. A draft was released in May, with public comment ending in early August and a final document expected by early next year. USFWS will be under intense pressure from agribusiness groups to ignore the harm the leaseland program causes in this final document. Oregon Wild will be ready to keep the pressure on and if necessary, head back to court to ensure wildlife come first on our National Wildlife Refuges. ☺

PHOTOS BY BRETT COLE



# On the trails and in the halls – an Oregon wolf update

Lena Spadacene, Wildlife Policy Coordinator & Rob Klavins, Northeast Oregon Field Coordinator



## A family affair

Oregon's fragile, recovering wolf population grew in number and cute factor this summer, as trail cameras captured images of new pups.

Two wolves from northeast Oregon found one another in southern Oregon. OR-3, from the former Imnaha Pack and OR-28, from the Mt. Emily Pack welcomed at least one pup. Donning the new name Silver Lake wolves, this pair have made the Klamath Wildlife Refuges their home.

The Rogue Pack, led by OR-3's older brother OR-7 (Journey) and his uncollared mate, also welcomed new additions with at least two pups by their side.

Keeping up with new pups and wolf families is now easier than ever.

Hosted by the Pacific Wolf Coalition, the Pacific Wolf Family website details wolf packs, lineages, locations and stories in all three West Coast states. Pacific Wolf Family interactive map (at left) gives the lineage, history, and geographical location of Oregon's 11 packs.

Check it out: [www.pacificwolffamily.org](http://www.pacificwolffamily.org)

## Wolf town halls

Election season is not typically a time you'd expect wolves to take center stage politically. Yet that's exactly what happened in August thanks to the leadership of two of our U.S. Representatives.

Congressmen Peter DeFazio and Earl Blumenauer put a spotlight on wolf recovery alongside a panel of scientists and conservation experts at events in Portland and Eugene attended by nearly 300 people. They highlighted the need for stronger protections and better leadership from Oregon's legislature and public agencies.

## Wolf Plan update

Wolves also continue to dominate discussion at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The agency has begun an overdue five-year-review of its Wolf Plan. The Wolf Plan will guide wolf conservation and

management in Oregon for the next five years.

First adopted in 2005, the plan is a social and political compromise. It was initially opposed by the livestock industry and led to conflict. However, since a legal settlement in 2013, Oregon's plan has largely been considered a success. Greater transparency, clarity, and enforceable standards led to more wolves on the landscape and fewer conflicts with livestock.

However, these successful provisions have expired and some are already calling for sport hunting of wolf.

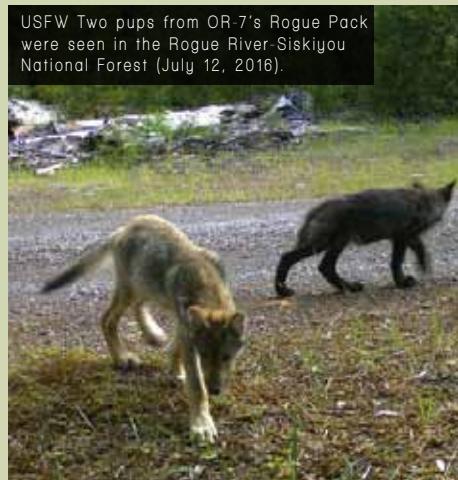
To keep recovery on track and reduce conflict, ODFW needs to extend what we already know works.

Will Oregon honor its highest values or give in to the livestock industry and those who want trophy hunts for wolves? Let your voice be heard. Join us at the Commission meeting December 2 in Salem. ☺

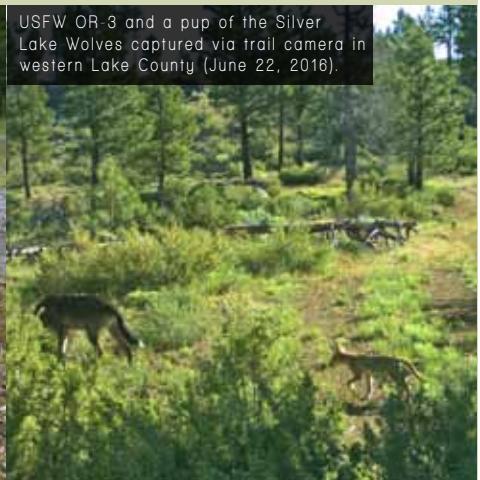
## Take Action!

Submit your comment to ODFW today and request a wolf plan update that prioritizes conservation and conflict prevention: [bit.ly/WolfPlanComment](http://bit.ly/WolfPlanComment)

USFW Two pups from OR-7's Rogue Pack were seen in the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest (July 12, 2016).



USFW OR-3 and a pup of the Silver Lake Wolves captured via trail camera in western Lake County (June 22, 2016).



# Creature Feature: Marbled murrelet

Doug Heiken, Conservation & Restoration Coordinator



A threatened seabird, the marbled murrelet nests in old-growth forests up to 50 miles inland. For decades, marbled murrelets were known to feed in the ocean off the coast of Oregon, but no one knew where they nested. The first marbled murrelet nest wasn't discovered until 1974!

Knowing more precisely where murrelets nest helps for protecting occupied nest sites. For this, dedicated surveyors must wake before dawn, hike into remote old-growth stands, and survey the sky near sunrise, scanning for fleeting glances of murrelets flying to and from their

nests at 60 miles per hour.

Trained spotters monitor the population on boats, navigating transects along the coastal feeding habitat where it's easiest to see and count the birds. Their surveys revealed that more murrelets were present offshore from public lands containing a significant amount of mature and

old-growth forests; while relatively few murrelets were offshore adjacent to industrial forest lands where their nesting habitat had been logged off.

The birds' favored coastal forest habitat happens to be some of the most productive and heavily exploited forest land in the United States, but it was systematically destroyed by logging for decades before we even knew where they nested. Now listed as threatened by both the federal and state Endangered Species Acts, the murrelets overall population has shown steady decline over recent decades. ☀

Recovery is challenging as well, as they lay only one egg per year. Nests are vulnerable to jays and crows, and the birds themselves are threatened by gill-net fishing, oil spills, and marine pollution.

Oregon Wild has long worked to protect the marbled murrelet, fighting to get them listed under the Endangered Species Act, to improve the recovery plan and defend its critical habitat. With help from EarthJustice and others, we've resisted timber industry efforts to delist murrelets and helped make the Northwest Forest Plan as strong as possible to protect their nesting habitat in the Coast Range.

Much work remains, however. Both the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service are working to amend and weaken the Northwest Forest Plan, and the Oregon Forest Practices Act must be reformed to protect murrelets and other public values (see sidebar). Some of the last best murrelet habitat is in the Elliott State Forest, which the State of Oregon is trying to sell off for logging interests. Oregon Wild is working to keep the Elliott in public hands with a new conservation mandate that will help the murrelet, salmon, and many other public values. ☀

## Oregon logging laws & Marbled murrelets

Jason Gonzales,  
Forest & Watershed Campaign Organizer

The Oregon Board of Forestry recently denied a request by Oregon Wild and our partners to take necessary steps to protect murrelets in Oregon's privately owned forests, so I asked a leading expert about the impact forest policy has on the birds.

"Marbled murrelet populations are continuing to decline. Creating and maintaining large blocks of contiguous older-aged forest with suitable murrelet habitat are key to murrelet survival and recovery," said Kim Nelson, Research Wildlife Biologist at Oregon State University.

Oregonians don't want to watch species go extinct while corporations clearcut their habitat, but current forest rules don't do enough to protect wildlife. Oregon Wild and our supporters are calling on Governor Kate Brown to appoint Board members who are not beholden to the timber industry.



**Take Action!**  
Find out more at  
[www.oregonwild.org/bof](http://www.oregonwild.org/bof)

# Keeping it wild

*Featuring the supporters, foundations, businesses, and volunteers that make our work possible. This issue's focus: local activists from east to west!*



*Amy Stuart (above) is a recently retired ODFW fish biologist of 30 years and a Central Oregon LandWatch board member. Nancy Webster (at right) has lived on the Oregon Coast for almost 80 years and started the citizens group Rockaway Beach Citizens for Watershed Protection.*

Are there particular places in Oregon that inspire you to give your time?

AS: Public lands are special places that I think should be protected and appreciated. Lots of places in central Oregon give me peace, enjoyment of the great outdoors, and an opportunity to see beautiful country and wildlife.

NW: I enjoy walking in wild areas, especially the forest. Driving across

our state, it becomes very apparent that these wild areas are disappearing. Oregon Wild is working to change the Oregon Forest Practices Act, the current regulations are not adequate to protect air and water quality. Working together, we can safeguard this vital resource.

Amy, how did you begin advocating for the Ochoco Mountains? What concerns you about the Forest Service proposal for an Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) system in the Ochocos?

AS: I worked for ODFW for over 30 years as a fish biologist and watershed manager, advocating for protection, restoration, and conservation of native fish and wildlife. The Ochoco Mountains are



particularly special to me because of my personal and professional history there. The [OHV] proposal will add new motorized trails at the expense of protecting fish and wildlife and their habitats; it also legitimizes existing illegal OHV trails and seeks to make the Ochocos a destination area for OHV riders.



Nancy, what has been your most enjoyable and/or rewarding experience as an Oregon Wild volunteer?

NW: Oregon Wild has been very supportive of our coastal communities. In 2012 we formed a citizens' group called Rockaway Beach Citizens for Watershed Protection. Our municipal water source is within an industrial forest. Since 2003, at least 82% of this watershed has been clearcut and aerial-sprayed with pesticides. Oregon Wild helped us build a coalition with other environmental groups to support our efforts to ensure clean air and water.

What would you say to Oregonians who want to take action to protect native wildlife and wild places?

AS: Get involved and speak up about protecting native wildlife. Learn the USFS process and how to effectively advocate for conserving your favorite special places.

NW: We are all connected and it is important to speak up and become an advocate for wild places and wildlife. Our health is dependent on the health of our environment. Along the way, we connect with others and continue to discover the wonders of the natural world around us. Thank you Oregon Wild. ☺



TJ THORNE Oceanside

# Falling for adventure



BRIZZ MEDDINGS Hart Mountain aspens

*"He found himself wondering at times, especially in the autumn, about the wild lands, and strange visions of mountains that he had never seen came into his dreams."* —J.R.R. Tolkien

For those who love the outdoors, fall is the time of year when the crowds disperse and you can revel in the crisp and subtle beauty of the leaves, the mushrooms, and the salmon returning to spawn. Let Oregon Wild show you the way.

Join us for this next wild season of hikes and events celebrating our state's most pristine and iconic wild places - from the beautiful colors of the aspen and larch trees in the Ochocos to the emerald waters of Opal Creek. Visit [www.oregonwild.org](http://www.oregonwild.org) to find out more and sign up.

NACHIKET RAJDERKAR Opal creek



SUN, OCTOBER 9  
Upper Middle Fork  
Willamette Hike (EUG)

FRI, OCTOBER 14  
*Call of the Wild: a camp-inspired benefit* (PDX)

SUN, OCTOBER 16  
Alsea & Green Peak Falls  
Hike (EUG)

WED, OCTOBER 19  
Oregon Wild Wednesday:  
Rivers of Oregon with Tim  
Palmer (COR)

FRI, OCTOBER 21  
Round Mountain Hike  
(BEND)

WED, OCTOBER 26  
Oregon Wild Wednesday:  
Rivers of Oregon with Tim  
Palmer (EUG)

SAT, NOVEMBER 12  
Opal Creek Ancient Forest  
Hike (PDX)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13  
Fall Creek Mushroom Hike  
(EUG)

## OREGON WILD MIGRATIONS



Neighborhood House. He spent three years there helping to lead their finance team as they navigated complicated government contracts and budgeting. Before joining the non-profit world, Tony served in lead financial planning roles for numerous municipalities across the state, including Eugene, Salem, and Gresham. Welcome Tony!



In July, we welcomed **Tara Brown** to the Oregon Wild team as our new Crater Lake Wilderness Coordinator.

Originally from Alaska, Tara found a passion for all things wild and outdoors. On her way to Oregon, she made a stop in the California Legislature where she worked for the Chair of the Natural Resources Committee to protect the environment, including legislation to protect coastal areas from oil spills. Please welcome Tara!



Picking up the torch as our new Finance Director is **Tony Mounts**. Tony comes to us most recently from the Portland-area non-profit

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## Answer the call on October 14

Join us on October 14 for our annual benefit event, *Call of the Wild* – a celebration of all the wild places and critters that make Oregon special, and of the businesses and individuals that help us keep Oregon wild. This is your chance to mingle with wilderness and wildlife lovers from across the state, view stunning outdoor photography, bid on fabulous outdoors-themed auction items, and revel in everything you love about Oregon.

*Call of the Wild* is a camp-inspired benefit – you won't find any black ties at our event! Break out your favorite flannel and come prepared to enjoy:

- A silent auction featuring framed prints of the 12th Annual Outdoor Photo Contest finalists, rafting and adventure trips, outdoor gear and apparel, packages for hikers, photographers, climbers, fishing enthusiasts, kayakers, beer lovers, foodies, and more
- Tasty local food, wild-crafted cocktails, local wine, and beer from Oregon Brewshed® Alliance partners
- Live music from Hip Hatchet, our very own trail mix bar, games, and more!

Entry, beer, wine, food, and entertainment are all included with your \$50 ticket. Become a Tent Sponsor for \$500 and receive 10 tickets + special benefits!

You won't want to miss this! Snag your ticket today and reserve your spot at the wildest party of the year:

[www.oregonwild.org/callofthewild](http://www.oregonwild.org/callofthewild)



CALL OF THE  
*Wild*  
10.14.2016

