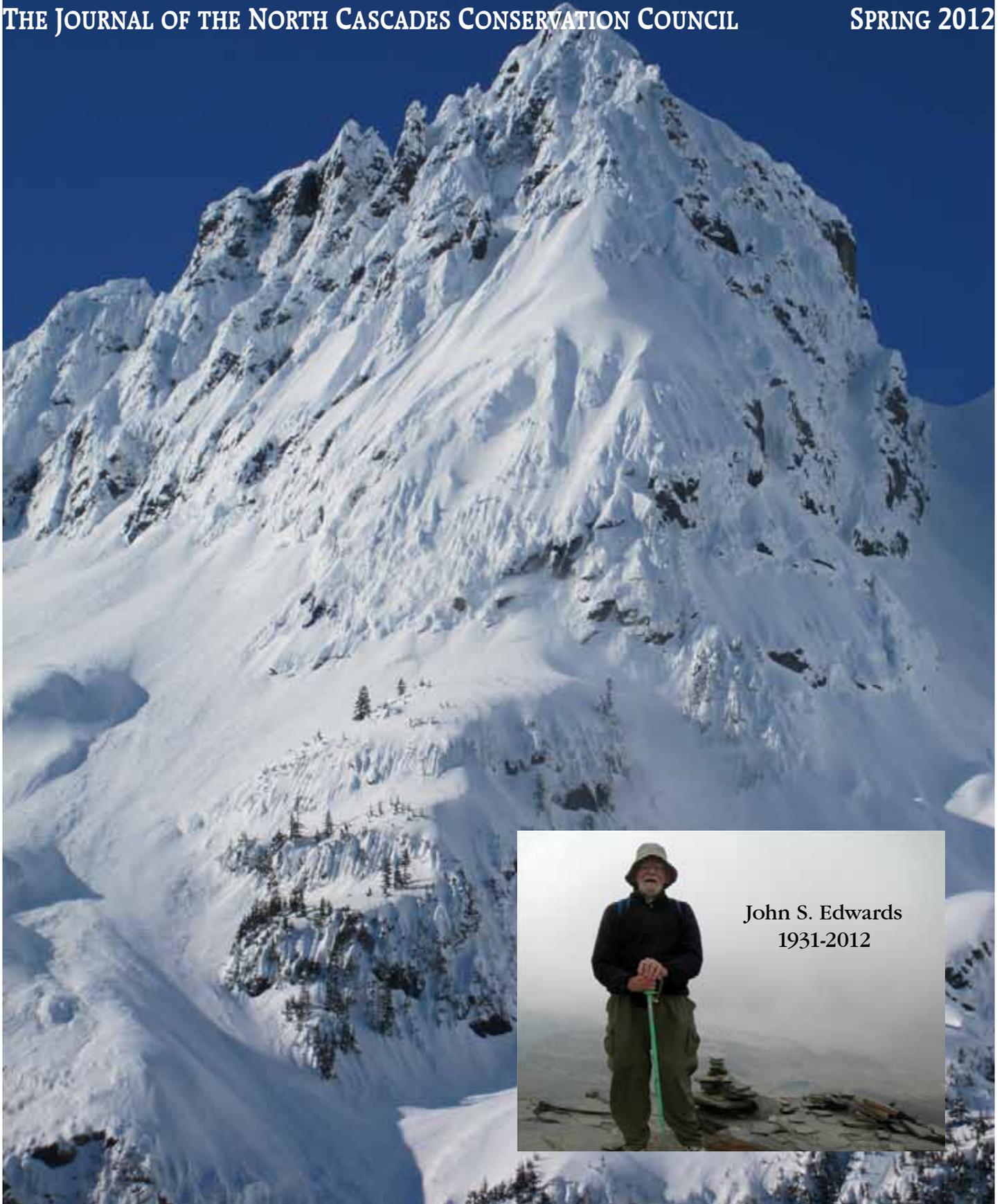


# THE WILD CASCADES

THE JOURNAL OF THE NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL

SPRING 2012



John S. Edwards  
1931-2012

## THE WILD CASCADES ■ Spring 2012

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*COVER: Cascade Peak, namesake of the North Cascades. John Edwards' internet name was "Hardsnow" — fitting for the peaks rising above the North Fork Cascade River. — TOM HAMMOND PHOTO.*

*INSET: John Edwards on the summit of Chacaltaya, a 17,000' jewel of Bolivia.*

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## The Wild Cascades

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*Journal of the North Cascades Conservation Council*

EDITOR: Anne Basye

EDITOR EMERITUS: Betty Manning

EDITORIAL BOARD: Philip Fenner, Anders Forsgaard,  
Tom Hammond, and Rick McGuire

Printing by EcoGraphics | Pat Hutson, Designer

*The Wild Cascades* is published three times a year (Spring, Summer/Fall, Winter).

Letters, comments, and articles are invited, subject to editorial review.

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### THE NORTH CASCADES

**CONSERVATION COUNCIL** was formed in 1957 "To protect and preserve the North Cascades' scenic, scientific, recreational, educational, and wilderness values." Continuing this mission, NCCC keeps government officials, environmental organizations, and the general public informed about issues affecting the Greater North Cascades Ecosystem. Action is pursued through legislative, legal, and public participation channels to protect the lands, waters, plants and wildlife.

Over the past half century the NCCC has led or participated in campaigns to create the North Cascades National Park Complex, Glacier Peak Wilderness, and other units of the National Wilderness System from the W.O. Douglas Wilderness north to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Henry M. Jackson Wilderness, the Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness, the Wild Sky Wilderness and others. Among its most dramatic victories has been working with British Columbia allies to block the raising of Ross Dam, which would have drowned Big Beaver Valley.

The NCCC is supported by member dues and private donations. These contributions support the full range of the Council's activities, including publication of *The Wild Cascades*. As a 501(c)(3) organization, all contributions are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Membership dues for one year are: Living Lightly/Student \$10; Individual \$30; Family \$50; Sustaining \$100.

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Founded in 1957  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

## The President's Report

Spring 2012

I am honored to be elected President of NCCC. I appreciate the support of my fellow board members, and the board's work means a lot to me. Here is a bit of my background. I grew up in the northern Appalachians, but decided to move west when I explored the Sierra and Rockies as a teenager. I met NCCC board member Dave Brower in 1975, when I was 20. I moved to Seattle to explore the local mountains and attend UW Law School, and soon took a glacier-climbing course on Mt. Baker with my future wife. Our sons' first week-long backpacking trip was from the Chiwawa River to Suiattle Pass and Image Lake, high above the wild Suiattle River valley. I've enjoyed spectacular weeks in the Pickets, two treks on the Ptarmigan Traverse, and many peakbagging weekends all over the Cascade Range. It's a wonderful place, worth protecting.

In early 1992, NCCC board member Harvey Manning and his *100 Hikes* co-author Ira Spring recruited me to serve as pro-bono attorney on a series of highly successful lawsuits to protect roadless areas from motorized development. After climbing mostly in Parks and Wilderness, the volunteer advocacy introduced me to the charms of less-famous, less-traveled, unprotected landscapes like the Dark Divide, North Entiat, Mad River, Wild Sky and Reiter Forest. Over the years I got to know other NCCC board members, and I joined the board in early 2001. In honor of our friend John Edwards, the board recently took another bike ride up the Suiattle River road. I'm looking forward to a hike around Bumping Lake. There is a lot of good work that needs to be done, and let's have fun doing it.

We are grateful to Marc Bardsley for his 17 years of service as President of NCCC (1995-2012). That is a very long time to be sending out agendas for board and executive committee meetings, keeping us all on topic and on task, signing countless comment letters, writing so many articles for our journal, meeting with so many government agency personnel and conservation allies and adversaries, and keeping us out of trouble – while maintaining a sense of humor. I am inspired and challenged to live up to the high standard Marc has set. Thanks Marc!

*Karl F. Forsgaard*

Karl Forsgaard

# NCCC leadership changes mean new roles for Forsgaard, Zalesky

By Marc Bardsley, *former NCCC president*

If you read the President's Letter on page 2, you have likely noticed significant changes in the leadership of the North Cascades Conservation Council. Karl Forsgaard has agreed to become our new president. Although it is unclear which of us is better looking, Karl will be a terrific president. He is a highly respected attorney and is very experienced with environmental battles, from our successful lawsuit to keep off-road vehicles out of key portions of the Wenatchee-Okanogan Forest to the major changes within the Department of Natural Resources lands adjacent to the Wild Sky Wilderness. Karl is also active in the Sierra Club, the Mountains to Sound Greenway, and other organizations. As your former president, I expect him to be an outstanding leader.

Additionally, Phil Zalesky has stepped down as NCCC secretary. He was our first president, in 1957, and has been an active Board member ever since. Fortunately, his 55-year tenure on the board will continue.

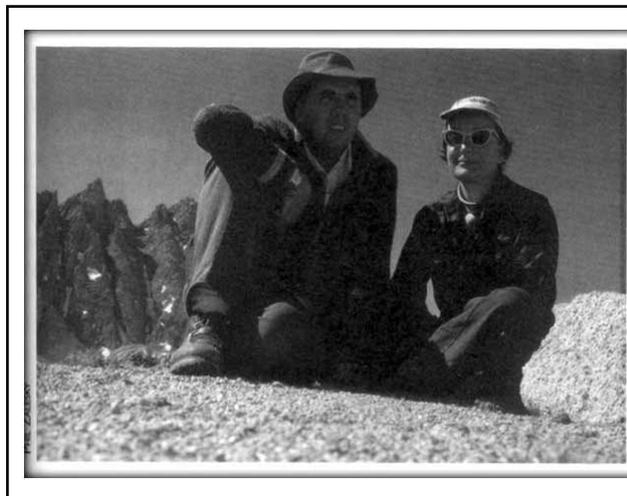
Other recent leadership changes include:

- Phil Fenner and I will act as interim co-secretaries.
- Serving in the new position of assistant treasurer is Athena Pangan-Hammond.

- Ed Henderson and Thom Peters are now at-large members of the Executive Committee.
- Anders Forsgaard has joined the Editorial committee.
- Anne Basye is the new editor, replacing Betty Manning, who has edited *The Wild Cascades* since 1992.
- As we noted in our Winter 2012 issue, Jim Davis is no longer our Executive Director. He is now heading up the new American Alps organization. We hope

he will continue to add his expertise to our operations, especially in the area of wildlife conservation.

My thanks go to Karl for stepping up to the plate and to Phil Zalesky for his long-time service. Thanks to Jim Davis for his able assistance as Executive Director. And to our board members and all our other volunteers, thanks for all you do to make things happen with the NCCC.



*NCCC was founded 55 years ago on March 23, 1957. Three of its original officers—Polly Dyer, Pat Goldsworthy and Phil Zalesky, shown here with Laura—have been active board members ever since. Laura has led the membership committee for many years and still plays a key role in enrolling, tracking, and renewing members.*

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## Reiter Forest non-motorized trail development continues

NCCC continues to work with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to develop a trail network for hikers, equestrians and bicyclists in the non-motorized area of Reiter State Forest, between Gold Bar and Index. Snohomish County's acquisition of a private parcel near May Creek may provide a good trail-head location for both Wallace Falls State Park and Reiter's non-motorized area. With NCCC support, DNR has received grants of \$350,000 to develop non-motorized trails and a small bridge in this area, as well as \$120,000 to build a larger bridge across the Wallace River upstream of Wallace Falls. A trunk trail would connect all users with the east side of Wallace Falls.

We are particularly interested in developing a hiker trail along May Creek's series of beautiful waterfalls, including one that graced the cover of our Winter 2009-2010 issue. The opportunity to develop low-elevation trails with a year-round season recalls the similar citizen effort to develop the Issaquah Alps trail system a generation ago. To get involved, please contact us at [ncccinfo@northcascades.org](mailto:ncccinfo@northcascades.org).

We previously reported on a plan to allow ORVs on paved county roads near Reiter, including Reiter Road between Gold Bar and Index (See *TWC* Summer/Fall 2010, "More News from Reiter Forest"). The proposed county ordinance was rejected by local communities in

part because they did not have sufficient law enforcement capacity. The concept was pursued on a statewide basis in State Senate Bill 5366, which would have allowed ATVs on paved roads with speed limits up to 35 miles per hour. The State Patrol testified that the bill "would likely lead to chaos," and would be "sacrificing safety" by mixing ATVs with general traffic. We are also concerned that ATV use of paved roads and highways would lead to increased ATV trespass onto unsupervised public lands and resultant damage of public resources. The bill passed the Senate in February 2012, died in the House, and is likely to reappear in future sessions of the State Legislature.

# Alternative C is NCCC's choice for Suiattle River road project



*Biking on Suiattle River road, May 2011.*  
— KARL FORSGAARD

**O**n April 20, NCCC submitted comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Suiattle River Road Project.

Like Sierra Club and Audubon, NCCC supported EA Alternative C, with modifications, which would reopen most of the road and restore motorized access to the popular Buck Creek Campground and the popular Huckleberry and Green Mountain trailheads. A gate at the Green Mountain road junction (at MP 19) would leave the uppermost 3.9 miles of the road unrepaired, but accessible for walking and biking. The Downey Creek trailhead, terminus of the Ptarmigan Traverse, would

be reached by a 1.9 mile walk through the floodplain forest along the closed road upstream of MP 19. Alternative C would also avoid expensive and damaging rebuilding in the vicinity of Downey Creek, including the MP 20.8 washout site that is likely to slide and/or wash out repeatedly in the future, damaging the spawning site of 40 percent of the Suiattle basin's Chinook (King) salmon, and stranding the expensive automotive bridge that is proposed for the Downey Creek crossing under Alternate B.

Converting the last few miles of the road to a non-motorized condition would obviate future repairs, and would provide low-

elevation, longer-season quiet recreation for hikers, bicyclists and equestrians using the closed road when the higher-elevation trails are buried by snow early or late in the hiking season. A similar closure of the uppermost portion of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Road is widely regarded as a great success, even though it adds a few miles of trail distance to certain destinations, because the added miles of lowland trail do provide popular recreation opportunities.

After evaluating the 400 comments they received, the federal agencies will issue a decision, and then NCCC will determine whether to challenge it.

## *Catalyst* makes debut

Merriam-Webster defines the word *catalyst* as “an agent that provokes or speeds significant action or change.” The *Cascades Catalyst* made its debut in early April as NCCC's online means of sharing information and involving members in important advocacy. Indeed the *Catalyst* did provoke significant actions, in this case prompt responses to Federal Highway Administration concerning the proposed alternatives for the Suiattle River road project. NCCC is grateful to all members who took a moment to add their support for Alternative C to the 400 comments that were received. And prepare to be *catalyzed* to act on future measures that call for public comment.



# NCCC Actions

## JANUARY- APRIL 2012

*It takes a lot of legwork to protect and preserve the North Cascades' lands, waters, plants, and wildlife. Here's a look at some of the advocacy carried out by dedicated NCCC volunteers in the last four months. All this, and no professional staff!!*



## EXPANDING AND ESTABLISHING WILDERNESS AREAS

*Why it matters: federal land designation as Wilderness and Park is the gold standard of ecosystem protection, precluding most damaging industrial and commercial exploitation.*

- Continued efforts to pass legislation to enlarge the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in the Pratt and Middle Fork Snoqualmie valleys.
- Signed onto letter supporting Roadless Rule against new legislation by Kevin McCarthy, drafted by Washington Wild and signed by other conservation groups.
- Supported the American Alps to expand the North Cascades National Park with a gift of \$6000.



## PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND RECREATION IN WILD AREAS

*Why it matters: balancing access with economics and Wilderness preservation, we evaluate motorized use and places where it needs to be limited to reduce land impacts and recurring road repair costs.*

### Suiattle River Road

- Sent several representatives to March 29 public meeting with federal agencies to comment on the Environmental Assessment (EA).
- Conducted several ground-truthing trips—with eight board members, including a civil engineer—to see the state of the river bed and road, examine the washouts and alternatives in order to make an informed comment on the EA Alternatives.
- Drafted and submitted comment letter in support of Alternative C, which would reopen most of the road and restore motorized access to the popular Green Mountain and Huckleberry trailheads and the popular Buck Creek Campground, while keeping the last 4 miles of the road closed for low-elevation, forested riverside biking and hiking access to the upper Suiattle valley and trails.
- Released *Cascades Catalyst* e-newsletter urging readers to write in support of Alternative C during comment period.



Recreation, continued

### Index-Galena Road (North Fork Skykomish)

- ✓ Attended February 1 public meeting with Snohomish County and the U.S. Forest Service to restore motorized access in the North Fork Skykomish valley while reducing footprint and impacts of any new road built there.

### DNR Recreation planning

- ✓ Regularly attend meetings and provide input to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) land managers to stay involved in recreation planning processes.
- ✓ Participated in DNR's new Snoqualmie Corridor recreation planning efforts to locate and develop new trail and recreation opportunities on DNR-managed state lands in the Issaquah to North Bend areas.
- ✓ Alerted NCCC allies to the launch of another DNR recreation planning process at Naneum, a newly acquired State Forest north of Ellensburg.
- ✓ Continued NCCC's extensive participation in DNR's Reiter Forest recreation planning process. Board members attend monthly DNR focus group meetings and site visits to participate in construction oversight, drafting an Operations & Maintenance Plan, and plan new hiking trails and bridges near Wallace Falls State Park and Wild Sky Wilderness.

## PROTECTING OLD-GROWTH TREES AND PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

*Why it matters: like real estate, they're just not making old-growth forest anymore. We seek to restore watersheds and fisheries damaged from decades of heavy logging and road building and protect significant forests from degradation.*

### Bumping Lake/Yakima NRA Proposal

- ✓ Led 26 non-motorized recreation and conservation organizations in drafting and submitting a March 11, 2012 letter opposing the proposed establishment of two National Recreation Areas (NRAs) in the Upper Yakima, Teanaway, Taneum and Manastash basins, stating numerous substantive and procedural objections including the NRAs' negative impacts on ecosystems and wildlife, and the proponents' failure to consult key players (including the land manager, the Cle Elum Ranger District). NCCC also gave presentations at meetings in March and April.
- ✓ Lobbied Congressional offices and agencies in early April, along with representatives from Friends of Bumping Lake, the Endangered Species Coalition, Alpine Lakes Protection Society and Sierra Club to spread the message about the importance of irreplaceable ancient forests at Bumping Lake.
- ✓ Requested engineering and other technical reports on this project for board review.

- ✓ Signed onto the detailed Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) comments on the Yakima "Integrated Plan," sent to the Bureau of Reclamation and Department of Ecology.

### Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Plan and Travel Management

- ✓ Met with other non-motorized recreation and conservation organizations to strategize for ground-truthing and organizing grassroots comments on the Travel Management DEIS under development. Only 100,000 acres of new Wilderness were recommended by the Forest Service in the Forest Plan Revision Proposed Action while Sierra Club, ALPS and NCCC asked for an additional million acres.

### Waterways

- ✓ With other groups such as Hydro Reform Coalition, monitor and actively oppose low-power hydro dams which threaten Cascade rivers and streams, with the Snohomish PUD's Sunset Falls project on the South Fork Skykomish river topping the list.

# In Memoriam: JOHN EDWARDS



John S. Edwards passed away on March 25 at the age of 80. He was an emeritus professor of zoology at the University of Washington, where he taught entomology, human ecology and other courses for decades. He served as the director of the Undergraduate Biology Program from 1982 to 1987 and director of the UW Honors Program from 1994 to 2000.

John joined the North Cascades Conservation Council in 1993. He began serving on the board in 2001, specializing in the effects roads have on the ecology of the North Cascades, or more accurately, how crumbling roads negatively impact river ecology. John authored many of the NCCC's official comment letters to government agencies.

## Adventurer, explorer, scientist, scholar: Board appreciations

With the passing of John Edwards, NCCC has lost a knowledgeable, committed and wise defender of wild lands. But that was just a part of what John was about. John Edwards was a true Renaissance Man in almost every way, of a type that has always been uncommon. His great interest in the world and practically everything in it made him one of the most interesting people I have ever been privileged to know. Any time spent with John was time well spent.

As well as an inexhaustible fund of knowledge on virtually every topic, John always had an air of calm unflappability about him, and seemed able to take anything in stride. The most memorable moments I ever spent with him were not in wild country, but its polar opposite in

downtown Moscow just outside the Lubyanka prison, infamous headquarters of Stalin's secret police and still a part of the Russian state security apparatus.

En route to the Altai mountains in Siberia to take part in a trip put together by the Siberian Institute for Ecological Initiatives, John and I had scheduled a few days in Moscow. I had suffered a leg injury before going, and as I hobbled around Moscow with John I realized that trying to hike in Siberia might mean risking permanent disability. So I reluctantly arranged to return home, but did have the pleasure of touring around Moscow with John, who then went on to the Altai.

One day we walked over to Lubyanka Square, and saw the formidable edifice where so many victims had been tortured and killed. The neo-baroque structure started out as the headquarters of the All-Russia insurance company in Czarist times. Its ornate front doors looked seldom used. The only hint of its grisly past was a small plaque honoring Cheka founder Felix Dzerzhinsky. As we walked around the side we saw signs of life in the form of gangster-ish looking guys dozing

in or hanging around fancy cars and limos, looking bored. They were obviously drivers for big shots inside.

Around back we saw where the real business was done, and two giant doors where countless people were taken in to suffer and die. John calmly snapped pictures as we walked by tough looking, uniformed and non-uniformed police and military types, none of whom looked like people one would want

to offend. All I could do was follow along, nervously mumbling "Umm, John, are you sure this is a good idea?..." and wishing we were invisible.

But it seemed as though we actually were invisible. Whether it was John's innocent professorial looks or just the natural propensity of Russians to ignore people, it was as if we were simply not there. John had a bubble of serenity about him that nothing seemed able to pierce. I couldn't help but wonder what the results would have been if we had tried this in the days of Stalin and Beria. It was a huge relief to get past those awful doors and back out on Lubyanskaya Prospekt.

John was such a fascinating character and so interesting to talk with that any NCCC business usually got put off until it was almost time to say goodbye. Winston Churchill supposedly said that meeting Franklin Roosevelt was like opening one's first bottle of champagne. John Edwards had a good share of that same kind of likability. He was a pleasure to know, and the memories of that pleasure will always stay with those who were fortunate to know him.

—Rick McGuire

John Edwards was a true gentleman and scholar. He was so modest in his own accomplishments, which were numerous, that I learned of many of them after he passed away. I never knew that he participated in the first winter ascent of Denali. I never knew he had been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship.

I knew he had created the honors program at the University of Washington only because he invited me to co-instruct a course he had pioneered in how our perception of the landscape around us—urban, rural, wilderness, etc.—is formed by painting, photography, geology, evolution, architecture, and many other disciplines. I viewed John as a mentor, despite the fact that I mentored him, but only marginally: John took two of my photography workshops as a student. But I knew that he chose the ones he attended more for the geographical location and hiking than for the photography instruction.

His quiet, mischievous sense of humor was infectious and absolutely hilarious. Yet he was a serious scholar of anything and everything that caught his interest. He didn't superficially learn a few facts about things; instead he became an expert in the things that interested him. And there were many, from his chosen professional field of biology (and most specifically insects), to art and art history, and to the protection of the earth's environment. He was a true Renaissance man. His departure is our loss.

—Bruce Barnbaum

John Edwards was curious—open to learning new things and seeking to expand his knowledge throughout his life. He never stopped being a student although he was an emeritus professor. He had a command of the English language usually reserved for non-scientist types—he was a master of the pun and the limerick. This is not about what John did professionally—as an academician and a scientist John was Formidable\*. I think it best to tell a short story, as John was wont to do.

One day a few years ago, John offered me some of his cross-country skis, and invited me in to his garage to pick them out. His garage looked like a well-stocked mountaineering store and a museum, covered with an amazing array of well-used gear, including many pairs of skis. One pair caught my attention: lovely wooden 210cm XC skis. John's eyes brightened with glee as he recalled a trip to Alaska with those skis in the 1970s. At SeaTac, as the baggage handler inspected them, John joked that they had been used by Amundsen on his famous polar expedition. The clerk called over all of his co-workers, and before John knew it, a large crowd of travelers and airline staff had gathered—dozens of people wanted to check out these amazing, historic relics of exploration and adventure! So great was their interest and excitement, John didn't have the heart to tell them the skis weren't famous at all, but were actually his, purchased in the 1960s.

As fate would have it, those skis are famous—they were owned by John Edwards, one of the great adventurers, explorers and scientists to ski our North Cascades.

—Tom Hammond

\*Like Mount Formidable!



# BUMPING LAKE UPDATE

*Bumping Lake and a thousand acres of ancient forests continue to be threatened by the proposed dam included in the Yakima Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan. This Bumping Lake Update includes a review of a recent meeting of the Plan's proponents and opponents, a look at the water rights situation underlying the plan—and a look back at NCCC's successful campaign against the High Ross Dam.*

Follow this link to see a full-color aerial photograph of Bumping Lake showing the proposed inundation zone:

<http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/yrbwep/2009workgroup/meetings/2009-11-09/05bumpinglakemap.pdf>

# BUMPING LAKE UPDATE

By Rick McGuire

**O**n March 19, a meeting was held at the offices of the Wilderness Society high above Seattle. This meeting was supposed to be an opportunity for proponents and opponents of the Yakima Work Group plan to discuss the parts of that plan that have generated so much controversy, mainly the destruction of the Bumping Lake forests and the proposed National Recreation Areas to promote motorized use on the Wenatchee-Okanogan National Forest.

There was never much chance of any resolution. There is simply no way that NCCC and other groups fighting to save Bumping Lake will ever acquiesce to its destruction. It was nonetheless interesting to see how the divide between those pushing the Yakima plan and those fighting it mirrors the distinctions that have long been growing in the environmental movement. Lining up in support of the plan and the destruction of the forests at Bumping are big-budget organizations consisting entirely of paid staffs. Some started out as volunteer groups but have evolved into large, bureaucracies that now bear little resemblance to their origins. Thanks to money from foundations and other sources, these organizations have swelled in numbers of staff, but not in terms of effectiveness.

Not only have these large organizations grown steadily less productive at protecting anything, some have crossed the line from mere ineffectiveness into active promotion of destructive schemes like the Yakima plan. Bloated staff rosters mean lots of people who need to be paid, which means a never-ending quest for money, which means a dire need for “success” that can be sold to the foundations to ensure their continued survival.

Things weren't so bad when these bureaucracies focused merely on soaking up resources that could have been better deployed elsewhere. They are much worse now that they believe their survival is best served by giving away irreplaceable ancient forests in exchange for empty promises of fish passage, and calling that a success. The flood of money into the environmental movement over the past couple of decades is no longer just ineffective, it

is now doing real harm, and the environmental movement has become a victim of its own success.

David Stockman, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) director in the first Reagan administration, defines “crony capitalism” as the use of lobbying and political connections to get results that would never be achievable in a free marketplace. Yakima agribusiness has decided it wants more water, and it wants the taxpayers to pay for it. It seems extremely unlikely that a few junior irrigation districts could ever come up with the billions needed to provide the extra “insurance” they claim they need in the form of a new dam at Bumping in the hope of more water in dry years. But they may be able to achieve it through the political process, at taxpayers' expense. It is yet another example of the crony capitalism that is dragging down the U.S. economy and burdening the country with an almost unimaginably titanic and unpayable debt.

The “reasons” for trading away the forests at Bumping are simply ridiculous. Only people whose salaries depend on it could actually believe them. At the March 19th meeting, one of the many Wilderness Society employees present seemed genuinely enthused that the Yakima plan calls for 20,000 acres of new Wilderness. Never mind the fact that they would be exchanged for the very best ground and forests in the Bumping Lake basin. They really appear to believe that putting some leftover acreage into Wilderness, areas that no one wants to flood, more than makes up for giving away the most important areas. Apparently, a sense of irony is not in their job description.

Likewise the representative for American Rivers, the chief “environmental” proponent of the dam-building plan, confidently told people that there will be “\$400 million dollars” for all sorts of conservation measures, and that trap-and-haul facilities to move fish around the five big dams in the basin will be fully funded forever—even though the state of Washington is running out of money to operate its current trap-and-haul operations and is considering abandoning them.

Other claims are even more outlandish. A Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife employee told those present that the 46,000 acres of privately

owned timberland in the Teanaway would become publicly owned as “some sort of community forest.” Considering that such schemes have never succeeded even in King County, as with the failed “Evergreen Forest” initiative that wanted to preserve Weyerhaeuser's Snoqualmie Tree Farm, and that there is no money to acquire the Teanaway lands, and that the idea faces total opposition in Kittitas County, you have to wonder what planet these people are living on. They have convinced themselves that things are true because they want them to be true. It could perhaps be best described as mass delusion, induced by the overwhelming need these organizations have to keep the money flowing in.

David versus Goliath struggles are noth-

*NCCC and like-minded groups will continue to spread the message about how a new dam at Bumping Lake will mean doom for one of the most impressive and important ancient forests left in the Cascades.*

ing new for NCCC. Members of NCCC, ALPS (Alpine Lakes Protection Society), the Sierra Club, Endangered Species Coalition, and Friends of Bumping Lake visited Washington D.C. in early April to plead the cause of the forests at Bumping Lake with both senators, most Washington congressional representatives, and the OMB and the Bureau of Reclamation itself. We felt that we successfully explained that the forests at Bumping are rare and irreplaceable, and that destroying them for the benefit of a few junior irrigation districts is a terrible idea. At every office, we reminded officials that this very expensive controversial plan faces growing opposition and does not deserve taxpayers' money. Since the Yakima plan proponents have been saying that

*Continued on page 12*

# Bumping Lake Update

Continued from page 11

“everyone” supports it, just showing up sends a useful message to the contrary.

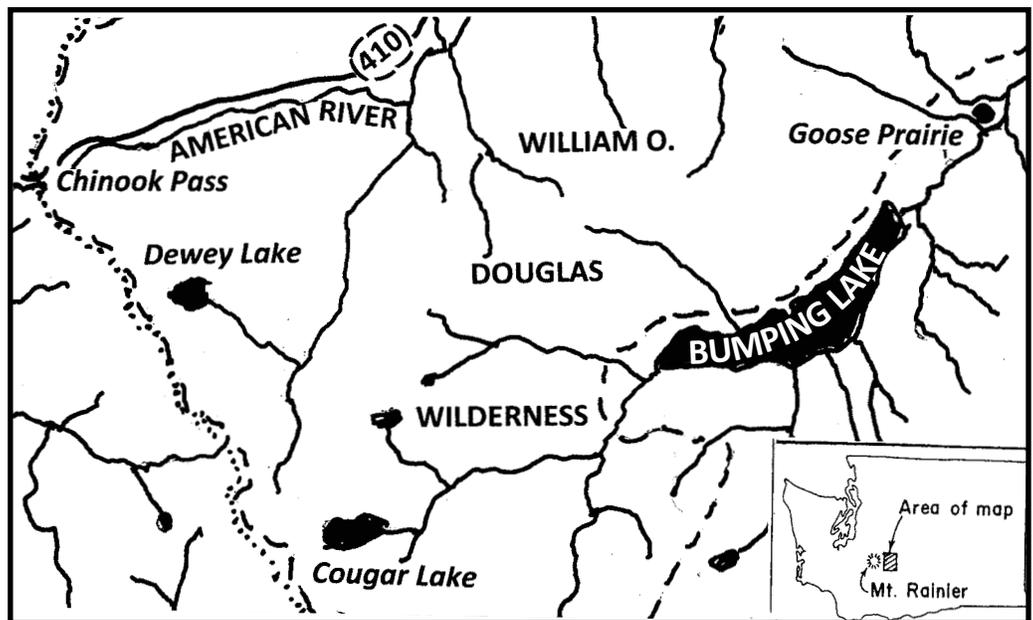
The dam builders’ next move will be to go to Washington D.C. and request \$20 million dollars of “early implementation” money. Making the rounds with the irrigators and BuRec will likely be the Yakima group representative from American Rivers. AR likes to advertise its role in dam removals and take credit for

*It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends upon his not understanding it.*

—UPTON SINCLAIR

all sorts of good things, but their website doesn’t seem to mention their support for building the dam at Bumping. Are they perhaps just a little bit ashamed?

NCCC and like-minded groups will continue to spread the message about how a new dam at Bumping Lake will mean doom for one of the most impressive and important ancient forests left in the Cascades. That message will also include the consequences to public finances of five billion or more dollars going to subsidize a few irrigation districts in the Yakima valley. It’s crony capitalism at its worst, now unfortunately aided by “conservation” organizations that depend on foundation money. Those organizations are now looking to twist the meaning of “success” to include the destruction of one of the very last and best forests in the Cascades. Something is very broken in Washington state’s “environmental” movement. Money can’t buy love, and it’s looking more and more like it isn’t doing too well in terms of saving the Earth either.



—MAP BY PATRICK GOLDSWORTHY

## The Bumping Lake Horror Show

By Ed Henderson

Remember those teenage horror movies? Where after two reels of unspeakable violence, blood and horror, the evildoer is finally identified, captured, given a pair of concrete galoshes and sent on a walk to the bottom of the lake? We all breathed a sigh of relief; it was safe to walk in the woods again. . . .

Until the next year, when Hollywood dusted off the script, remade the movie and called it a sequel: *Friday the Thirteenth, part VI, VII, . . .* etc. Turns out the homicidal maniac wasn’t really dead, and his trip to the bottom of the lake hadn’t improved his table manners.

The Bureau of Reclamation and the Washington State Department of Ecology are following Hollywood’s lead, trying to pawn off the same old script in their *Final Programmatic Environment Impact Statement* (FPEIS) for the Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resources Management Plan in which they resurrects the proposal to enlarge the reservoir at Bumping Lake. The Bumping Lake Expansion is alive; it’s back! Just when we thought it was safe to walk in the woods around the lake.

In the 2008 *Yakima River Basin Water Storage Feasibility Study Final Report/ EIS*, by the Bureau of Reclamation as lead agency, the Bumping Lake Expansion was dropped from the study for several stated reasons, including the fact that,

“the larger-capacity reservoir would not fill on a regular basis and would not be a reliable source of water.” (Pages 2-128 to 2-131) It wasn’t even included in the No Action Alternative, the preferred alternative. When the Bureau of Reclamation, the agency whose purpose in life is to dam every trickle of water in every canyon in the West, opts out and says that expansion of the Bumping Lake Reservoir isn’t worth the trouble even to consider, any sane person would think that would put an end to it.

But the Bureau and Ecology know, just as Hollywood does, there is box office appeal in sequels. So they trot this turkey out again. Apparently it doesn’t matter that in drought years when the water is needed; there won’t be enough rain in the watershed to fill the enlarged reservoir—an inconvenient detail, easily overlooked. There are still reality-challenged individuals who are standing in line to buy a ticket to this travesty. Just like the victims in the splatter flicks are dumber than a box of rocks, as one after another they disappear, dying grisly deaths, the supporters of an enlarged Bumping Lake Reservoir are clueless.

How can we put a stake through the black heart of this monster? How can we make it really dead so we can walk safely in the woods around Bumping Lake?

# BUMPING LAKE UPDATE



## Wishful thinking will destroy the Bumping Lake old-growth forest

By Ed Henderson

“Rain follows the plough,” proclaimed the aggressive marketing campaign used by nineteenth-century railroads to encourage settlement of the dry western plains. Ultimately this wishful thinking led to the human tragedy and environmental disaster of the dust bowl. One can only fool Mother Nature for so long.

Today we hear a similar delusion and wishful thinking about water resources in the apparent belief that “water comes from reservoirs.” *The Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan: Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (FPEIS) is a prime example of such wishful thinking. The Bureau of Reclamation (BuRec) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) are in thrall to the agricultural/irrigation interests in the Yakima River Basin, which appear to be under this delusion. The FPEIS is based on this fallacy: if one builds additional reservoirs, it follows that there will be more water.

It is a thinly disguised attempt to gain approval from a wide array of disparate interest groups for construction of already discredited new reservoirs. The BuRec and Ecology are holding out vague promises of enhanced fish passage at existing facilities, improved conservation measures, riparian habitat restoration, additional Wilderness areas, new Wild & Scenic Rivers, and after closing of the comment period on the DPEIS, 41,000 acres of National Recreation Areas (NRA) for motorized recreation use, i.e. stump jumping in the woods by ORV's and ATV's. The FPEIS is a sham, a con game. It is festooned with promises and when its Preferred Alternative to build new reservoirs is approved, those promises will fade away, forgotten and ignored until the next time gullible, well-meaning environmentalists and others are needed to support a really bad proposal.

*Bumping Lake trail through to-be-flooded flatland forest at head of Bumping Lake.*

—DAVID ORTMAN

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### *The 800-pound gorilla: the existing water allocation system*

The FPEIS clearly states a real problem in its need-for-action statement: the water resources in the Yakima River Valley are over-subscribed. Under the existing system, more people hold water allocations than there is water to go around. This problem becomes acute during drought years when junior, proratable interests must be cut off. But the FPEIS fails to take the next logical step and acknowledge that because the problem can't be solved under the current rules, the rules must be changed! After presenting a clear, concise statement of the Purpose and Need for an Integrated Water Management Plan in the Yakima River Basin, the FPEIS proceeds to ignore the 800- pound gorilla in the current system. As long as the existing system

*Continued on page 14*

# BUMPING LAKE UPDATE

## Wishful thinking

*Continued from page 13*

of water allocations remains in place, there will be a problem of insufficient water.

Problems with the current system:

- *The first in use, first in right* principle results in senior water rights, which are legal entitlements held by a few with no obligation to the community.
- *Use it, or lose it* means that senior holders must take and use the water they are entitled to, or lose their right. This results in wasteful, antiquated and inefficient irrigation practices.
- *Heavy subsidies* mean that senior water-right holders pay far less than the actual cost of providing water—another incentive for inefficient and wasteful irrigation practices.

## Feasibility study findings point to problems

Although increased water storage capacity is at the core of what the BuRec and Ecology are proposing, the FPEIS ignores problems with two proposed new reservoirs that were evaluated in the *Yakima River Basin Water Storage Feasibility Study, Final/EIS December 2008* (Feasibility Study).

The **Wymer Dam and Reservoir** were evaluated in the 2008 Feasibility Study and were found not to be economical. The cost-benefit ratio was 0.31, which means that the project would only return a benefit of 31 cents for every dollar expended (p 2-89). Also dismissed from further consideration is the **Bumping Lake Enlargement**. “The larger-capacity reservoir would not fill on a regular basis and would not be a reliable source of water,” (p 2-129) and “The amount of additional stored water available in average water years does not represent a meaningful amount to exchange with the three reservoirs in the upper Yakima River basin to warrant further consideration of this alternative” (p 2-131). The point of the enlarged reservoir is to provide additional water in drought years, but if there isn’t enough water in the watershed to fill the reservoir in normal years, how much water is there likely to be in drought years? The current FPEIS proposes a smaller enlarged reservoir, 190,000 acre-feet instead

of 400,000 to 450,000 acre-feet. But an empty smaller reservoir doesn’t have any more water in it than an empty larger reservoir. No economic analysis is provided for the Bumping Lake Enlargement, but an order of magnitude guess is that for a \$1 billion price tag for 156,300 additional acre-feet of storage the benefit-cost ratio will be about the same as the Wymer Dam, or approximately 0.3 or 30 cents on the dollar. That is assuming that there will be water to store, which is not a safe bet. Without water, the benefit-cost ratio gets pretty close to zero! Concerns about the financial viability of these dam proposals expressed in the comments to the DPEIS were airily dismissed in the FPEIS (pp CR-13 & CR-14).

One can only express surprise that neither the Black Rock Dam at \$8.3 billion and a benefit-cost ratio of 0.13 nor the Wymer Dam and Pump Exchange at \$5.9 billion and a benefit-cost ratio of 0.07 are included in the wish list of projects in the FPEIS. (Feasibility Study, Table 2.48, p 2-90.) But in spite of the exorbitant cost and abysmal benefit-cost ratios, both are hidden under the umbrella called “Begin appraisal of potential project to transfer water from the Columbia River to the Yakima Basin” (FPEIS section 2.4.5.4 p 2-25). Apparently fiscal prudence isn’t required when the irrigators reap the benefits of the federal taxpayers’ cost.

Grand talk of conservation measures in the FPEIS is just that, talk (Section 2.4.9 *Market Reallocation Element*). All of the recommended measures are purely voluntary.

The FPEIS is presented as a complete, integrated plan with all the elements working together. “Reclamation, Ecology and the YRBWEP [Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project] Workgroup intend that the Integrated Plan would be implemented in a comprehensive manner, incorporating all elements of the proposed plan” (Executive Summary, p vii). And yet throughout, the FPEIS repeatedly states that individual projects are stand-alone and will have to be approved and funded through the appropriate NEPA and/or SEPA and legislative processes. Approval of the Preferred Alternative of the Integrated Plan can neither guarantee nor require that should any one element receive approval and funding, then any other elements must also be approved and

funded. The promise of a comprehensive and integrated plan is a sham. The hollowness of these promises is revealed when the Yakima Herald-Republic quoted Derek Sandison, Department of Ecology, on March 14, 2012: “Sandison said the larger group [YRBWEP Working Group] simply recommended that the Forest Service use its administrative authority to propose the special designation [NRAs] for deserving areas and **that it is in no way binding.**” And that is true for all of the recommendations and promises in the FPEIS: they are in no way binding.

It is evident that the FPEIS is not a serious effort to meet the stated Purpose and Need of water management in the Yakima River Basin. The Irrigation Districts, one of the major participants on the YRBWEP Working Group, have not brought their assets to the table, which are the senior water rights, the entitlements. There isn’t any more unallocated water to be stored or allocated; all the water is spoken for. The only logical, realistic means of providing additional water to junior water-rights agriculture, municipal growth, or in-stream flows for fish is to reallocate the existing supply.

*Rain does not follow the plough, nor do reservoirs make water.* To fulfill the Purpose and Need so succinctly stated in the FPEIS, the rules of the game must be changed. Tinkering around the edges and continuing business as usual cannot satisfy the Purpose and Need. Water must be obtained from the senior water-right holders. Two radical actions must be taken. The first can be done by purchase, possibly by condemnation through the right of eminent domain for the common good, and the second by subjecting the use and misuse of the water allocation to the discipline of the free market. That is, by charging the actual cost of delivering the water to the irrigators. Those changes will discourage the current wasteful, antiquated and inefficient irrigation practices that encourage raising low value crops. Neither action will be popular with the agricultural interests in the Yakima River Basin and will have to be phased in over time. But the long-term results will provide water for high-priority uses far more surely than wasting money and destroying the environment by building more reservoirs to store non-existent water.

# BUMPING LAKE UPDATE

## National Recreation Area (NRA) Proposal attracts criticism

by Karl Forsgaard

In the Winter 2012 *TWC*, we reported on the proposed motorized National Recreation Areas (NRAs) in the Upper Yakima, Teanaway, Taneum and Manastash basins.

NRA proponents describe the NRA designation as "a powerful marketing feature" that will "attract more users," i.e., more off-road vehicles (ORVs) into the headwaters of those streams, thereby degrading wildlife habitat and increasing conflicts with non-motorized, quiet recreationists. The NRA Proposal was incorporated into the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Yakima Water Plan, even though it had not been mentioned in the Draft EIS, thereby denying the public the opportunity to comment upon it, in violation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA).

NCCC led a coalition of 26 organizations that signed a March 11, 2012 letter opposing the NRA Proposal. Three additional organizations submitted a separate letter voicing many of the same concerns, including that the NRA Proposal "undermines" the ongoing National Forest Plan Revision and Travel Management processes that are designed to deal with these issues of land management designations and motorized route designations. The Forest Service issued a Fact Sheet stating the NRA designations could "increase recreational impacts to ecosystems and affect wildlife corridors."

The Kittitas County Commissioners weighed in with a letter supporting the NRA Proposal, failing to discuss the *increase* in ORV use that the NRA designation is intended to "attract." The Yakima Water Plan proponents presented their arguments (with rebuttal from NCCC and the Endangered Species Coalition) at a March 19 meeting in Seattle of 55 representatives of environmental organizations; at the April 11 meeting of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust board in Preston (with rebuttal from NCCC and Sierra Club); and at the April 12 meeting in Wenatchee of the Forest Service's Provincial Advisory Committee (with rebuttal from El Sendero).

Because the NRA proposal had been published without consulting many key

players, one of the Water Plan's supporters acknowledged that the NRA Proposal had "raised tension and mistrust." The conservation community's response to the NRA Proposal has been so overwhelmingly negative that we are beginning to see signs

that the proponents are backing away from the NRA Proposal, and preparing to move it from the Yakima Water Plan to the National Forest planning process where it belongs.

*This excerpt from a 1974 TWC reminds us that in the late 60s and early 70s, NCCC worked tirelessly to save the ancient forest of Big Beaver Valley from the proposed High Ross Dam.*

THE WILD CASCADES  
**F.P.C. HIGH ROSS DAM  
HEARINGS**  
western washington phase  
by the kaopectate kid

What we have been looking forward to (and stalling off) for five years; finally burst upon the North Cascades Conservation Council (N3C) in late April of 1974. The Federal Power Commission, in a rare gesture to public opinion, announced on April 4 that it would hold a public interest hearing in Seattle on April 16. The announcement came, of course, too late for cooperating environmental organizations to put it in their May newsletters.

The N3C began to tool up to notify members of the hearing date. Then, a few hours before notices were to be mailed, we learned (by telephone call to Washington, D.C.) that the hearing was postponed to April 23, the place changed to Bellingham, and that there would be a Seattle hearing on April 25. Although it appeared almost to be a conscious attempt on the part of F.P.C. to prevent any organized effort to "call out the troops", we will give them the benefit of the doubt and assume it was their unfamiliarity with public hearings that led them to screw things up so badly.

The Bellingham hearing was held in a tiny courtroom in the Federal Building. Around 150 people, mainly Canadians, filled the 75 or so seats, stood along the walls and crowded the corridor outside. As his first action in a long, confused day, Presiding Judge Allen C. Lande

neighbor. Perhaps their frustration was best expressed by Jim Bohlin of the Sierra Club of Western Canada, who berated the judge for holding the hearing in such an unsuitable place. "It's not a real hearing", he said. "The media were excluded. We Canadians will leave here with the feeling that we're going to be shafted!"

On Thursday, April 25, the F.P.C. road show opened in Seattle for a two-day stand. Only protests by N3C counsel had kept the hearing from being conducted in a small court room at the Federal Building, and the auditorium in the Seattle-First Building held almost all who appeared. Supporting cast to Judge Lande were four staff counsel for F.P.C. and a bevy of City Light lawyers.

Conspicuously absent were the legion retired City Light employees who had passed the 1972 City Council hearings, wearing big badges about "Ross Dam and Clean Power." Apparently Chief V.'s employee relations lemons had cost him support in the City Light rally on the High Ross issue, too.

Testimony on Thursday and Friday was about 2-1 against the high dam, with the Chamber of Commerce types and big users confronting representatives of environmental organizations and just plain citizens. A nadir of public responsibility was reached by our enlightened Councilman Larkin, who described Big Beaver Valley as "a mess of swamps where the yellow

# A conversation with Jan Henderson

*Recently retired Forest Ecologist for Mt. Baker Snoqualmie and Olympic National Forests*

## PART TWO

In Part 1 of this interview, published in the Winter 2012 TWC, Jan Henderson talked about how he became a forest ecologist, his “stand origination date” mapping and reconstruction of ancient fire histories, and his thoughts on climate shifts and their impact on forests. In Part 2, he discusses restoration logging, the most mysterious parts of Northwest forests, and his plans for retirement.



*Counting rings on a 480-year-old Douglas-fir from the upper Sol Duc River in the Olympics.*

*TWC: NCCC has been skeptical about “restoration” logging, or thinning, and the idea that it can accelerate the development of “old-growth characteristics” in younger forests. What do you think of such claims? Any thoughts on its efficacy or lack thereof as regards naturally regenerated stands versus post-logging stands, and within those post-logging stands, the younger, replanted ones versus naturally regenerated older ones, such as early 20th century railroad logged areas?*

JH: This is a very complicated question and would require a very complex answer, with not enough time or space here. There are many views on this subject and in my opinion there is not enough information to even make a scientifically informed opinion, although there are still lots of opinions.

Personally I think the idea of “restoration” in this context is a ghost. It appears to some people as a single faint image, to others as more defined but still vague images and to others, not at all. No one, in

my opinion, has presented a good vision of what is being restored or even how to do it. Yet there is a strong momentum to do “something.” Doing something that increases the diameter of residual trees has very little to do with actually restoring old-growth forests, and often does more harm in this regard by setting back the development of many other important old-growth related characteristics. Climate has changed so much during the lifespan of our older old-growth forests that we cannot prescribe a pathway to get from existing young-growth forests to achieve the species composition and structure that now exists in these old-growth forests. “You can’t get there from here.” Climate change is the big unknown in trying to prescribe a plan for “restoring” old-growth conditions based on existing old-growth forests. I believe the best we can do is prescribe “normal” conditions for such forests specific to the known current climate and let natural processes take the stand where it can go.

processes and effects that are dependent on some precedent.

One assumption sometimes used to argue for “restoration thinning” is that the forest in question is “overstocked” or otherwise not “normally” developing toward some natural old-growth condition. However, in my opinion, the stands that are actually outside the “normal” range of stocking are *not* the ones being treated. The ones often selected are well within the range of normal stocking and appear to be developing at a normal rate toward old-growth condition. This fallacy may be partially due to the practice of extrapolating results from one area to another. For example, to apply stocking guidelines from drier parts of western Oregon to wetter parts of western Washington can lead to this kind of mistake.

Most of the stands I have visited (and taken research plots in) that have been “thinned” have been diverted away from a normal successional trajectory. Many

My experience has shown me that while these forests are very diverse spatially and temporally, they are also very resilient. They are self-organizing and most young forests are developing toward middle-aged structures and functions. There is a school of thought that there is a good reason why forests develop in the sequences they do. It has worked for millions of years and evolution has tested many possible pathways, and the ones that worked have survived. Perhaps these forests *need* to grow from one stage to another, and can’t really skip a step because there are certain

of these stands now have excessive tree regeneration that now require future additional treatment, or have had much higher than normal mortality or damage to the residual trees.

I am concerned that trying to get stands with large-diameter trees faster reduces the likelihood of them actually developing into more normally developed old-growth forests. In many of these cases where the residual stocking following “thinning” is reduced below natural conditions, then I wonder where the future snags or down logs will come from? Or I wonder where the future energy (biomass) for many of the forests’ organisms to live and function will come from if the stands become under- or over-stocked due to treatments now?

Personally, I see little significant difference, in the big picture, between naturally regenerated stands and most plantations. First, under wildfire, wind or snow/ice disturbance regimes there is naturally a wide range of post-disturbance conditions. This is partially due to the possible climate for the period of regeneration, the severity and extent of the disturbance, and the inherent environmental conditions of the site. Many “plantations” on these national forest lands also have had considerable natural regeneration. Sometimes the natural regeneration has out-competed many of the planted trees. This is common in wetter areas and especially in the silver fir zone. Railroad logging where “seed trees” of Douglas-fir were left often resulted in higher and more regular stocking of Douglas-fir. Early 20th century, non-seed tree “clearcuts” have a wide range in stocking and species conditions, but are often (not always!) “poorly” stocked with trees. Natural variation in stocking and species composition is caused by a number of variables at work, resulting in a wide range of conditions from various disturbances or treatments. I find it is very difficult to generalize about such conditions except for a small area. Site conditions such as precipitation or moisture are probably the most influential in controlling variations in stocking.

“Naturally” regenerated stands can refer to either stands of natural disturbance or from logging, although some “natural” disturbances have been artificially regenerated. Many recent wildfires have areas that have been planted with nursery stock. I have heard people claim that natural regeneration following natural disturbance results in lower stocking levels compared to clearcuts with planting. Any such gener-

alization, in my opinion, is inappropriate since we can find many exceptions in NW Washington. It really depends on what, when and where.

*TWC: What do you see as the least understood and most mysterious part of NW forest ecosystems, and where you would like to see research go in future?*

JH: Having hiked in these forests for over 50 years and worked in them since 1964, I think I have learned a lot. I think if I had two or three more lifetimes I might feel like I could begin to understand what they are and how they really work. In this area we have had a rare opportunity to study original forests over a wide range of ages and conditions. Such forests are long-gone in many areas of the temperate world. Yet I don’t think anyone really understands them or has much of a basis for taking an adamant stand about what they are or should be. I think most people underestimate their variability over both space and time.

The most mysterious communities could be those that are older than the ages of the oldest trees. These are few and far between and occur in the coolest and wettest areas. Some of these remnant, very old forests occur on Mt. Pilchuck, for example, and may not have burned or been disturbed for many thousands of years. Sometimes there is no mineral soil, or feet of well-decomposed plant material may be the rooting medium, with soil water that is very acid and discolored by high levels of partially decomposed humic acids or related compounds. We know very little about such forests.

*TWC: Having explored so many forests, do you have any favorites? If you were to go out to the woods purely for enjoyment, where would you likely go?*

JH: Since I view all forests and non-forest communities in this area as unique (yes, literally unique), I see every place as interesting and different. If I get to a point where I get some of my health back, there are places I would still like to go (yes, there are a couple I didn’t get to) and many others I would like to return to. I don’t go anywhere in the north Cascades that I do not see new things or things I am not curious about, even if I *have* been there many times before. Some of my permanent plots are especially interesting since I have been there several times before.

*TWC: What will you do now that you are no longer punching in at the Forest Service timeclock?*

JH: I have several projects ongoing. Many are projects I started while working for the Forest Service. One of them is making the data we collected available on-line. That has been a difficult and time-consuming project, which we may see some fruit from in the near future. I want to return to the permanent plots I installed and help maintain and re-measure them. Publishing the fire-history data is near the top of my list. I have done a lot of teaching and may start doing field ecology sessions again. I started writing an historic novel some time ago, set mostly in the Cascades, which I have resolved to go back and finish. That’s more than enough to keep a retired ecologist busy.

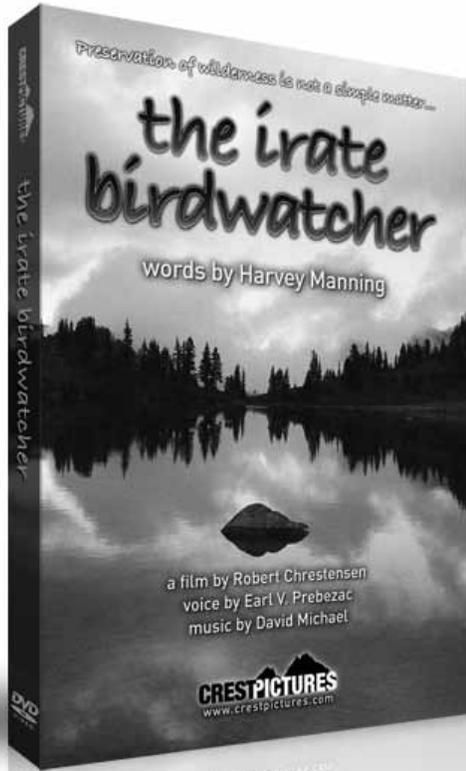
*TWC: Thanks so much for sharing your thoughts with us.*

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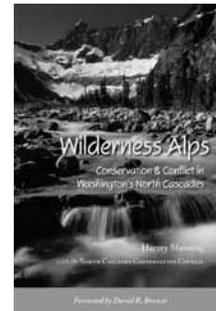
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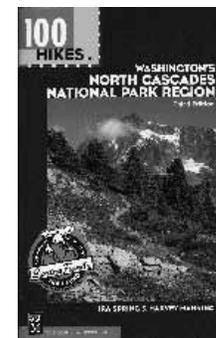
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## National Park retirees speak out against H.R. 1505

National Park retirees are speaking out against misguided federal legislation ironically known as the “National Security and Federal Lands Protection Act.” The late John Edwards sounded the alarm about this threat to our treasured public lands, notably the state’s National Parks and Wilderness areas, in last summer’s *The Wild Cascades*.

Rather than “improving U.S. border security,” as supporters tout, H.R. 1505 would instead “have the potential to devastate 54 of America’s national parks, historic sites, national monuments and other popular park icons and negatively impact the nation’s economy,” says the Coalition of National Park Service Retirees (CNPSR). H.R. 1505 would overrule a century’s worth of proven federal lands protection, potentially opening up millions of pristine acres of national parks to off-road vehicle use, road construction, air strips and helipads, fencing, base instal-

lations, and other disruptions. Not just members of CNPSR—whose 800 members represent 24,000 years of stewardship of America’s most precious natural and cultural resources—are concerned. Federal employees, non-governmental scientists and conservationists have all expressed deep concern and opposition.

This legislation, introduced by Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT), would suspend enforcement of almost all the nation’s environmental laws on all lands under the jurisdiction of the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture within 100 miles of the Canadian and Mexican borders. Note this means that Olympic National Park, North Cascades National Park, the Pasayten Wilderness Area, and even the Glacier Peak Wilderness area would be managed by the Department of Homeland Security as security zones. Indeed, consulting a map reveals that DHS would manage all of our Wilderness Areas and National Parks as

*Do we really need Homeland Security to keep an eye out for bad guys here? (Southern Pickets, North Cascades National Park) — TOM HAMMOND*

far south as a line roughly along Highway 2! The last thing these landscapes need is “protection” offered by being managed by DHS.

As John Edwards and long-time board member and North Cascades activist Joe Miller would have been quick to point out, protecting these lands for their ecological value is the best form of homeland security!

We ask all NCCC members to write your congressional representatives in the House and the Senate and encourage them to vote down this bad legislation.

**THE WILD CASCADES**

**Journal of the North Cascades Conservation Council**  
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*Swamp Creek flows away to join the Granite Arm of the Skagit River. All facing peaks and both valleys are outside federal protection or recognition. The NCCC believes this area should be part of North Cascades National Park or designated wilderness, and is working with the American Alps Legacy Project to make it happen.*

—TOM HAMMOND PHOTO