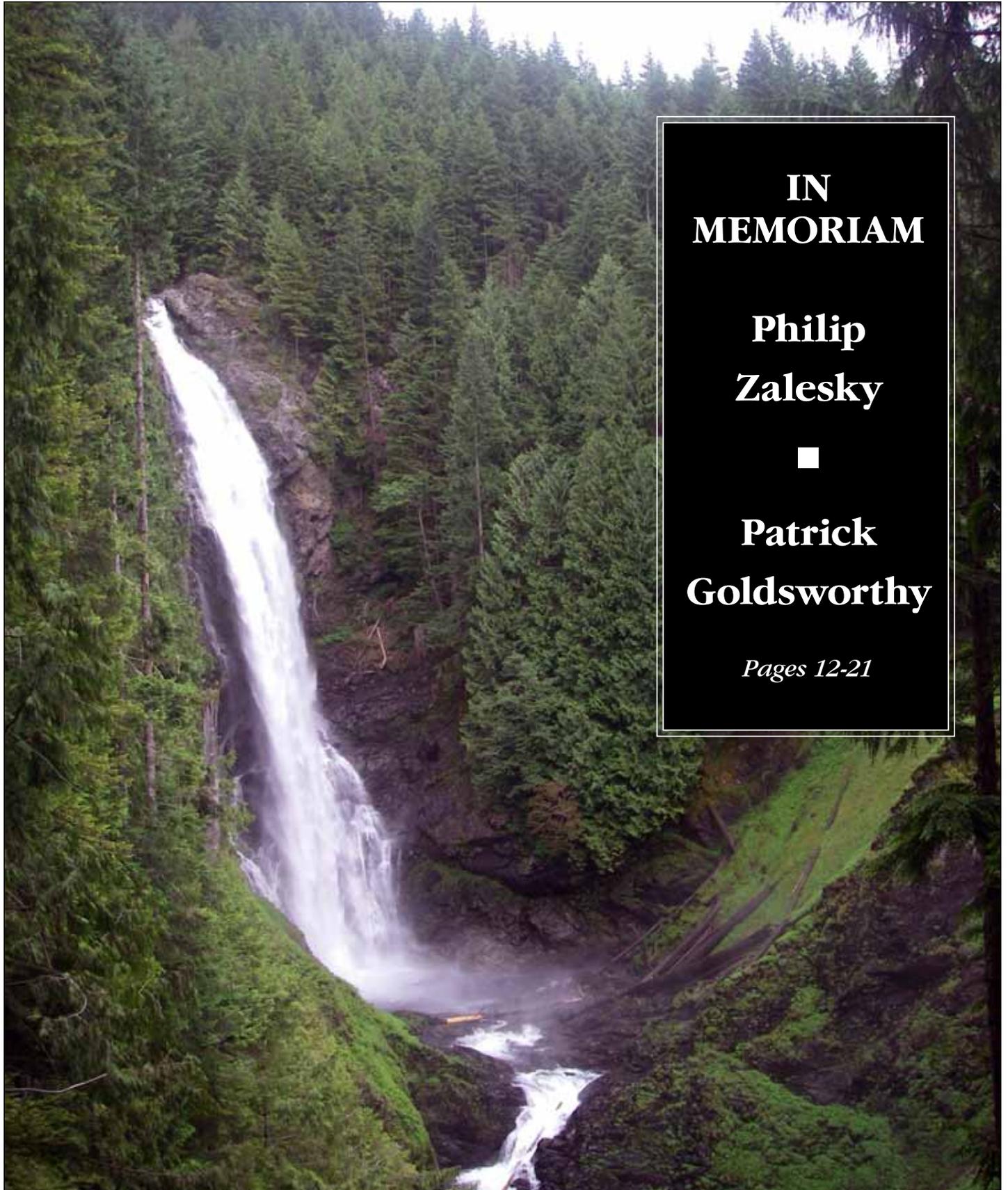


# THE WILD CASCADES

THE JOURNAL OF THE NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL

WINTER 2014



**IN  
MEMORIAM**

**Philip  
Zalesky**



**Patrick  
Goldsworthy**

*Pages 12-21*

## In This Issue

- 3 **President's report** — Karl Forsgaard
- 4 **Muckleshoot Indian Tribe buys White River lands**
- 5 **County hearings on Granite Falls Motocross Park**  
NCCC website helps members spread the word  
No action yet on Alpine Lakes bill
- 6 **"Wild Wallace" NRCA proposed** — Rick McGuire
- 8 **Coalition cautions Interior about funding Yakima Plan**
- 9 **Bad legislation on off-road vehicles and public lands in Washington** — Karl Forsgaard
- 10 **From retreat to remediation: changes at Holden Village and in habitat** — Anne Basye
- 12 **In Memoriam: Patrick Goldsworthy**
  - 12 Patrick Goldsworthy: An appreciation — Joel Connelly
  - 13 Excerpts from a Sierra Club resolution honoring Patrick Goldsworthy
  - 14 To specialize in something — Thom Schroeder
  - 15 Listed and answering his own phone — Brock Evans
  - 20 "I'll make the maps" — Phil Fenner
  - 21 Remembering the Blue Bomb — Dave Fluharty
- 16 **In Memoriam: Philip Zalesky**
  - 16 Farewell to a giant of wilderness preservation — Julie Muhlstein
  - 18 Philip Zalesky: Another conservation leader passes — Joel Connelly  
Phil and Laura Zalesky, conservation education supporters — *Pilchuck Audubon* newsletter
  - 19 Remembering "Mr. Zalesky" — Rick McGuire
- 21 **Conservationists, Park staff remember Phil Zalesky and Pat Goldsworthy**
- 23 **Dale Jones, former NCCC board member dies**  
**Membership application**

COVER: Wallace Falls, a scenic highlight of the Stevens Pass Highway. —MIKE TOWN PHOTO

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### The Wild Cascades

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*Journal of the North Cascades Conservation Council*

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North Cascades Conservation Council

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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 administrative, legal, and public participation channels to protect the lands, waters, plants and wildlife.

Over the past half century 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.

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

Winter 2014

Patrick Goldsworthy and Phil Zalesky were two of the co-founders of the North Cascades Conservation Council in 1957, and they served on the NCCC Board of Directors for more than 56 years. They both passed away in October 2013. As you can imagine, the sheer length of their service makes us think of Pat and Phil as ideal illustrations of long-term commitment and dedication to a cause.

NCCC was formed to protect and preserve the North Cascades. One of our early goals was to get a Park created, but a lot of unprotected wild land remained outside that Park. For more than half a century, Pat and Phil were actively engaged in NCCC's campaign to create the Park and Wilderness areas listed in our organizational description on the opposite page.

In addition to serving on NCCC's board, Pat and Phil also took on the added burden and responsibility of serving as officers of NCCC for almost the whole 56 years they were on the Board. Phil was the first President of NCCC. Pat had become President by the time Congress created the Park and the Recreation Areas, and that's reflected in the photo of Pat shaking hands with Lyndon Johnson (see back cover of this issue).

Pat later served as NCCC's Chairman and Phil as Corporate Secretary for many years. That's a lot of Board meetings to attend, a lot of Board minutes to write, a lot of corporate governance work, a lot of organizational decision-making, in addition to all of the advocacy work they were doing in the public arena and out in the woods. Pat also distributed this magazine to our members after the printers had printed it.

Pat and Phil did all of that, and they did it for an exceptionally long time. By doing so, they served as a valuable part of NCCC's institutional memory, helping to keep NCCC relevant and effective, to make this organization an enduring institution and a long-lasting contributor to conservation efforts in the Northwest. We are grateful to Pat and Phil for their dedicated service.

When we think about all the advocacy work of Pat and Phil, it's worth remembering that they were doing it for more than a decade before the country enacted our main environmental laws – laws protecting clean air, clean water, endangered species and environmental values in governmental decision-making.

As we've heard many times, our victories are temporary, and our losses are permanent. Park and wilderness boundaries and environmental protection laws don't operate in a vacuum – they won't work unless people are vigilantly paying attention to what's happening on the ground and in the community, people who are willing to do something to protect those lands and enforce those laws.

Through their dedication to NCCC, Pat and Phil served the community's need for long-term follow-through and institutional memory. We're grateful to their families for letting Pat and Phil dedicate so much of their lives to our organization.

Karl F. Forsgaard

# Muckleshoot Indian Tribe buys White River lands

The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, which runs a giant gambling casino in Auburn, Washington, has purchased 86,501 acres of the “White River Forest” from Hancock Natural Resource Group. Hancock had purchased the lands north of Mt. Rainier and along both sides of Highway 410 from Weyerhaeuser in 2002.

The Muckleshoots are apparently looking to diversify their income away from overreliance on casino revenues. One of the first to open in Washington, the Muckleshoot casino is reportedly one of the most lucrative. Many other tribes followed with casinos of their own, but there are limits even to the admittedly enormous numbers of math-challenged people out there who can be parted from their money. Many tribal casinos have huge debt burdens, and some believe that the market, such as it is, is saturated, with Las Vegas investors taking most of the profits. There

are excellent reasons why large-scale gambling has been illegal through most of American history. It produces nothing of value and cannibalizes economies by acting as a gigantic tax on those who can least afford it. Casino operators, some of them anyway, pocket the winnings while society as a whole pays the costs.

The White River sale is notable from a conservation perspective because of the breathtaking \$282 million sum paid, almost \$3300 dollars per acre for the heavily cutover lands. Some economic observers believe that a bubble has formed in timberland values. With the Federal Reserve printing vast amounts of dollars, and real interest rates at zero or below, immense flows of funds have inflated the stock market and are now pouring into other assets, including timberland, often seen as a “hard asset.”

It remains to be seen whether timberland values will continue to soar, or whether the Muckleshoots have top-ticked the market. Inflated timberland prices make it harder to acquire lands which many would like to see in public ownership. Hancock still owns about 90,000 acres in the “Snoqualmie Tree Farm” directly east of Seattle.

The Muckleshoots say they will use the land for “long-term sustainable timber harvest, while preserving natural values...” Both Weyerhaeuser and Hancock managed the lands for maximum revenue production, so it is hard to see how Muckleshoot management could be any worse. Hopefully the more conservation-oriented elements within the tribe will make their voices heard and the newly acquired (or “re-acquired”) lands will be treated more gently than they were by their previous owners.

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## Middle Fork Snoqualmie road work finally begins



After more than twenty years of hearing how it was almost ready to happen, the Federal Highways Administration project to pave the lower 11 miles of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie road looks set to actually, finally begin, with the \$20 million-odd project now put out for bids.

The project got its start back in the “bad old days” of the crime-ridden Middle Fork, a place infamous for garbage dumping,

wild shooting, shot-up cars and every other kind of vice. The thinking was that paving the road would allow easier access for law enforcement and encourage “good” use of the valley in order to help drive out the “bad.”

Twenty years on, today’s Middle Fork is a far different place than it was then. Thanks to an active, conservation-oriented DNR managing the lower valley and

unceasing efforts by volunteer activists to coax and cajole a reluctant Forest Service in the upper valley, things have gradually changed. Concerted efforts have consolidated public ownership, driven out troublemakers, and most critically, closed and cleaned up the filthy, disgusting dead-end spur roads that attracted so much nastiness. The worry now is that without the filter of the bad road, use will skyrocket to overwhelming levels. Although new trails and facilities are planned, it is feared that they just won’t be anything near adequate to serve the number of visitors who may turn up.

The paving project is thus viewed with more than a little trepidation by NCCC. Twenty years ago, anything seemed preferable to the relentless gunfire and general chaos that gave the valley a well-deserved reputation as a place to avoid. Now the worry is that the valley will be loved to death. Whatever happens, that old Middle Fork will soon be well and truly gone. Let’s hope the new Middle Fork won’t get to the point where, as Yogi Berra said, “nobody goes there anymore. It’s too crowded.”

*Middle Fork Snoqualmie River and Mt. Garfield. —KARL FORSGAARD PHOTO*

## County hearings on Granite Falls Motocross Park

The proposed Granite Falls Motocross Park located on the Mountain Loop Highway four miles east of Granite Falls went before a Snohomish County hearing examiner for five days in February. The proposal calls for the construction of six motocross practice and racing tracks on 80 acres of land within privately owned forested land of 437 acres.

The site sits atop a County-mapped “critical aquifer recharge area”, yet drainage and water usage are major issues that were not adequately addressed by the applicant or the County. It is likely that noise from the site could be heard for miles up the Stillaguamish River Valley, and on the hike to the top of nearby Mt. Pilchuck. Traffic could be tied up for hours, particularly for larger weekend racing events, both local and regional, obstructing other recreationists from reaching the other recreational destinations along the Mountain Loop Highway.

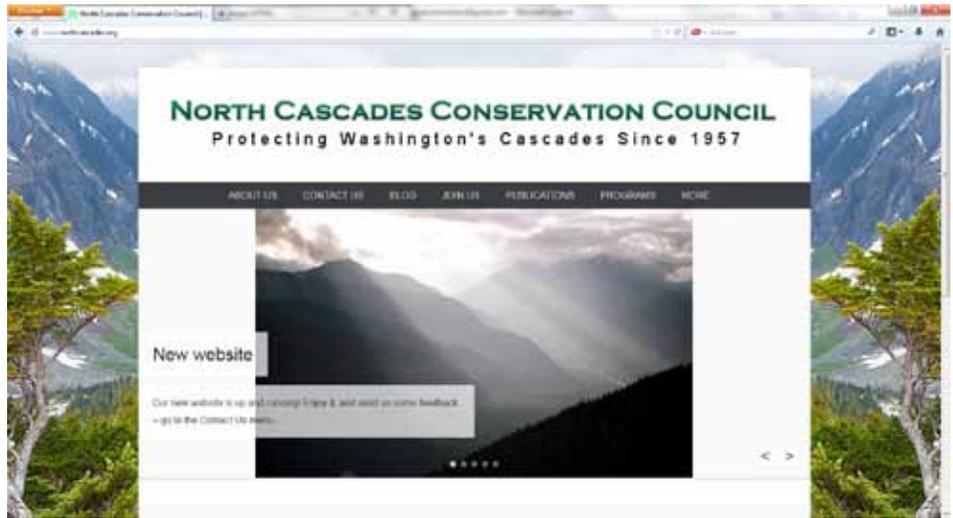
Traffic counts today indicate that 400,000 people annually are drawn to the Mountain Loop Highway for hiking, kayaking, birdwatching, mountain climbing, photographing, and many other recreational activities that have made it a prime recreational destination and tourist attraction in the County (perhaps surpassing the Boeing Museum of Flight in Everett).

The Mountain Loop Conservancy, North Cascades Conservation Council and Pilchuck Audubon Society appealed the County’s mitigated determination of non-significance for the project, which would allow the project to go forward without an environmental impact statement. The coalition retained the Bricklin & Newman law firm for the appeal. As we went to press, the hearings were about to conclude, to be followed by a round of briefing before the hearing examiner issues his decision.

For additional information about the project, please go to: [www.mtloopconservancy.org/No%20Motocross/resources/NoMotocrossNarrative.htm](http://www.mtloopconservancy.org/No%20Motocross/resources/NoMotocrossNarrative.htm).

For those wishing to donate to the legal effort, please write a check to Mountain Loop Conservancy, and send it to P.O. Box 300, Granite Falls, WA 98252.

## NCCC website helps members spread the word



The new NCCC website now making its debut looks clean and contemporary, navigates like a dream, and offers rich updated content on the “how and why” of NCCC’s work.

You’ll find new sections on recent and emerging strategic emphases: the Yakima Plan, American Alps, and Sustainable Roads. Sections explaining our long-time strategic emphases—Re-Wilding the Cascades, Forest and Watershed, and Wilderness—have been updated.

Under “About Us” is “Our Story”, a succinct history of NCCC and its work, as well as an In Memoriam section with bios of late members.

The “More” tab takes you to a new section on mining issues that have threatened or continue to threaten the greater North Cascades ecosystem. Here as well is a photo album, “Images of the North Cascades,” comprised of galleries of work by various photographers. (Member-photographers, if you are interested in having

a gallery, email [phlf@northcascades.org](mailto:phlf@northcascades.org).) This section also contains many maps of the North Cascades, including one that compares the Ross Lake shoreline today to the shoreline of the larger Ross Lake that would have resulted if NCCC had not prevented the High Ross Dam from being raised. “From the Archives,” NCCC’s attic, is brimming with fascinating photos and documents that narrate decades of conservation efforts.

Throw in a downloadable membership brochure you can print, post and distribute, and the new site contains everything you need to reinforce NCCC’s commitment to the North Cascades by recruiting new members!

Many thanks to Phil Fenner for shaping the site and to Ed Henderson, Rick McGuire and other Board members for editing and updates. We would enjoy hearing your impressions – as well as any ideas you have for future improvements – at [webmaster@northcascades.org](mailto:webmaster@northcascades.org).

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## No action yet on Alpine Lakes bill

Despite a hearing in 2013 on the Reichert/DelBene bill to add 22,000 acres to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, there has been no further action from the House Resources Committee. The bill, which would protect the lowland forests of the Pratt River valley and designate part of the

Middle Fork Snoqualmie as Wild and Scenic, has strong bipartisan support and has passed the Senate thanks to Senator Patty Murray’s efforts. It is hoped that House Resources Committee chair Doc Hastings will allow the bill to move forward sometime in 2014.

# “Wild Wallace” NRCA Proposed

by Rick McGuire



*Marked tree in timber-cutting unit immediately above site of new Snohomish County trailhead for Wallace Falls and Reiter Forest (visible behind.) —KARL FORSGAARD PHOTO*

**W**allace Falls, one of the scenic highlights of the Stevens Pass Highway, Route 2, is under threat from the “Singletary” timber sale planned for state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) lands immediately to the east of Wallace Falls State Park. NCCC and other conservation groups are asking DNR to reconsider the sale and examine the possibility of establishing a Natural Resource Conservation Area (NRCA) there.

The white curtain of Wallace Falls is an eye-catching spectacle from Highway 2 in the Gold Bar area. Framed by unbroken mature second-growth forests, it has been called one of the iconic sights of Snohomish County. As such, it is a critical part of the nascent “Stevens Pass Greenway.” Proponents of the Greenway have for many years hoped to emulate along Highway 2 some of the success which the Mountains to Sound Greenway has enjoyed farther south in preserving views along Interstate 90 across Snoqualmie Pass and west of it.

Although the mountain landscapes along Route 2 are much more dramatic than those along I-90, at present the Stevens Pass Greenway consists of little more than a couple of signs along the highway. Apart from the area close to the pass, most of the forested slopes visible from the highway have been roaded and cut

in recent years. The slopes surrounding Wallace Falls, especially to the east of it, remain carpeted in unbroken green. If the Singletary timber sale goes ahead, the falls will instead be framed by clearcuts, and the most critical component in building the Stevens Pass Greenway will be lost.

Wallace Falls is also a tremendous recreational draw. Any hiker seeing the falls from the highway will immediately want to get closer to them. Very many do, and the trails in Wallace Falls State Park leading to the falls and Wallace Lake are among the most heavily used in the state. Although there are many trails higher up in the Skykomish watershed on the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, almost all of them are at higher elevations and under snow most of the year. Wallace Falls offers just about the only four-season hiking opportunity in the Skykomish valley. Because of its low elevation and southwest exposure, it seldom sees much snow. If there is snow at Wallace Falls there is snow in Seattle too.

The facilities at Wallace Falls State Park are overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of people drawn by the attractions there. The trailhead parking lot is full by 9 a.m. just about every weekend and many weekdays. Parked cars often line the approach road for close to a mile, creating problems for neighbors. Snohomish County has purchased land for a new trailhead, and new trails are planned for DNR “Reiter Forest”

lands east of the falls, which will provide alternate access and hopefully relieve some of the overcrowding. Recently an ALPS-NCCC-Sierra Club volunteer work party put in many person-hours working at the new trailhead, in full-on, driving rain.

The planned Singletary timber sale is located on the slopes immediately above the new trailhead. If it goes ahead, hikers will walk through clearcuts, not mature forests, to the falls. Although hiking and forestry are compatible in many places, Wallace Falls is the premier hiking destination in the Skykomish valley, and perhaps all of Snohomish County. Its popularity will only grow in years ahead. It is not the right place to be putting clearcuts.

The slopes east of Wallace Falls State Park, between Wallace River and May Creek, are among the last remaining “virgin second-growth” lowland forests in Snohomish County. Just about all of the lowlands of western Snohomish County



*Wallace Falls, a scenic highlight of the Stevens Pass Highway. —MIKE TOWN PHOTO*

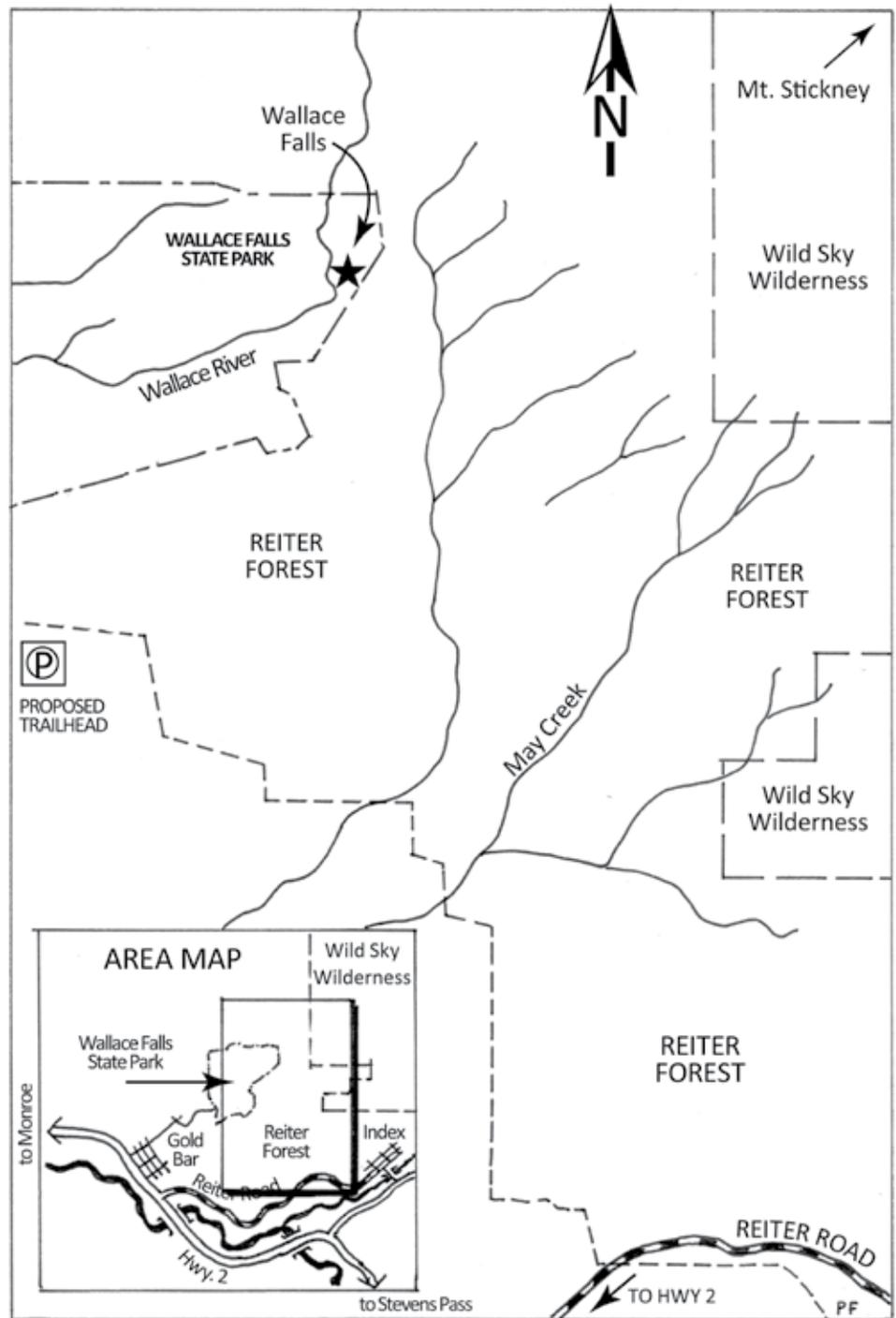


*This is what greets those out to bike Wallace Falls on a nice weekend day. —MIKE TOWN PHOTO*

have been roaded over the last two decades, and “second wave” clearcutting has taken most of the trees. The forests east of Wallace Falls have been untouched for 90 years, since the old growth was cut in the 1920s. They were never replanted, and re-grew naturally with a diverse mix of native species. Much of the area is below 1000 feet, with some of it below 500 feet. Creating a Natural Resource Conservation Area for the area between Wallace River and May Creek is last opportunity to preserve such an extent of high quality, low-elevation forest in Snohomish County.

Conservationists, including NCCC, are asking DNR to look at the possibility of a Natural Resource Conservation Area for the area between Wallace River and May Creek. It is the last opportunity to preserve such an extent of high quality, low-elevation forest in Snohomish County. An NRCA would be positioned between Wallace Falls State Park to the west, and the Wild Sky Wilderness to the north and northeast. It would serve as a bridge between Wild Sky and the State Park, allowing the three together to function as more than the sum of their individual parts. A similar pairing of protected areas on contiguous state and Federal lands in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie valley (NRCA on state DNR land and pending Wilderness on National Forest land) has worked very well.

A “Wild Wallace” NRCA would lay the foundation for a Stevens Pass Greenway by protecting one of its most splendid views. It would allow for a second, very attractive hiking route to Wallace Falls and other nearby attractions. And it would fill in a missing link by connecting Wild Sky to lowland forests in both an NRCA and Wallace Falls State Park. It would also give some much-needed and well-deserved conservation attention to the Skykomish valley, which has received very little compared to areas farther south, along I-90.



*Above: Wallace Falls area. Map by PHILIP FENNER (using Patrick Goldsworthy's tools).*

*Right: Volunteers from NCCC, Alpine Lakes Protection Society, and the Sierra Club worked with DNR on the new trailhead during a work party in November 2013. —KARL FORSGAARD PHOTO*



January 22, 2014

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
Secretary of Interior  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington DC 20240

## Coalition cautions Interior about funding Yakima Plan

Dear Secretary Jewell:

We strongly urge that the President's FY 2014 and FY2015 budgets not provide funds for the controversial Bureau of Reclamation's Yakima "Integrated" Plan water storage projects for the following reasons:

- The Bureau of Reclamation issued a Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (FPEIS) that did not provide a range of alternatives (other than the required no-action alternative). The President's budget should not fund a plan that does not provide a range of alternatives for decisionmakers.
- The Bureau of Reclamation is in the process of scoping the Cle Elem Pool Raise, K-to-K conveyance, and Kachess Inactive Storage elements of the plan. Draft EISs will not be released until Summer of 2014. The President's budget should not fund a plan while EISs have not been completed.
- In 2013, the Washington State Legislature passed ESSB 5035, which includes Sec. 5035 requiring a benefit-cost analysis of the individual elements of Yakima Plan. This analysis is to be completed by December 15, 2014. The President's budget should not fund a plan while benefit-cost analysis information has not been provided.
- The Yakima Plan includes proposals for two new massive irrigation storage dams, a new dam on the Bumping River that would destroy ancient forests and endangered species Critical Habitat designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on lands of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, and a Wymer Dam between Ellensburg and Yakima that the Bureau of Reclamation found in 2008 would have a benefit/cost ratio of 0.31 and flood greater sage-grouse habitat.
- The Bureau of Reclamation prepared the Yakima Plan using a Workgroup of their own selection and of which they were a member and co-chair, in violation of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

In addition, the day after the close of comments on the Draft Programmatic EIS, Bureau of Reclamation added a proposal for two National Recreation Areas within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, which included 46,000 acres for backcountry motorized recreation (motorcycles, ATVs and 4x4s on trails, and snowmobiles cross-country). The President's budget should not fund a plan that contains this controversial proposal.

See: [http://washington.sierraclub.org/uppercol/ucr/yakima/media/Entries/2013/2/15\\_The\\_Other\\_Side\\_of\\_the\\_Story\\_\\_Yakima\\_Water\\_Plan\\_1.html](http://washington.sierraclub.org/uppercol/ucr/yakima/media/Entries/2013/2/15_The_Other_Side_of_the_Story__Yakima_Water_Plan_1.html)

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alpine Lakes Protection Society  
El Sendero Backcountry Ski and Snowshoe Club  
Endangered Species Coalition  
Friends of Bumping Lake  
Kittitas Audubon Society  
Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition (MidFORC)  
North Cascades Conservation Council  
Olympic Forest Coalition  
Western Watersheds project  
Western Lands Project

cc: The Honorable Patty Murray  
The Honorable Marie Cantwell  
The Honorable Jay Inslee

Similar letters were sent to:  
Sally Ericsson, Associate Director for Natural Resources, Energy and Science; and  
Nancy Sutley, Chair, Council on Environmental Quality

# Bad legislation on off-road vehicles and public lands in Washington

by Karl Forsgaard

As 2014 began, three horrible bills were introduced in the Washington State Legislature that threatened to wreak havoc on our public lands, including one that would transfer all federal land to the state. Fortunately, the worst ideas did not make it out of committee, but they bear watching in future legislative sessions. And if the Trails Act passes, the state will conduct a process to draft a statewide trail policy, and the conservation community will need to engage in that process to prevent bad outcomes pursued by the authors of the original bills.

## The Washington Trails Act

HB 2151, “Concerning recreational trails,” is commonly called the Trails Act. As originally introduced by Representatives Brian Blake and Larry Seaquist, this bill would have seriously harmed non-motorized, quiet recreation on the trails of our State lands.

The bill would have exempted trail construction projects from County, City and other local government regulations, ordinances and policies that protect the environment, including Critical Areas designated by Counties under the Growth Management Act. It would have required agencies to consider a trail to be a “temporary” use of the land, apparently seeking to eliminate the need for construction permits for trails – including trails for motorcycles, All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) and 4x4s (jeeps). It is absurd to call trails “temporary” (and thus not subject to construction permits) because in fact they are not temporary, but rather they are the oldest structures in the state. For example, the natives’ trail over Cascade Pass was an established trading route between eastern and western sides of the crest long before European-Americans arrived and built anything here.

HB 2151 would have required agencies to assign to each trail area a “volunteer support and design team” made up of five individuals “representing different trail user group types.” This would have required that off-road vehicle (ORV) users would be on these design teams, even if they were designing hiker-horse trails – an apparent attempt to prevent the design of any trails that did not allow ORV use. HB

2151 also would have required that the land managing agencies “must give deference to the teams’ construction recommendations.” By forcing new trail projects to accommodate all users, the bill would have made it harder to create non-motorized trails for hikers, equestrians and mountain bikers.

The bill also would have required that an agency “must also give priority use for recreational trail development on any former mining site located on land managed by the agency.”

HB 2151 would have required land managers to allow “organized group events and competitions on the trails.” These competitive race events would conflict with quiet recreation (such as hikers and equestrians seeking peace and quiet) and would generate sanitary and water quality problems.

As originally written, this bill obviously would have created all kinds of new conflicts. Yet the bill audaciously (and absurdly) began with a legislative finding “that these goals can be met by removing local control over standards, recognizing trails as the temporary structures they are and thereby eliminating public controversy and user conflicts.” The courts have explained that trail user conflicts affect the quality of the user experience and include the impairment of enjoyment, such as when those seeking peace and quiet are driven away by machines that make loud noise. HB 2151’s authors said that if it were enacted into law, user conflict would cease to exist; in other words, hikers and horses would never again be annoyed by loud noises – rather, they would like the loud noises.

The principal lobbyist behind HB 2151, Ted Jackson, made it clear that the bill was intended to undermine the Reiter Forest precedent, and to promote more motorized use of trails. At Reiter Forest, the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) shut down unmanaged, irresponsible off-road vehicle use that was damaging the forest and polluting the streams. DNR then engaged trail user groups to design, construct and manage trails in a more responsible, sustainable manner. In December, Mr. Jackson wrote that the “2014 Trails Act” (HB 2151) seeks more trail “for the buck,” and “an emphasis on the lowest

permissible standard” because the “Reiter landscape is proving to be the \$110,000 per mile standard for 74 future recreation sites statewide.” This apparently refers to 74 sites in State Forests managed by DNR that will undergo recreation planning in upcoming years. Mr. Jackson also wrote that “Gravelling all our [ORV] trails is proving to be cost prohibitive and logistically expensive to deliver.” In other words, making a “sustainable” ORV trail system seemed like a good idea in 2009, but on second thought, ORV advocates want to get rid of the “sustainability” part.

DNR has elsewhere indicated that it is proud of the Reiter precedent and does not want to undermine it. DNR consulted the State Department of Ecology on HB 2151 due to the bill’s Clean Water Act implications.

HB 2151 would have applied not only to trails on State Forests managed by DNR; it also would have applied to State Parks, and to Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)-managed wildlife lands such as L.T. Murray, Wenas and Colockum.

After NCCC alerted the community to the above concerns, and after the initial hearing on HB 2151, a Substitute Bill deleted all of the above problems, including the sections nullifying County and City ordinances, and the Substitute Bill passed the House. The Engrossed Substitute House Bill (EHSB 2151) applies only to lands managed by DNR, and it requires DNR to conduct a public process to develop a statewide recreational trail policy for those lands. If EHSB 2151 passes, the battle to protect the Reiter precedent will shift to this administrative process. EHSB 2151 also includes a section pertaining to volunteer liability.

NCCC remains concerned about EHSB 2151 language about unauthorized, user-created trails. A DNR regulation already prohibits such unauthorized trail-building; WAC 332-52-405 provides that it is a misdemeanor to “construct a recreation trail, structure, or other facility or improvement, or cause such activities to occur on department-managed lands, without written authorization from the department.” However, as originally introduced, HB 2151 would have required that an

*Continued on page 22*

# From retreat to remediation: changes at Holden Village and in habitat

by Anne Basye



As the Holden Mine remediation project moves into its fourth year, I've watched the rhythms, culture, and look of Holden Village change.

Where there was silence, there is the thrum of machines. Where there was grass and gardens, there are ditches. Where there was a largely vegetarian diet, there is meat three times a day! Where there was a concerted effort to be a place apart, with minimal email and a single emergency phone line connected to the Chelan County sheriff (at one point, Holden even experimented with carrier pigeons, but they were eaten by martens), there are walkie-talkies, smart phones, and large-screen televisions. Where the day could end on a porch over a glass of wine as the sun set over Railroad Valley... oh, well. For safety reasons, mine remediation workers can't drink alcohol, so no one else can, either. Instead, coffee and Coca-Cola are on tap in the dining room around the clock.

Until 2013, the change was gradual. 2011 and 2012 were prep years when

three dozen or so workers ramped up the infrastructure needed to support the project: wider, safer corners on the switchbacks on the road to the lake, a new bypass bridge and road, a contractor staging area with offices. Clean-up work inside the mine's 97 miles of tunnel also got underway.

Last summer, the remediation project hit its stride. With over 200 people on the job by last April, the old mill building was pulled down and buried in place. Part of Railroad Creek was relocated to make way for the mile-long, 25- to 80-foot deep underground barrier wall that will keep leachate from the oxidized tailings out of the creek. Within the Village, new electrical conduit and pipes for a gray-water fire suppression system were laid in trenches — one of many projects the Village itself is funding and implementing during the remediation.

A November tour of the work site revealed amazing sights. Looking down from the highest tailings, I could see the old and new Railroad Creek stream beds,

*Diverting Railroad Creek into the new creek bed. —PHOTOS PROVIDED BY HOLDEN VILLAGE*

a temporary channel for Copper Creek, and massive amounts of dirt and tailing moved hither and yon by machines—lots of machines! Ninety-five pieces of equipment were on site, all leased. All barged uplake and all about to be barged downlake, where they would be serviced over the winter before coming uplake again in April.

## **Biggest mine remediation project in the U.S. — and maybe the world**

The Holden Mine Remediation project is the biggest in the nation under the supervision of the US Forest Service. The \$15 million Blue Ledge Mine remediation project in California was chump change next to this one, which has exceeded \$109 million and is only halfway through.

Worldwide, Rio Tinto, the multinational mining company responsible for cleaning up — and paying for — the Holden site, is remediating 240 sites. Guess which one is the largest and costliest.

The carbon footprint is huge. So is the regional economic impact. The 370 jobs included in this project will generate \$4.3 million in wages. Besides engineers and machine operators I met cooks and housekeepers, laundresses and flaggers from Omak, Okanogan, and Manson, all grateful for work that doesn't depend on tourism.

But how, I wondered, were the environmental impacts being monitored? And how will this enormous industrial site ever feel "wild" again?

### Forest Service oversees contractor implementation

To find out, I called Pete Jones, Holden Mine Remedial Project Manager for the U.S. Forest Service, who oversees the project with Assistant Project Manager Jolene Gosselin-Campbell. Alternating weeks on site, Jones and Gosselin-Campbell monitor and implement the plan contained in the Record of Decision approved in spring 2012.

"We do inspections to be sure they are conforming to plans, and processed over 64 work orders through the season, including many field design changes," Jones told me. "As site conditions change or alternate methods present themselves, we are on site to review those proposals, go back to the design documents and ensure that proposals meet the intent. If they do, we approve them, and provide a written order that allows them to make a change."

In the Fall issue of the Holden Village Voice, Rio Tinto project manager Dave Cline praised Jones and Gosselin-Campbell for helping keep the project on schedule in spite of site surprises that have led to changed plans and increased costs. Jones called himself and Gosselin-Campbell "collaborative partners" rather than "overlords" with the many contractors involved in the project.

The Statement of Work that accompanied the Record of Decision is a useful tool, Jones told me. Because they contain preliminary guidelines and deadlines that lead to annual construction work plans, "we can go ahead and use those as an unbiased representation of what is supposed to occur on the ground. There are no conflicts of someone saying, 'hey, do this instead of that!'"

According to Jones, mine remediation is a huge emphasis of the U.S. Forest Service. "We have literally tens of thousands of sites in the nation and a lot in the Pacific Northwest and California. It's an aggressive program and I'm pleased that outcomes have been quite successful," he said.

### Reconstructing the forest environment in 2015

Improved water quality is the reason and the outcome for the Holden project. Leachate from the tailings and mine have diminished the population of aquatic life for five miles downstream, says fisheries biologist and Holden volunteer Wayne Daley. Iron, copper, cadmium, zinc and aluminum are present in quantities above the maximum tolerable for aquatic life.

Daley believes water quality will improve quickly, once the barrier wall is in place and water flowing through the tailings is directed to the treatment plant to be built in 2014.

At that point, the Forest Service will shift its attention to reconstructing the forest environment damaged by all those

trucks and earth movers. Once the tailings slopes are reshaped, a hundred acres of impacted tailings will be covered with 18 to 36 inches of new soil excavated from a 14-acre avalanche debris chute.

"Over 100,000 trees are being propagated as we speak and will be planted in eight different eco-systems, northern slopes, riparian zones, and steep zones. Each site gets its own silvicultural prescription—coniferous trees, open areas, deciduous trees. Quite a mix of plants will go in during the spring of 2015," says Jones.

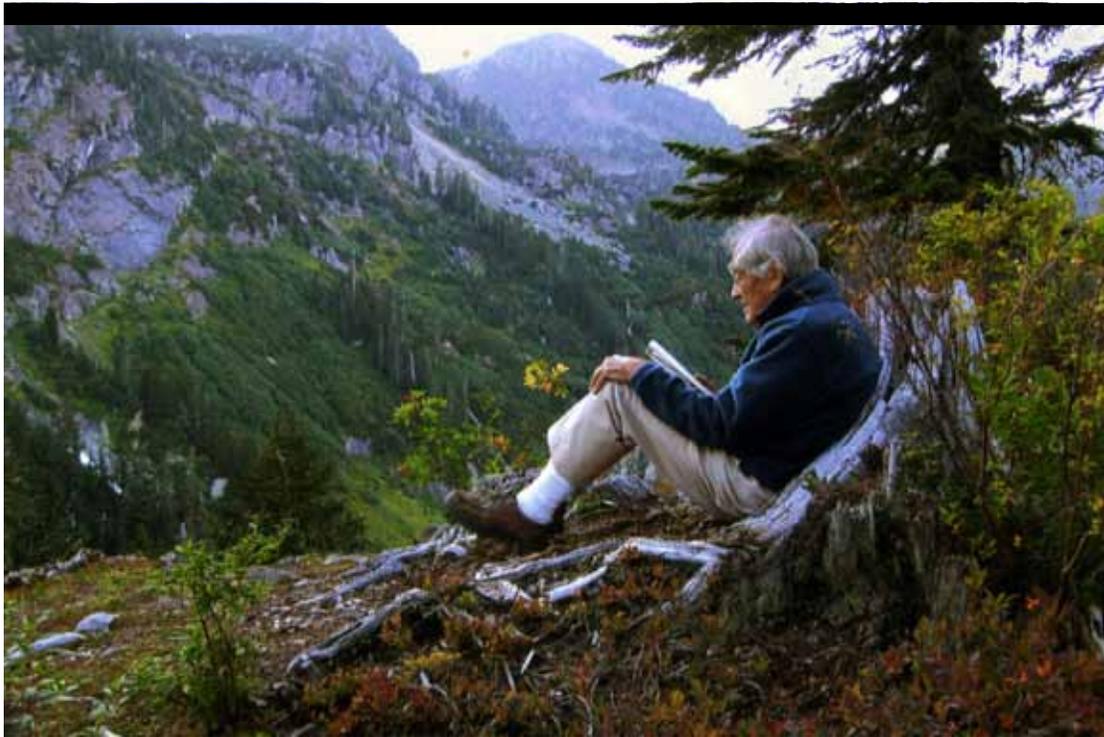
"It's a big undertaking, and it will take a few years for things to get going...but nature is pretty resilient."

I hope so! In November, when I was maneuvering around trenches in my safety vest and hard hat, startling at mysterious crashes and rumbles, and missing my evening glass of wine, I wondered, where did my Village go? Will I ever again get to hike up past the tailings to Copper Creek Basin, or along the Railroad Creek trail towards Lake Chelan? Pete Jones persuaded me that eventually I'll see them all again—and with the worst of the impacts mitigated at last.



An overview of the Railroad Creek realignment project just before water was released into the new bed. On the right is Tailings Pile 3. The former creek bed is in the middle and the new creek bed is on the left.

The project schedule, assessment processes, objectives and monthly updates (during construction season) can be found on the US Forest Service's Holden Mine Remediation Site, [fs.usda.gov/detail/okawen/landmanagement/projects/?cid=fsbdev3\\_053632](http://fs.usda.gov/detail/okawen/landmanagement/projects/?cid=fsbdev3_053632)



*In Memoriam*  
**Patrick Goldsworthy**  
1919–2013

**T**he legacy of Patrick Goldsworthy, cofounder of the North Cascades Conservation Council, was confirmed by many voices following his death on October 6, 2013. A board member for all 56 years of NCCC's existence, and president for many years, he is deeply missed by the NCCC board and officers.

## Patrick Goldsworthy: An appreciation

by Joel Connelly  
Reprinted by permission from  
*seattlepi.com*

Dr. Patrick Donovan Goldsworthy was present at the creation of the Northwest's conservation movement, back in the days when horn-blasting logging trucks lined up outside wilderness hearings, and the Wenatchee National Forest supervisor greeted a delegation of early greens with the words: "Just what do you people want?"

Goldsworthy, 94, died in Seattle on Sunday, October 6, 2013.

"Pat always impressed me as one of the true gentlemen of Northwest conserva-

tion," said Tim McNulty, a Sequim-based author and longtime activist in Olympic Park Associates.

Goldsworthy was a gentlemen, but relentless in his advocacy.

He helped establish the first Sierra Club chapter in the Northwest. In 1957, he helped found the North Cascades Conservation Council, the most uncompromising voice of Washington conservation. The N3C fought an administrative battle for creation of a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area

in 1960, then turned to Congress for passage of the North Cascades Act in 1968.

The landmark legislation created a 684,000 acre North Cascades National Park complex, along with adjoining Glacier Peak and Pasayten Wilderness Areas totaling nearly one million acres. It was a seminal moment for protection and preservation of the "American Alps."

When U.S. Interior Secretary Stewart Udall came to Seattle for the 1962 World's Fair, Seattle attorney/conservationist Irving Clark, Jr., invited Goldsworthy to a Bainbridge Island beach party honoring Udall.

"Now Pat," he admonished Goldsworthy, "Stewart Udall is a busy man." Clark gently suggested that Goldsworthy let Udall relax and hold off lobbying for a national park in the North Cascades.

No way! Armed with maps, Goldsworthy positioned himself just inside the door of the beach house. He waylaid Udall, took him into the study and laid out the case

*Pat at Mt. Baker Mountaineers Lodge. —CHRISTINE WHITE PHOTO*

for a park. Goldsworthy, luging topographical maps, became a familiar figure in Washington congressional offices.

Six years post-Bainbridge, Goldsworthy stood with Udall at the White House while President Lyndon Johnson signed the North Cascades Act into law. He received a pen used by LBJ to sign the act.

Goldsworthy was a participant in one of the national conservation movements most wrenching battles. He was a director of the Sierra Club when, in 1969, the club board voted to oust visionary but autocratic executive director David Brower.

Brower had brought national attention to the "American Alps" with publication of the Sierra Club book *North Cascades: Forgotten Parkland*. He gave national circulation to a film, "The Wilderness Alps of Stehekin." He helped defeat a massive mining project proposed for the heart of the Glacier Peak Wilderness, with a full-page *New York Times* ad headlined: "An Open Pit Visible from the Moon."

But he spent money the club did not have, and went around its directors. Goldsworthy was a diehard Brower defender,

and left the Sierra Club board afterward.

In professional life, Goldsworthy was a University of Washington professor who spent a career researching protein biochemistry. He was raised in Berkeley, California, weaned on early Sierra Club outings, and came north to Seattle after World War II service in the Army Medical Corps.

The atmosphere for conservation, at the time, was not friendly. A famous *Seattle Times* editorial lampooned conservation advocates as "mountain climbers and birdwatchers." An Olympic National Park superintendent allowed illegal logging on park lands, supposedly taking trees that endangered visitors.

Goldsworthy went out to the park, photographed the destruction, and helped halt the logging. He was active in Olympic Park Associates, which became a model for N3C.

The conservation community was never/will never be satisfied. The North Cascades Act was followed in 1976 by creation of a 393,000-acre Alpine Lakes Wilderness. The million-acre Washington Wilder-

ness Act of 1984 created a Mt. Baker and Boulder River Wilderness, and protected 179,000 acres east of Lake Chelan.

Yet, even in his 90s, Goldsworthy continued to press his latest cause, expansion of the North Cascades National Park to embrace ecosystem rather than political boundaries. A now-sympathetic *Times* pictured Goldsworthy and longtime fellow activist Polly Dyer on a hike up the Baker River, just outside existing park boundaries.

Along with *101 Hikes* guidebook author Harvey Manning, Goldsworthy belonged to a group that called itself the Elderly Birdwatchers Hiking and Gripping Society. It did 39 hikes, of which Goldsworthy participated in 23. Woe unto the motorcycle-riding Forest Service backcountry ranger who encountered the "Birdwatchers."

Goldsworthy retired from the University of Washington in the early 1990s, but never really retired from the N3C.

If you want to see his legacy, lift your eyes unto our hills.



Pat on El Dorado summit climb.  
—CHRISTINE WHITE PHOTO

## Excerpts from a Sierra Club resolution honoring Patrick Goldsworthy

From the Sierra Club national Board of Directors

Patrick Goldsworthy served the Sierra Club long and well. He was a founder of the Club's Northwest Chapter, and of allied regional environmental organizations, notably the North Cascades Conservation Council (NCCC).

Pat imbued generations of the Sierra Club's chapter and group leaders and to Club staff members, particularly in the Northwest Office, with his dedication, his persistence, and his confidence that our political system could and would match his vision if we were effective advocates. There was not a cynical bone in his body.

Pat lived a full life, so we cannot so much mourn his passing as honor his legacy and take his example to renew our own commitment to the work he pioneered.

The Board of Directors of the Sierra Club joins our Northwest Chapter and the entire Sierra Club family in expressing our condolences to Pat's family, knowing that they have the solace of his extraordinary achievements as we follow the high pathway he led us on, as he has passed over the highest ridge.

*Continued on next page*



## To specialize in something

by Thom Schroeder

*There is more information of a higher order of sophistication and complexity stored in a few square yards of forest than there is in all of the libraries of mankind.*

— Gary Snyder

I had the chance to meet him once. Patrick Goldsworthy. This past January at my first board meeting of the North Cascades Conservation Council, actually. This is the guy we all have to thank for there being a North Cascades National Park. A Pasayten Wilderness. A Glacier Peak Wilderness.

A Big Beaver Valley.

Earlier this summer I walked the valley again en route to climb Luna Peak. Ten miles in. Along the way, invisible in the photograph above, lost in the scale, is one of the finest stands of Western Red Cedar on the planet. Trees 15 feet in diameter towering nearly 200 feet. A thousand years old. My climbing partner Keith stood next to one staring up while I steadied to take a photograph of him in the shadow of its sheer immensity. Awesome.

Pat knew this. Buried in all of his efforts is the bit how he had helped prevent the

now little-known-but-not-entirely-dead project referred to as ‘High Ross Dam.’

After a hike with Harvey Manning and others shortly after the park was established in 1968 he wrote how ‘We went up Little Beaver Valley and down Big Beaver Valley [and] came through tremendous forests of great cedar trees.’ Of the many oddities and bizarre outcomes of the struggled creation of North Cascades National Park is the designation of Ross Lake National Recreation Area (wherein which about a five-mile portion of Big Beaver Valley lies). Had this area been included in the national park Seattle City Light would not have been able to dam the Skagit.

The trouble was... they already had.

Once upon a not-so-long-time ago the Skagit River inked a squiggly line on the map in the rugged northeastern corner of what would eventually become North Cascades National Park. Then — in 1937 — Ross Dam was built and by 1940 reached a height of 1380 feet above sea level. Named after the first and now-long dead superintendent for Seattle City Light J.D. Ross

*Big Beaver Valley, North Cascades National Park.*

—THOM SCHROEDER PHOTO

— though an appreciable man still one whose grand design favored flooding over flowers — it soared to a whopping 1615 feet above sea level by 1949 (its present-day height).

And so the valley through which the Skagit once wildly coursed on its way to the ocean was erased.

It was the Hetch Hetchy of the Pacific Northwest. A whole valley gone. Vast. Lost. In a blog report from the North Cascades Institute published a couple of years ago about an annual educational trip up-lake aboard the Ross Lake Mule the author mentions her keen awareness of how “our class floats over what was once a pristine forest.” The upper Skagit Valley looked no different then — before the dam — than the Big Beaver does now. But since the dams had been built and the valley destroyed, it could not be included in a national park. Which is why a map of North Cascades National Park looks more

like a puzzle missing more than a few important pieces than a whole wilderness rescued.

But Seattle City Light was not finished with its grand design.

They intended to raise the already 540-foot dam an additional 122 feet (to an elevation of 1725 feet above sea level) in a fourth and final stage of its construction. This addition would flood a large portion of Big Beaver Valley (and almost 5000 of Canadian wilderness to the north). The millennial-old cedars would vanish from memory.

After a confrontation between the city of Seattle, Goldsworthy's North Cascades Conservation Council, and a similar group in British Columbia that stretched out stalemate after stalemate for nearly fifteen years, a settlement was finally reached in 1984. Seattle would pay the Canadians 20-some million dollars a year for 35 years.

*“I've always stressed the importance of getting your facts and THEN producing the logical argument. If you can't come up with the facts, you have no argument.”*

— Patrick Goldsworthy, quoted in the *Seattle Times*, 1977

Each of those years the Canadians would return the favor by giving the city about 40 megawatts of electricity. The dollar amount was equal to what the High Dam construction would have cost while the energy output added up to what it would have provided in power.

Not entirely dead, though. The High Dam, as the agreement states, halted assuredly only for a period of 80 years (through 2066, in order to see out the terms of a previous 99-year agreement reached back in 1967, just before the national park was created). The short-sightedness of building dams trumped the foresight of Goldsworthy and others to protect these trees. Valleys. Ecosystems. And so they remain vulnerable.

Pat had said simply... “When [we] went through the cedar forests [of Big Beaver Valley] and saw what was going to happen there it was devastating.” Devastating.

But fast-forward...

Big Beaver remains... for now. And the stately trees. And the wilderness they call

# Listed and answering his own phone

by Brock Evans

Pat was, always and forever, one of my personal heroes, the one single person (along with Polly Dyer) who had the most to do with, and the most impact on the creation of, the North Cascades National Park — and the expansion of those two magnificent adjoining Wilderness Areas, Glacier Peak and Pasayten.

It was when I was just starting out as a young hiking/climbing lawyer in Seattle in the mid-60s, that I most painfully experienced what the Forest Service and timber industry was doing to the North Cascades: logging everywhere there were big trees and mining wherever it looked profitable.

Desperate to do something to try to halt this wave of destruction, I heard about a fighting group called the North Cascades Conservation Council... and its (even then almost legendary) president, Pat Goldsworthy.

Not knowing any better way to get started, I thought I'd just call him up. I didn't really expect to find such an eminent personage's name in the regular Seattle phone book — but there it was! So, with some hesitation about even daring to speak to such a great person, but driven by my passion, I actually called him up.

Even more to my naive surprise in those innocent times, this (to me) Godlike Person actually answered his own phone!

home. We can still walk past them gawking awkwardly upward in silence and awe, not quite able to see their crowns lost in the mess of branches and sky, and wonder. Let us hope that in 40 years there is another Pat. Another someone who can fight for trees that lack a voice some fail to respect or cannot hear.

“I began to realize that you can't get involved in everything, though there are a lot of things that need involvement,” he once said. “I developed the philosophy that the way to do this is to specialize in something... specialize. So I decided fairly early when I came to Seattle... the Cascades just fascinated me.”

As they do me.

Thank you Patrick. Thank you for saving this most special and wild of places for all of us who have followed your wisdom and footsteps into these mountains.

When I asked if I could do something to help, he invited me to the next meeting... and things took off from there in my own career.

Of all the powerful remembrances of Pat and that wonderful early band of dedicated companions in the NCCC — all mentors to me — perhaps what I remember most are the licking/stuffing/stamping and folding parties at Pat's house, getting out yet another mailing during those difficult years, 1965-68... followed always by martinis and Chinese food!

I have learned much since about the history of those “green” (protected) areas on the map, across our American land... above all, that they only exist because some one or ones — just regular folks all — loved them enough to take a stand and fight for them. That's why they are there now, the only reason; and we should all feel proud to be a part of such a great endeavor.

And that's the kind of person Pat was, all his life: utter devotion to the cause of saving, rescuing, the best of the spectacular wilderness of the North Cascades. Whenever I hike through its great ancient forests, splash across one of its wild-foaming rivers, or wander its oceans of high meadows, I will remember and thank Patrick Goldsworthy.

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*“Today, as a result of Pat's work and inspiration, Americans have a nearly unbroken block of Wilderness and National Park lands stretching along the Cascade Crest from the Canadian Border to just south of Mt. Rainier National Park.”*

— from the Sierra Club resolution honoring Pat Goldsworthy

*Continued on page 20*



*In Memoriam*  
**Philip Zalesky**  
1924 – 2013

**P**hil Zalesky's legacy is indisputable. Cofounder of the North Cascades Conservation Council, Zalesky was NCCC's first president. He also served as secretary for many years and was a board member for all 56 years of NCCC's existence until his death on October 18, 2013. He is deeply missed by the NCCC board and officers.

## **Farewell to a giant of wilderness preservation**

by Julie Muhlstein, *Herald* columnist  
Reprinted with permission

Phil Zalesky's legacy is huge and everlasting. With his passion for wilderness, he worked with others to keep the places he loved unspoiled for all time. And his career in the classroom shaped generations of Everett students.

"He never stopped teaching or educating," said Laura Zalesky, his wife of 68 years. "He influenced so many people through his teaching. And when we would go out hiking with people, he would teach them all about the area."

*Phil and Laura Zalesky in 2007. —  
COURTESY OF LAURA ZALESKY*

Philip Henry Zalesky died October 18, 2013. He was 89.

A longtime resident of Everett's Eastmont area, he lived in recent years with his wife in Mill Creek. He taught in the Everett district for more than 30 years. A Pullman native and U.S. Army veteran, he came to Everett High as an English teacher in 1952. In 1961, he was among the first faculty at Everett's new Cascade High School, where he taught history and economics until retiring in 1984.

With their shared love of hiking and the Glacier Peak area's magnificence, Phil and Laura Zalesky became effective preservation activists.

In 1957, they were among several co-founders of the North Cascades Conservation Council, with an aim of creating the Glacier Peak Wilderness. The group would go on to push for the creation, in 1968, of North Cascades National Park.

“Phil’s main thrust had always been to get the Glacier Peak Wilderness. That was sort of his baby,” said Marc Bardsley, of Snohomish, a past president of the North Cascades Conservation Council.

Bardsley is now secretary of the group, a position Phil Zalesky held for many years. “Phil was like a mentor to me,” Bardsley said.

It was through efforts of the conservation council that the Glacier Peak Wilderness, with the 10,541-foot peak as its crown jewel, was established in the early 1960s. The rugged 572,000-acre area covers parts of Snohomish, Skagit and Chelan counties.

According to a profile of Phil Zalesky written for the HistoryLink website by local historian Louise Lindgren, there was wrangling between conservation groups over whether a new national park would offer the wilderness the total protection prized by the couple.

In the end, Zalesky worked “as hard for the park as he had for the wilderness,” Lindgren wrote.

Laura Zalesky on Thursday recalled the role the late U.S. Sen. Henry M. “Scoop” Jackson, D-Wash., played in making North Cascades National Park a reality. The Zaleskys and others had long shared their knowledge of the land, and their fears about logging and mining.

“Senator Jackson finally got on the boat,” Laura Zalesky said. “His famous remark was, ‘You get the parade going and I’ll lead it.’”

Because so much of the wilderness area was accessible only to hikers, Zalesky became a pitchman for preservation. *Herald* archives show that in 1963 he spoke to the Everett Kiwanis Club on the topic of “A National Park in the Northern Cascades.”

“People who really knew the land well from exploring the back country and seeing it knew that all these great places, of national park caliber, needed to be protected. But the public needed to be educated about those places,” said Karl Forsgaard, now president of the North Cascades Conservation Council.

Forsgaard said the council’s 11-year push for the national park was followed by long battles to include “so much that was

left out of the park.” Eventually, that work preserved the Mount Baker Wilderness, the Henry M. Jackson Wilderness and the Wild Sky Wilderness. “All that continued vigilance took a long-term commitment,” Forsgaard said.

The Zaleskys were part of that. The Cascade Land Conservancy honored the couple with its first Phil and Laura Zalesky Lifetime Achievement Award, an annual prize that now recognizes others working to save open space.

Zalesky died less than two weeks after the October 6 death of 94-year-old Patrick Goldsworthy, of Seattle. Another co-founder of the North Cascades Conservation Council, Goldsworthy was a University of Washington professor who also helped start the Sierra Club’s Northwest chapter.

While Zalesky is known as a giant in wilderness preservation, one former student recalls him as a remarkable teacher. “We all have a handful of teachers we remember,” said Everett Mayor Ray Stephanson. “Mr. Zalesky was one of those. I learned so much about business and economics from him.”

Stephanson said one class project at Cascade High had students learning about companies and buying one share of stock. “The year I had him, I did all this research on Raytheon, a company doing electronic work and radar. I convinced the class to buy this stock. Over the course of the

quarter, we watched the stock and read about it,” he said. “He was just one of those standout teachers.”

Laura Zalesky was also a teacher, and before that worked for Sno-Isle Libraries in the bookmobile. After retirement, the Zaleskys traveled and hiked in Europe and New Zealand. Both were involved in the Pilchuck Audubon Society, and Phil Zalesky wrote a guidebook called “Birding in Snohomish County.”

David Cameron, who taught history at Cascade High School for 30 years, was both a colleague and former student of Zalesky’s. As an Everett High sophomore, Cameron climbed Whitehorse Mountain with his English teacher — Zalesky — and Goldsworthy. “He had us reading mountaineering and outdoors books,” said Cameron, who is Lindgren’s husband.

Today, conservation groups are still working to preserve areas around North Cascades National Park through a campaign called the American Alps Legacy Project.

Zalesky’s own legacy stands tall, for all time.

“It took that advocacy work of people like Phil Zalesky, who knew that land, so more people would come to understand,” Forsgaard said.



*Phil and Laura at Cascade Pass in the late 1960s. — COURTESY OF LAURA ZALESKY*

*Continued on page 18*

## Philip Zalesky: Another conservation leader passes

by Joel Connelly

Reprinted with permission

**T**he conservation movement in Washington has lost another of its creators. Philip Zalesky, 89, a longtime Mountaineers activist and co-founder of the North Cascades Conservation Council (N3C), died Friday in Everett.

The death of Zalesky follows by less than two weeks the passing of Dr. Patrick Goldsworthy, another of the small group that established the N3C in 1957 and used hiking trips, exhibition format picture books and trail guides to make friends and advocates for mountains known as the American Alps.

Phil and Laura Zalesky, she another co-founder, were at the focal point of seminal conservation battles of the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. He taught at Everett and later Cascade High School. She became a leader

in the League of Women Voters and later the Pilchuck Audubon Society.

The Zaleskys lived in what was a classic mill town. The key voices on conservation in Congress belonged to two sons of Snohomish County: Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Wash., chaired the Senate Interior Committee while Rep. Lloyd Meeds, D-Wash., was a reformist voice on the House Interior Committee.

The Zaleskys learned conservation politics as members of Olympic Park Associates. Phil Zalesky and Carsten Lien took pictures of logging taking place within boundaries of Olympic National Park, which forced Park Service Director Conrad Wirth to halt the logging. They also beat back proposals, sometimes made with Jackson testing the winds, to excise rain forests from the national park.

With N3C, and backing from the national Sierra Club, the Zaleskys fought to create a Glacier Peak Wilderness and later the North Cascades National Park. Jackson and Meeds posed a political challenge to the state's early greens: Show us the support that will make us do this. Both expected gratitude. The conservationists, of course, always wanted more.

Timber industry opposition was adamant. Rural sentiment was such that Darrington residents erected a "Welcome Kennicott Copper" sign across the entrance to the Suiattle River road, when the company proposed locating a half-mile-wide open pit copper mine in the heart of the Glacier Peak Wilderness. Lloyd Meeds kept, framed in his office, a letter from his parents vociferously opposing a wilderness he was in the process of creating.

The leaders of N3C were a study in contrasts. "101 Hikes" guidebook author Harvey Manning was ornery and a bit confrontational. Pat Goldsworthy was gentle but persistent and persuasive. The Zaleskys were affable, friendly, and joiners. He taught for 36 years, she for 19 years. He was a longtime chairman of the Snohomish County Democratic Party.

In retirement, the couple canoed in the Arctic and explored Canada's Kluane National Park, home to Mt. Logan the second highest peak in North America.

Phil Zalesky and Pat Goldsworthy were each to serve 56 years on the board of the North Cascades Conservation Council, arguably the most unyielding of the region's green groups. The N3C never allowed membership to elect its board, initially out of fear that the timber industry would pack its membership.

Laura Zalesky and Polly Dyer are now the last surviving founders of N3C.

The Cascade Land Conservancy, now Forterra, honored the Zaleskys by establishing a Philip and Laura Zalesky Lifetime Achievement Award.

### Phil and Laura Zalesky, conservation education supporters

In 2006, retired teachers and lifetime conservationists Phil and Laura Zalesky made a generous donation to Pilchuck Audubon Society for the purpose of promoting conservation education in elementary classrooms throughout Snohomish County. They collected a group of like-minded supporters and went about the business of establishing the Pilchuck Audubon Society Classroom Conservation Award committee. This committee developed an application and, over time, streamlined procedures to distribute, review, and select applications for the award. Elementary teachers apply for the award which comes with associated grant money to be used to fund a conservation project for their classroom. This program has been a great success! Over the past eight years, the committee has reviewed over 120 applications and given out 75 awards in 15 school districts for total of over \$23,000. Just this past year, the committee gave out 10 awards of \$400 each.

—From the February 2014  
*Pilchuck Audubon newsletter*

# Remembering “Mr. Zalesky”

by Rick McGuire

Everett, Washington, was a far different place in the 1970s than today. The “City of Smokestacks” still lived up to that name and others that were less polite. Weyerhaeuser’s “thermo-mechanical” and “kraft” mills anchored the southern and northern ends of the waterfront, with Scott Paper’s behemoth Soundview pulp and paper mills standing between. Various other saw and paper mills also operated, including Simpson Lee along the Snohomish river, source of the infamous eye-watering stench behind the town’s less flattering nicknames.

Everett was hardly a hotbed of conservation — quite the opposite. As I developed an interest in the fast-disappearing forests of the nearby Cascades, especially the dark, mysterious rainforests of the Boulder River valley, I sometimes felt like I was the only person there with an interest in standing forests. The assumption always was that forests were for cutting. All of them. The trucks hauling three or four giant logs never stopped rolling, the smokestacks never stopped belching, and the forests surrounding the dramatic peaks to the east never stopped shrinking.

But I wasn’t quite the only tree hugger. The Everett Mountaineers had a one-member conservation committee in the person of Henry Kral. It wasn’t long after I started talking to him about the Boulder River forests that he said “you need to meet Phil Zalesky.” This was none other than the “Mr. Zalesky” who taught at Cascade High School where I had attended not long before. Although unluckily I never had him as a teacher, I knew him by reputation. High school kids are not easily won over, but the name “Mr. Zalesky” was usually spoken with respect. As it turned out, Phil knew all about Boulder River, and many other places besides. A meeting was soon arranged in the Zalesky’s living room, where in 1978 Phil and Laura, Henry Kral, Marc Bardsley, Fay Ogilvy, John Huskinson, Karen Fant and I formed the core of the Boulder River Protection Association.

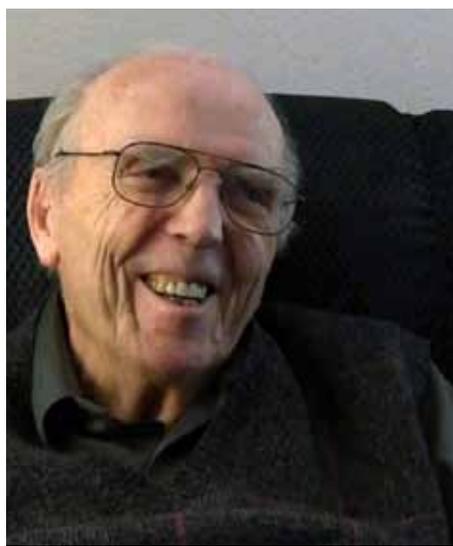
With all those trucks, mills, smokestacks, and the money behind them against us, the odds seemed pretty daunting. But Phil had been undeterred by far worse odds during the efforts to establish the Glacier Peak Wilderness and North Cascade National Park. Everett itself even began to change, with more people realizing the value of forests as the old

growth began to run out. One thing led to another, and we were able to include the Boulder River in the 1984 Wilderness bill.

Phil’s voice was always one of encouragement tempered with realism. He never underestimated the magnitude of the tasks we faced, and never shrank back from doing the hard work to protect the best parts of the Cascades. Decade after decade, the living room of the Zaleskys’ place on Del Campo Drive, named after one of the nearby Cascade peaks, was the nerve center of conservation in Snohomish County. With the birdfeeders outside the windows, and the quiet determination of Phil and Laura within, it was the birthplace of countless conservation efforts. Laura’s work continues, in new surroundings. Phil’s work is now done, but the results of it live on, not only at Boulder River, Glacier Peak and Wild Sky, but every place where forests grow in the Cascades east of Everett and beyond.



Mr. Zalesky, Cascade High, 1966  
— COURTESY OF LAURA ZALESKY



VIDEO by Max Schrempp, Nathan Maris, Jessica Jin, and Ceri Riley, who produced an award-winning National History Day documentary film about NCCC.

NCCC board member Phil Fenner was reviewing video footage of Phil Zalesky that was shot by students a few years ago, hoping to catch a smile. In the final minutes of the last reel, Zalesky asks if the camera’s still running and when told it is, he says, “Well, I’ll tell this story anyway...” He talks about one Olympic Park superintendent who came from the pulp industry and wanted to log all the old trees, and even allowed what he called “salvage logging” of ancient trees inside the National Park. Well, Olympic Park Associates (OPA shares many members with NCCC) put the pressure on to have him removed, and when he stood up at a sendoff event, he started by saying “I’m leaving. The birdwatchers got me!” And there was the smile!

The footage of that interview will appear soon on our website’s “In Memoriam” page about Phil: [www.northcascades.org/wordpress/?p=442](http://www.northcascades.org/wordpress/?p=442).

## “I’ll make the maps!” PDG, citizen conservation cartographer

by Phil Fenner



He used a base map, usually the USFS planimetric series, to trace the drainages and roads onto that thin, sturdy paper known as “vellum.” He’d trace the lines in pencil, then ink them in with various sizes of nibs in Rapidograph pens. I’ve used these sorts of pens myself and can attest to the level of regular maintenance they require. I’m sure he had ink-stained fingertips at times.

After the photocopier became ubiquitous, he used them to reduce his final work. He’d start by choosing a base map scale large enough so that his draft maps would just fit in a photocopier window. That way he could reduce them for publication, since reducing makes details look sharper. *TWC* was a half-sized magazine for many years, too, necessitating reduction.

His lettering methods evolved with the times. His earlier works were lettered by hand using templates and guides. One often sees his initials, “PDG,” in the lower-right corner. He began to use transfer lettering, at one point having sheets printed with the names of all the rivers and peaks in the Cascades, so he didn’t have to assemble each word. Later he started printing labels from his computer, cutting them out and pasting them onto the page. He made notes in light blue colored pencil that wouldn’t be picked-up by a photocopier. Finally, he’d copy it with about 50% reduction in size and it would go to *The Wild Cascades* editor, Harvey and later Betty Manning.

The boundaries he drew around proposed protected areas always followed geographic features. Never were they drawn with a ruler across peaks and valleys! He knew protection of ecosystems wasn’t accomplished by random straight lines. Take a look at the ‘Maps’ and ‘From the Archives’ pages on our new website ([northcascades.org/](http://northcascades.org/)), for some examples of his work.

Pat’s manual methods may seem obsolete in the era of GIS and GPS, but keep your eyes out for maps in this and future issues of *TWC*. What more fitting memorial could there be than continuing his art form?

**T**he role of maps in conservation efforts has been pivotal. Without them, we couldn’t “draw the line” to keep wild lands wild. Many support

wilderness protection, but just how big should a protected area be? Which valleys, which watersheds, which peaks do you include and exclude? Just keeping track of where roads are built, and thus where roadless areas remain is a daunting task.

Patrick Donovan Goldsworthy’s collection of map-making tools fascinates me. I knew he was a map-maker from the captions I saw on the maps I’d see in *The Wild Cascades* with his byline, and from his enthusiastic exhortations at NCCC board meetings when any particular area was

*An example of a Cougar Lakes Wilderness proposal map surrounding Bumping Lake, ca. 1962, and some of PDG’s tools.*

being discussed for a future *TWC* article: “I’ll make the maps!”

But just how did he do it? I can only guess, as I sadly never thought to interview him about his tools and methods. But I’ve got some examples of his rough drafts and intermediate versions, and many of his tools were donated to NCCC by Christine, Patrick’s widow, after his passing, for which we are very grateful. And I know what an extensive collection of printed maps he had, so I can surmise a few things.

# Remembering the Blue Bomb

by Dave Fluharty

Patrick did not seek the limelight or grandstand on any issue. His leadership was not about himself but about the issues he cared about. As the President of NCCC he would grab any opportunity to inform the newest member of NCCC or the Secretary of the Interior about issues of concern to NCCC. Patrick taught me to always be respectful of the Agency personnel and the limits of their authority. He was also the master of the “elevator speech.” He admonished me to have my facts together and to present them in a non-confrontational way. Lest anyone think that Patrick would back down in an argument and defer, I can confirm that was not the case. However, it was tenacity not confrontation that counted most in his perspective. And never did I hear Patrick make an *ad hominum* attack.

Never, in my experience, did Patrick say no to an invitation to meet with the Park Service or Forest Service. In the early days of John Ernst’s tenure of North Cascades National Park, Patrick and I were invited to meet with the Superintendent in Stehekin because we had been having a number of issues. Patrick at that time was in his late seventies, if I remember correctly, and his knees were giving him trouble hiking. Yet Patrick insisted on driving to Bridge Creek on Highway 20 and hiking down to the Stehekin Road to meet up with the NPS vehicle. Patrick was to drive up and camp at the trailhead and then hike partway down the trail and camp. I drove up early the next morning and hiked down to meet Patrick and the NPS. Polly Dyer, Steve Ralph and other NCCC members were to come up to Stehekin by boat. I can remember running the upper Bridge Creek Trail and eventually catching up with Patrick, who was lurching down the trail with his sore knees. Suffice it to say Patrick and I made the connection with the Park Service vehicle and other members met us at the dock.

Whatever issues were resolved in Stehekin, the most delicate one was convincing Patrick that it was not necessary to hike back up Bridge Creek to his car. (Even though he at one time had a spiffy yellow sports car for mountain trips, he drove the Blue Bomb – a sixties station wagon whose make I forget but we all remember it was big). The proposal was that Steve Ralph and I would hike back out

and that Steve would drive Patrick’s car back to Seattle. In the meantime, Patrick would take the “Fast Lady” [Lady of the Lake] down lake and ride back to Seattle with Polly. Convincing Patrick that this was a good idea took a lot of clever argument. What won out was that he needed to hear what the operators of the boat company were saying about the National Park and National Recreation Area.

That accomplished, the NPS dropped Steve and Dave off at the Bridge Creek trailhead and we skedaddled up the trail. Arriving at dusk, we mounted our steeds and headed back to Seattle. If you ever want to know what it is like to drive in sheer terror, ask Steve about “aiming” the Blue Bomb down the highway. I am sure Patrick would have been surprised that the steering and suspension of the Blue Bomb had taken a hike many years ago. We made it to Seattle, and Patrick never knew how scared we were.

Patrick is too soon gone although he pursued with dedication all issues in the North Cascades. Through Patrick, we attracted influential people like David Brower to the cause of the North Cascades. Of course, Patrick would be the first to give credit to Grant and Jane McConnell, Polly and John Dyer, Laura and Phil Zalesky and many others for the success of NCCC. The Blue Bomb story illustrates a willingness to compromise when necessary but dedication to the principle of being there and showing up. Patrick, dear friend, icon and mentor — you were always there, you showed up and you inspired the rest of us to do the same. Thanks forever.

## Conservationists, Park staff remember Phil Zalesky and Pat Goldsworthy

“Washington conservationists have been blessed to benefit from the dedication over a long a time of two outstanding individuals: Pat Goldsworthy and Phil Zalesky. They have given us more than a half century of service of the highest order. Few have been so committed in their service to a number of organizations and causes. They have been instrumental in shaping them and achieving so much. We owe them a lot and shall miss them.”

*Mike McCloskey  
Former Executive Director of Sierra Club  
Former NCCC Board member*

Please pass along my deep sympathy and appreciation for the legacy of Pat. He was, in many ways, the father of North Cascades.

*Jon Jarvis  
National Park Service Director  
Former Superintendent of  
Mt. Rainier National Park*

Patrick serves well as a hero and role-model. Thanks for the good work you carry on for him and us all.

*Michael Brondi  
Volunteer and Youth Program Coordinator  
North Cascades National Park*

As was said of Steven Mather, there is no end to the good he has done.

*Chip Jenkins  
Deputy Regional Director,  
Pacific West Region,  
National Park Service  
Former Superintendent of  
North Cascades National Park*

Patrick’s enthusiasm for preserving the wild lands of Washington, and the country continued, until his passing. The areas we have preserved over the last 60 years have benefited from his quiet zeal, persistence, and his ability to work with others. We will miss his dedication.

We need more people like Patrick if we are to be successful in fulfilling the wilderness bucket list for which he was so passionate.

*Donna Osseward, NCCC member and  
President of Olympic Park Associates*

# Bad legislation

Continued from page 9

agency “must” attempt to incorporate all “user-built trails” into any trail system the agency develops. This is irresponsible; it encourages lawless behavior and vandalism, telling individual users to construct new user-built trails on our public lands in order to get those trails incorporated into a new “official” trail system.

EHSB 2151 made this “user-built trails” language more flexible, but still problematic; section 2 (2) (d) now provides:

(d) After developing the recreational trail policy required in this section, and when developing or assessing recreational trail systems, the department should evaluate existing nondesignated trails for compliance with trail standards and incorporate those trails, when compliant and consistent with the standards, into comprehensive recreational management plans.

NCCC is concerned that the term “nondesignated” trail (a euphemism for user-created trail) may cause some misguided ORVers to go forth and carve up DNR-managed lands with “nondesignated” trails, in the hope that DNR may find their creations to be “compliant.”

NCCC strongly urges DNR to be proactive in discouraging self-described “renegade trail-builders” from creating new damage in their misguided hope that DNR will add their “nondesignated” creations to new trail systems (especially now that they believe EHSB 2151 is likely to pass). One way is to use DNR’s public messaging (such as DNR e-newsletters to recreation constituents), reminding/informing them that this behavior is illegal. Another way is to make the WAC 332-52-405 prohibition prominent in the new statewide trail policy that DNR will develop if and when the bill passes.

## HB 2675: Another horrible ATV bill

Representative Brian Blake also co-sponsored Rep. Matt Shea’s HB 2675, “Modifying provisions applicable to off-road, nonhighway, and wheeled all-terrain vehicles and their drivers.” Its other co-sponsors were Luis Moscoso, Chris Reydahl, Mike Sells, Cary Condotta, Elizabeth Scott and Jesse Young. The intent of HB 2675 was to expand all-terrain vehicle (ATV) access on public lands by amending provisions of HB 1632, which passed in 2013. As introduced, the new bill HB 2675 would have allowed ATVs on trails throughout the state (including non-

motorized trails), but that provision was removed.

Background: in June 2013, the Legislature passed HB 1632, which allows ATVs on paved streets, roads and highways with speed limits of 35 miles per hour or less. The opening of these roads to ATVs was automatic in counties with populations lower than 15,000: Skamania, Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Columbia, Wahkiakum and Garfield. Larger counties and municipalities will have to “opt in” by passing an ordinance to open those roads to ATVs. Okanogan County did so immediately, and other counties considering it include Chelan, Kittitas and Clallam. We opposed HB 1632 due to its negative impacts on public safety, as well as its negative impacts on waters, soils, vegetation, wildlife, and quiet recreation on our public lands. HB 1632 now makes it easier for ATVs to illegally access public lands (and private lands). Land managers will be unable to patrol the lands that are illegally accessed, and thrill seekers will create new illegal trails, including streambeds.

As introduced in January 2014, HB 2675 would have amended the ATV law (HB 1632) to allow ATVs not only on paved streets, roads and highways (eliminating the speed-limit restriction), but also on trails.

Conservation Northwest, which had supported HB 1632 last year, wrote to thirty-six state legislators that CNW “strenuously opposes HB 2675” because it “has the express and explicit intent of vastly expanding ATV use on national forest (contrary to US Forest Service policy) and broadly opening to ATV’s state parks, campgrounds, and road approaches to these,” and “the objectives of 2675 are substantively off base and risky to public resources and policy. ... The record of ATV abuse (trespass, damage to public resources, etc.) is massive and has produced distrust in ATV riders among many sectors and in specific policy among public land managers and agencies to contain ATV use.”

Ted Jackson was the principal lobbyist behind HB 1632 in 2013, and HB 2151 and 2675 in 2014.

HB 2675’s substitute bill (with the worst provisions deleted, thanks to CNW) was passed by the House Transportation Committee; as we went to press it was in the House Rules Committee.

## HB 2268 would transfer federal lands to the state

Representatives Brian Blake, Matt Shea and Elizabeth Scott also co-sponsored

(along with Reps. David Taylor (the prime sponsor), Shelly Short, Joel Kretz and Jason Overstreet) a disturbing bill HB 2268, “Concerning the transfer of federal land to the state.”

Section 3(1) of the bill provides: “On or before December 31, 2014, the United States shall: (a) Extinguish title to all public lands; and (b) Transfer title to public lands to the state of Washington.”

Were this to occur, Mt. Rainier, Mt. St. Helens, North Cascades and Olympic would cease to be National Parks and Monuments, and instead would become State Parks. Gifford Pinchot, Okanogan-Wenatchee, Olympic and Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie would cease to be National Forests, and instead would become State Forests.

The bill references the Statehood Act and proposes a Commission be set up to determine within one year how to get lands back or to get 5% of all revenues (“Washington, like other western states, has not received the full benefit of the provisions of the enabling act, related to the disposal of lands from the federal government”). It names North Cascades National Park, the other National Park system units in the state, and all federal Wilderness areas “designated as part of the national wilderness preservation system under the wilderness act of 1964.” It seems to be part of an effort to beef up funding for schools, but its sponsors have not issued news releases about it to explain their motives.

HB 2268 did not make it out of the House Judiciary Committee, but its provisions (and its co-sponsors) bear watching in future sessions.

## What you can do

Please contact the elected Commissioner of Public Lands, Peter Goldmark, who runs DNR and manages our State Forests, and ask him to make sure that DNR enforces the prohibition on renegade trail-building (WAC 332-52-405). He can be contacted at (360) 902-1000 or via email: [CPL@wadnr.gov](mailto:CPL@wadnr.gov)

Please contact the State Representatives who co-sponsored HB 2268 to transfer all federal lands to the state, and ask them to explain themselves. Please also contact the prime sponsors of HB 2151 and 2675 (Brian Blake and Matt Shea) and let them know that expanding off-road vehicle use of our public lands is bad for the ecosystem and bad for non-motorized recreation such as hiking.

We need to make elected officials aware of our opposition to these bills’ negative impact on non-motorized recreation.

# Dale Jones, former NCCC board member dies

Dale R. Jones, influential Pacific Northwest environmental leader during the 1960s through the 1980s, passed away of heart failure in Washington, D.C. on January 28, 2014. Born in 1939, and raised in Holland, Michigan, he attended the University of Arizona before being drafted into the US Army. He settled in Seattle, and joined grassroots campaigns to save the

North Cascades forests from the logger's ax. He was a North Cascades Conservation Council board member from 1969-1990. He became Newsletter editor for the Sierra Club Northwest Chapter and in 1970 founded Friends of Earth's Northwest office in Seattle. An adept behind-the-scenes player, he played a central role in the defeat of Congressional funding of the SST (Boeing's supersonic transport) and in saving Hells Canyon from dam

building. He is survived by his wife of the past 12 years, Rachel Evans of Washington, DC. Remembrances to your favorite conservation campaign would be welcome.

*(Compiled by David E. Ortman, former Friends of the Earth staffer from 1975-97; Doug Scott, former NW Representative, Sierra Club; Larry Williams, former Executive Director, Oregon Environmental Council, and other friends of Dale).*



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*This photograph shows NCCC President Pat Goldsworthy (left) at the moment when US President Lyndon Johnson signed the Act creating the North Cascades National Park Complex in 1968, an effort that was guided by all NCCC members, including Phil Zalesky, who had preceded Pat as President of NCCC. A special section remembering Pat and Phil, who both died in October 2013, begins on page 12.*