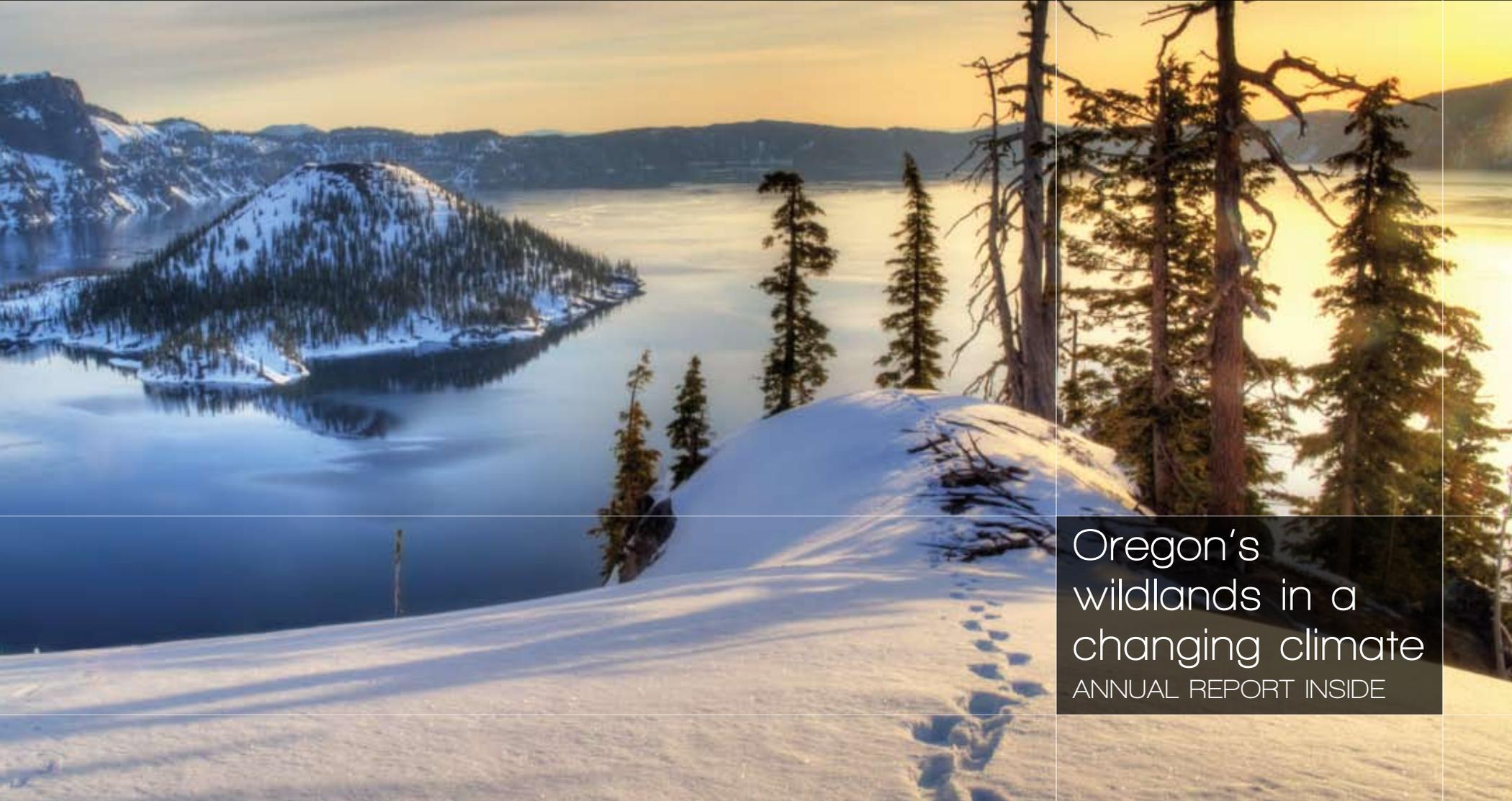


# Oregon Wild

Winter/Spring 2011 Volume 38, Number 1



Oregon's  
wildlands in a  
changing climate

ANNUAL REPORT INSIDE



Formerly Oregon Natural Resources Council (ONRC)  
Working to protect and restore Oregon's wildlands,  
wildlife, and waters as an enduring legacy.

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COVER PHOTO: RANDALL R. BEIDEREWELL Snow melts as the sun rises at Crater Lake. Read more about how the Crater Lake region fits into the climate change puzzle on page 4.





# From the Director's Desk Change is in the air

Scott Shlaes

Get to know Scott! Check out an online video introduction at [www.oregonwild.org/meet-scott](http://www.oregonwild.org/meet-scott)

Dear Friends,

As the changing seasons transform our state's diverse landscapes and display their beauty in a new light, Oregon Wild is in the midst of its own transition.

It is with a great sense of excitement that I join Oregon Wild as the seventh Executive Director in the organization's 36 year history. During this time of change, we offer a fond farewell to our longtime Executive Director, Regna Merritt.

After nineteen years as an advocate for our wilderness, water, and wildlife – eleven of those as Executive Director – Regna is moving on, with plans to spend more time with friends, family and enjoying the many places she worked so hard to protect. She leaves the organization in a strong position, and with a list of achievements much longer than when she arrived.

As I look at how the organization and its staff have navigated the challenges of a tumultuous economy and a change in leadership, I feel tremendous optimism for the organization's health and the future of our work on both a grassroots and legislative level.

Financially, we are in sound shape. We have a solid base of assets, we have worked hard to ensure our budget balances and we will continue to develop resources by connecting individuals, businesses, and foundations to our work and the values that motivate it.

Our staff is incredible. They are intelligent, driven and as passionate about their work as they are skilled in their ability to fulfill Oregon Wild's mission. Throughout our history, whether you know us as the Oregon Wilderness Coalition, ONRC, or Oregon Wild, we consistently fight for and successfully protect the wild places that define Oregon as a special place to

live, work, and play. The people we have in place continue to add to this legacy.

As you read the various articles in this report, you'll see the accomplishments we are most proud of in the past year, as well as reminders of the challenges which lay before us as we strive to preserve and restore vital habitat and wildlife populations across the state. Most importantly, you'll learn how our work has ramifications on a global level, as new evidence arises on how the forests we preserve in the Pacific Northwest may be one of the most effective tools in confronting the effects of global warming.

Please know your past support of our work was critical to many successes, and your continued engagement is equally as important. Please continue your involvement to ensure a brighter future for all Oregonians and the places we love.



MARTIN NORRED Ice forms at the end of a cedar branch. How will global warming impact temperatures and wildlands in Oregon? Turn the page to learn more.

# Global peril, local action

How Oregon Wild is tackling climate change at home

Sean Stevens

In December 2009 dignitaries from dozens of countries across the globe gathered in Denmark for the United Nations Climate Change Conference. In the twelve years since the last major international action on global climate change – 1997’s Kyoto Protocol – much in the political landscape had changed while little concrete action had been taken.

Coming into the conference the United States remained an international outlier, having rejected the carbon emissions targets set forth in the Kyoto treaty while

pursuing a domestic energy policy that continued to pump CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere at dangerous rates.

With a new President and Congress, and a citizenry that finally seemed to be waking to the reality of a warming world, climate activists had high hopes for the conference in Copenhagen. Those hopes were soon dashed. Through a combination of weak leadership from U.S. delegates, an ill-timed global recession, and obstructionist tactics from still-developing nations like China and India, the talks failed to produce a meaningful and binding accord.

With an international treaty still unrealized, many turned their eyes to Congress where, earlier in 2009, the House of Representatives had made history by passing the United States’ first comprehensive climate change bill. Soon after the historic House vote, television ads hit the airwaves, blaring ominous warnings that politicians were trying to bankrupt average Americans by imposing a “carbon tax.” With the fear of a global warming tax firmly established, the groundbreaking American Clean Energy and Security Act died in a deadlocked Senate.

Saving imperiled species is not only what the Endangered Species Act demands; it is the first step in helping the natural world adapt to the climate changes we have wrought.

Despite faltering leadership in our national and international deliberative bodies, climate activists have pushed on. For the second straight year, the grassroots group 350.org sponsored a day of climate action, galvanizing tens of thousands of people across 188 countries to take direct action against climate change and set an example for leaders across the globe. The state of Oregon, along with its Pacific coast neighbors, continues to engage in the Western Climate Initiative aimed at solving climate change issues at a regional level.

Oregon Wild is taking action too.

For decades, protecting wild places for their intrinsic value has been at the center of Oregon Wild’s mission. Today, the connections between landscape preservation and the challenges of global warming are becoming ever more profound. Forests are not only home to rare and

threatened species; they are the lungs of the planet and a key component of carbon storage. Wilderness is not just a place for spiritual renewal; it is a vital strategy to protect wildlife from the coming consequences of climate change. Saving imperiled species is not only what the Endangered Species Act demands; it is the first step in helping the natural world adapt to the climate changes we have wrought.

**Tailpipes to timber sales**  
Oregon Wild is no stranger to the courtroom. Time and again, whether through timber sale challenges or endangered species filings, the judicial system has allowed us to earn victories not possible any other way. But in September 2007, we found ourselves in uncharted legal waters.

Represented by the Western Environmental Law Center, we joined nine other environmental groups from Oregon, California, and Washington



VOICEOFSOUTH.ORG (L)/MARK GAMBA (R) While global action on climate change stalls and citizens take to the streets (and waters) with initiatives like 350.org, Oregon Wild is pushing climate mitigation and resiliency right here in Oregon.

demanding that the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allow Oregon and 16 other states to regulate tailpipe emissions from cars. Oregon Wild fighting for higher fuel efficiency standards. Not exactly our bread-and-butter issue.

Given that a large part of our advocacy is aimed at protecting Wilderness areas where cars aren't allowed, what were we doing filing a lawsuit over auto emissions? The answer comes back to the unprecedented scale of global warming and the importance of using every tool in the toolbox to fight it. Increasing temperatures and rising sea levels aren't just bad for humans, they're catastrophes in the making for our wildlands and wildlife.

Shrinking glaciers, shifting wildlife habitat, and impacts to forests from insects and fire are just a few of the reasons we must act to combat global warming. At the same time as our emissions lawsuit hit the court docket, our Conservation and Restoration Coordinator, Doug Heiken, was knee deep in scientific research on forests and climate change. Doug's investigation included determining how our traditional work to protect mature and old-growth forests fit into the climate change equation.

**Lungs of the earth**  
Forests are intrinsically tied to carbon and climate cycles. The current era of global warming was brought on by excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. A grade-school lesson in photosynthesis teaches us that trees breathe in the CO<sup>2</sup> in the air, fix the carbon in the trees trunk, limbs, and soil, and release oxygen into the air.

In the spring of 2008, Oregon Wild released a special report: *Climate Control: How Northwest Old-Growth Forests Can Help Fight Global Warming*. The report synthesized a decade's worth of research on climate and forests, much of it conducted by scientists at Oregon State University working in our backyard National Forests. The results are impressive.

While Brazilian rainforests get most of the attention, old-growth forests of the Pacific Northwest store more carbon per acre than any other terrestrial ecosystem on Earth. With so much of Oregon covered in forest, our public lands are primed to store a significant amount of carbon pollution. But only if we manage them well.

After decades of industrial logging, wide swathes of our state's forests are a patchwork of clear-cut polygons, regrowing in single-species, even-aged stands. The chart on this page shows the carbon debt we've

incurred from our legacy of forest mismanagement. These young plantation forests soak in carbon dioxide as they grow, but the real carbon storage champions are the few ancient forests that remain. The towering Douglas firs and western cedars found in pockets throughout Oregon have built up carbon stores over hundreds of years. Cutting these forests would lead to a carbon release that would take a century to replace.

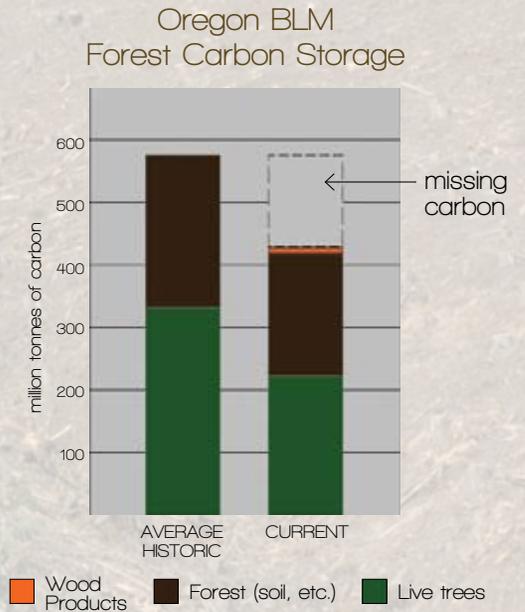
The importance of old growth for storing global warming pollution adds to the list of reasons to permanently protect our ancient forests. Oregon Wild is fighting to do just that. After beating back a Bush-era logging scheme for Oregon's Bureau of Land Management administered forests we've shifted into offense mode pushing Congressional protections for old-growth in eastern and western Oregon.

**Corridors—connecting the dots**  
While Oregon's ancient forests can be a major contributor in sequestering future carbon emissions, some of the effects of global warming are already being felt. Local variations in climate and a region-wide decrease in snowpack are wreaking havoc for wildlife whose ecological niches are literally

(continued on page 7)

## Logging – a carbon deficit yet to be repaid

A century of intensive logging has significantly depleted carbon stores in Oregon's forests. The graph shows that only a fraction of the carbon removed from western Oregon BLM forests by logging is currently stored in wood products. The rest escaped to the atmosphere to contribute to global warming.



(Source: BLM, Western Oregon Plan Revisions, Final Environmental Impact Statement)

# Climate change and the Oregon landscape

**Rapids at risk**



A season full of melting snow is good for salmon, but it's also good for thrill-seekers. Diminishing snowpack portends more feast or famine river conditions. That means more flooding and a shorter, less predictable rafting and kayaking season. PHOTO: CHANDRA LEGUE

**Where is the Wolverine?**



Murmurs of sightings of this tenacious carnivore inside the Crater Lake Wilderness proposal continue to swirl. No doubt, the snow covered areas around Mt. Thielsen and Mt. Bailey make for ideal wolverine habitat, if snow levels can be kept from drastically receding due to climate change. PHOTO: NPS



**Cross country climate change**

Oregon is a Nordic skiers playground and some of the best views of Crater Lake's wildlands can be found on two skis. Global warming promises to dampen the cross country fun by delivering less snow and a shorter winter recreation season in the southern Cascades. PHOTO: JIM CHAMBERLAN



**Protecting the Pika**

The American Pika lives in cold and often harsh environments, forcing the species to collect and store food and bedding for tough winter conditions. These natural planners are no match for climate change. They can heat up and die in a few short hours in 80-degree heat. The USFWS has refused to protect them as an Endangered Species. PHOTO: TANYA HARVEY

**Wither the Whitebark?**

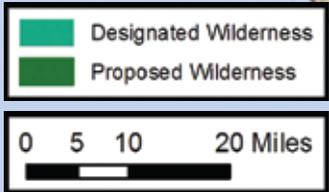


The Whitebark pine is the vanguard of the timberline and the last tree you'll encounter on your way to the summit of Mt. Scott in Crater Lake National Park. Warmer winters brought on by climate change have allowed pine beetles to attack Whitebark across the country putting this species squarely at risk of extinction. PHOTO: ROBERT MUTCH

**Refuge for salmon**



Oregon's iconic fish requires clear, free-flowing, and (most importantly) cold water. As global warming reduces snowpack, rivers will see less water in warm seasons and water temperatures will rise. The Illinois, Rogue, Chetco and other rivers in the Siskiyou Wild Rivers area remain important refuges for the last of our native salmon. PHOTO: JANICE LORENZ



(continued from page 5)

moving from one place on the map to another.

Long stretches of climate stability give wildlife populations time to adapt to local environments and habitat conditions. As temperatures change and impact the viability of trees and plants in certain areas, all forms of wildlife must find new places to call home. While moving vans and highways make for easy relocation for humans, roads can be killers for wildlife searching for new homes.

To help wildlife survive the challenges of climate change, we need to give them places to go. Protecting wildlife corridors is a relatively new concept but an old practice. Oregon Wild has been doing it for years with every major Wilderness bill we work to pass. Large, unroaded chunks of public land – that’s what Wilderness is. And today we’re working on two Wilderness proposals that should prove especially beneficial to wildlife on the move.

Crater Lake and Oregon’s Yellowstone Combined, the proposed Crater Lake Wilderness and Oregon’s Yellowstone Wilderness (in the Siskiyou Wild Rivers area) would protect 950,000 acres of public land. If enacted, this would be the largest

expansion of Wilderness in the state’s history. But the hefty acreage, though important, only tells part of the story.

Warming temperatures are likely to require wildlife to move higher in elevation and/or north to find suitable habitat. So, wildlife corridors must address latitudinal and topographical flexibility.

The Siskiyou Wild Rivers area provides quality habitat at an elevation range from sea level to over 5,000 feet as well as a north-south corridor range of 55 miles.

Designation of the Crater Lake region as Wilderness would protect a nearly unbroken 80-mile long corridor along the crest of the southern Cascade Mountains. Amazingly, this stretch is crossed by only five roads, making for a safer route for wildlife on the move. No other unprotected expanses of wild land in Oregon can compare.

The species that will rely on these protected corridors are some of the country’s most elusive and interesting, including the far-ranging wolverine, the at-risk Whitebark

pine, and some of the rarest wildflowers in North America (see the map on the opposite page for more details).

Oregon’s wildlands in an age of climate change  
With comprehensive international solutions to global warming still off on the distant horizon, local solutions for mitigation and adaptation are becoming more imperative. The work of protecting Oregon’s wildlands, wildlife, and waters achieves the dual purpose of building natural resiliency for the

expected consequences rising temperatures will bring and helping to find durable solutions to mitigating the most dire effects of a warming planet.

Oregon Wild will always be a group dedicated to protecting and restoring Oregon for future generations. Today, part of that fight is harnessing the power of our forests and wildlands to battle the environmental challenge of the age – global warming. ©



## From snowflake to streambank

JOEL ZAK

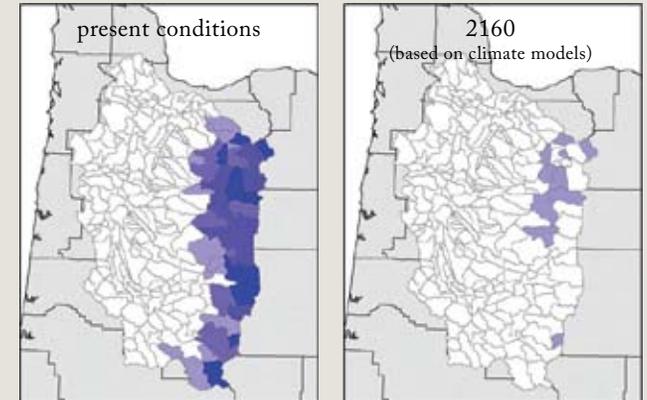
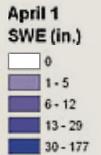
For a region known across the country for our rain, Pacific Northwest rivers are actually more dependent on another form of precipitation – snow. Most of the water that flows into Oregon streams originally falls as snow, which accumulates at high elevations, and slowly releases as stream flow when the temperature warms in the spring and summer.

Nature’s water storage system has worked well for our rivers. Slow snowmelt keeps rivers cold and clean for native fish like salmon, and moderated flow helps to avoid severe flooding events that typically plague less snow-filled regions east of the 100th meridian.

Increasing global temperatures mean reduced snowpack here in the Northwest. That could spell big trouble for our

snow-dependent streams and the wildlife that rely on plentiful, cold water throughout the year. Less natural storage of water also sets the stage for even further conflict between water users. With agriculture, municipalities, and wildlife all needing access to a diminishing resource, Oregonians will have to look for ways to reduce human consumption to better balance demands with our aquatic neighbors.

These two maps illustrate the Willamette River watershed and the quantity of water the river draws from snowpack, measured in inches of Snow-Water Equivalent (SWE). The left map displays present conditions, while the map on the right illustrates the snow-water equivalent by the year 2160 under current climate models. Decreased snowmelt will increase flooding in Oregon’s rivers and decrease available water in the summer months when native fish need it most.



(Source: Oregon Climate Change Research Institute)

## 2010 Accomplishments

Hot on the heels of major successes like the passage of the Mount Hood Wilderness bill in 2009, Oregon Wild went back to work in 2010 to push new Wilderness legislation, stand up for at-risk species, and combat climate change by protecting our last ancient forests.

## Wildlands WILDERNESS

- With allies, shepherded the 30,000-acre Devil's Staircase Wilderness legislation through successful House and Senate committee hearings.
- Reached an historic agreement to protect 58,000 acres of Wilderness in the Wild Rogue area, securing commitment from the timber industry to not oppose legislation.
- Produced 20-page glossy reports outlining the Crater Lake Wilderness and Siskiyou Wild Rivers Wilderness proposals that make the case for their protection.

### What's Next?

- Finalize protections in Congress for the Devil's Staircase Wilderness and Wild Rogue Wilderness.
- Build the foundations for long-term campaigns that will significantly bolster the acreage protected as Wilderness in Oregon, currently at only 4% of the state's land.

## ROADLESS

- Introduced *Citizen's Alternative* to D-Bug timber sale on Umpqua National Forest, successfully scaling back 543 acres of logging in roadless backcountry.
- Joined conservation allies across the country to lead backcountry excursions as part of the first national *Roadless Recreation Week*.



### What's Next?

- Continue to crack down on timber sales that violate the letter and spirit of the 2001 Roadless Rule.

## OLD GROWTH

- With the support of Senator Ron Wyden, conservation allies, and timber industry representatives, released a groundbreaking legislative proposal to protect and restore forests and watersheds across 8.3 million acres east of the Cascades.
- Continued our historic work to watch-dog the Forest Service and BLM, leading to 4,700 acres of mature and old-growth forests spared from logging.
- Released *Logjam: 9 Logging Mills Stuck in the Past* report, highlighting timber operators who put old-growth at risk.

### What's Next?

- Pass legislation to protect eastern Oregon forests and push for enhanced protections for western Oregon old-growth, specifically on BLM lands previously threatened by the Bush-era WOPR logging scheme.

# Wildlife

- With allies and our attorneys at Earthjustice, won federal lawsuit to restore Endangered Species Act protections for gray wolves across Oregon and the northern Rockies.
- Initiated legal action that led to an out of court settlement halting a federally sanctioned hunt of two Oregon wolves.
- Won federal court challenge to the Bush-era decision to eliminate the critical *Survey and Manage* program that protects hundreds of lesser known, but important, species living in public forests.

## What's Next?

- Keep pressure on USFWS to ensure the new northern spotted owl recovery plan has adequate protections for the still-imperiled species.
- Continue to educate all Oregonians about the return of wolves to the state and the important role the animal plays in a functioning ecosystem.



# Waters

- After a decade-long campaign, secured a permanent prohibition on gas motor use on Waldo Lake, keeping the lake pure and maintaining its reputation as a *Gem of the Cascades*.
- Partnered with Molalla River Alliance to move legislation to extend Wild & Scenic River protection to 21 miles of the Molalla. Passed House in 2009 and Senate committee in 2010.
- Galvanized support for protecting the Siskiyou Wild Rivers area from destructive mining, securing supportive letters signed by members of Oregon's Congressional delegation, state legislature, local outdoor industry, and Oregon's faith community.

- Secured approximately 8,000 acre-feet of water to revive wetlands in Lower Klamath Lake National Wildlife Refuge, which had received almost none since October 2009.
- Worked with the Forest Service to decommission half the roads (220 miles) in the Collawash watershed keeping harmful sediment out of streams and rivers.

## What's Next?

- Finalize protections for the Molalla River by sending a Wild & Scenic bill to the President's desk.
- Pressure the USFWS to improve management of the Klamath National Wildlife Refuge System through a new public planning process.

# Connecting people to wild places

- Led over 40 wildflower, mushroom, snowshoe, and old-growth hikes to protected and proposed Wilderness areas across the state, engaging hundreds of supporters in our work.
- Organized sixth annual Outdoor Photo Contest with over 100 participants, culminating with an unveiling event at the Portland Japanese Garden in October.
- Released the second annual *10 Most Endangered Places* report highlighting at-risk wildlands and actions Oregonians can take to protect them.
- Expanded our signature Wild Wednesday featured speaker event to Bend and continued growth in Eugene with quarterly presentations.

## What's Next?

- Continue to lead adventures to Oregon's backcountry while expanding our presence in social media outlets to bring the state's wildlands to the digital generation. ☺





MOUNTAIN ROSE HERBS

## Keeping it wild

Featuring the supporters, foundations, businesses, and volunteers that make our work possible.  
This issue's focus: Business Partners  
Kristina Leamy

Name: Shawn Donnille

Company: Mountain Rose Herbs

– Offering organically grown and freshly harvested bulk herbs, spices, teas, oils, and botanical miscellany of fine quality. The Oregon-based company has shown an uncompromising commitment to organic agriculture and ethical trade, while pioneering sustainable business practices company-wide.

Location: Eugene

Membership Level: Business Partner

Joined: October 2010

**Oregon Wild:** Why do you choose to live in Oregon?

**Shawn Donnille:** Oregon speaks a strange language that most don't understand and if you stay long enough to understand it, you realize it is the language of wild places, ancient rivers, and an unbridled freedom that make most quiver.

**Oregon Wild:** Why do you think it is important to support Oregon Wild?

**Shawn Donnille:** All of the procedures necessary to implement sound environmental policies on the legislative level, in addition to the numerous state and federal agencies are complex and mind numbing. If we are to enact good environmental policy in our state we need a sound organization that can navigate all of these complexities, and one that has a track record of successes. Thankfully for us we have such an organization and it is called Oregon Wild.

**Oregon Wild:** Why did Mountain Rose Herbs choose to become an Oregon Wild Business Partner?

**Shawn Donnille:** We are a strict value-based company focused on environmental integrity and protecting Oregon's wildlands, and preserving our rivers and defending our native wolf populations are important issues

for us, both personally and professionally. Making the decision to support Oregon Wild was an easy decision, and our only regret was that we did not do it sooner.

**Oregon Wild:** Why do you believe businesses should partner with Oregon Wild?

**Shawn Donnille:** It is the duty of any Oregon business to support organizations like Oregon Wild. The biological beauty of our state is truly unique and I consider myself lucky to be able to work and live here. If we are going to continue enjoying what makes being in Oregon so special, this will have to be fought for and Oregon Wild is the perfect candidate for the job.

**Oregon Wild:** What else can businesses do to support Oregon Wild?

**Shawn Donnille:** Publically promote and support them through your website, catalog, newsletter, or storefront. Supporting an organization like

Oregon Wild says a lot about the values of your company and your customers will appreciate you all the more for it. Not only that but it is simple to do, requires virtually no financial commitment, and gives Oregon Wild much needed exposure.

**Oregon Wild:** What is your favorite Oregon animal and why?

**Shawn Donnille:** Most of me wants to say the gray wolf, but I have not connected with this animal on a personal level, so for now I will say the northern river otter. How can you not adore a semi-aquatic mammal that rears its young tenderly, lives in highly productive social packs, is usually monogamous to one lover, and makes every effort to allocate at least a few hours of its day to moments of frolic and play?

**Oregon Wild:** What is your favorite Oregon plant and why?

**Shawn Donnille:** Calypso Orchid. It's dark, elusive, sexy and sensitive. ☺

## Support our Business Partners!

Please show your support for the businesses who share your values and have shown a commitment to keeping Oregon a special place by helping to protect our wildlands, wildlife, and waters.

Environmental Paper & Print  
[www.environmentalprint.com](http://www.environmentalprint.com)  
*New customer? Mention Oregon Wild and 2% of your order will go to support Oregon's wildlands, wildlife, and waters.*

Keen  
[www.keenfootwear.com](http://www.keenfootwear.com)

Mountain Rose Herbs  
[www.mountainroseherbs.com](http://www.mountainroseherbs.com)

Navillus Press  
[www.oregonhiking.com](http://www.oregonhiking.com)

New Belgium Brewing  
[www.newbelgium.com](http://www.newbelgium.com)

Organically Grown Company  
[www.organicgrown.com](http://www.organicgrown.com)

Rich Earth Organic Skin Care Spa  
[www.richearthorganicspa.com](http://www.richearthorganicspa.com)  
*Mention you are an Oregon Wild member to enjoy 10% off your first service.*

Tactics  
[www.tactics.com](http://www.tactics.com)

For more information about the Oregon Wild Business Partnership program, please contact Kristina Leamy at [kl@oregonwild.org](mailto:kl@oregonwild.org).

## Get on Board

A special thank you and farewell to **Susan Applegate** (5 years) and **Mike Helm** (15 years) for their service and advocacy for Oregon's special places as members of Oregon Wild's Board of Directors. We appreciate their passion for the organization's work, and look forward to working with them on projects in their respective communities of Yoncalla and Eugene.



Welcome to the newest Oregon Wild Board member, **Vik Anantha**. A technology manager at Portico Systems in Hillsboro, Vik joins us seeking to build upon his experience as a member of the Mazamas Conservation Committee.



## Holiday Giving

In need of creative holiday gift ideas? Here is our top five list:

- 1. Oregon Wild Membership (\$35)**  
Gift memberships include an 8x10 photograph from our Annual Outdoor Photo contest, a subscription to Oregon Wild, and access to members only hikes.
- 2. Atlas of Oregon Wilderness by William L. Sullivan (\$24.95)**  
Proceeds support Oregon Wild when you order by calling 503.283.6343 ext 213.
- 3. Subscription to Outside Magazine (\$19.95)**  
Subscribe through the Oregon Wild website and 50% of the subscription rate goes to Oregon Wild.
- 4. Subscription to 1859 Magazine (\$18.59)**  
Subscribe through the Oregon Wild website and 50% of the subscription rate goes to Oregon Wild.
- 5. Oregon Wild T-shirt (\$12)**  
Stylish and 100% organic, order by calling 503.283.6343 ext 213.

KRISTINA LEAMY



In each issue of *Oregon Wild*, we showcase a photo of a wild place with someone displaying our newsletter. If you're the first person to correctly guess the location of this issue's photo, we'll send you a copy of William Sullivan's *Atlas of Oregon Wilderness*.

We had dozens of correct guesses for last issue's "Where in Oregon," but the first one to guess right was Hanspeter Witschi of Bandon who correctly identified the summit of Mount Bailey looking out over Diamond Lake and on to Mt.

Thielsen. [Congratulations, Hanspeter!](#)

The hint for this issue is: wolf country. Send your guess or submit your own "Where in Oregon" photo for next issue to [newsletter@oregonwild.org](mailto:newsletter@oregonwild.org) and you could win too.

## Legacy Giving

Oregon Wild is grateful to our long time member and supporter

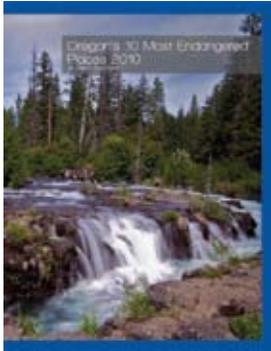
### Victor Upton Buenzle

for his commitment to the preservation of Oregon as a legacy for future generations. His final gift is an inspiration to us all and will help us to continue our important work to protect and preserve Oregon's wildlands, wildlife, and waters.

Making a legacy gift to Oregon Wild or naming Oregon Wild as a beneficiary in your estate plans provides a lasting commitment to Oregon's future. For more information, please contact Kristina Leamy, Development Director, at (503) 283-6343 ext 224 or [kl@oregonwild.org](mailto:kl@oregonwild.org).

# Too many Endangered Places

Chandra LeGue



Oregon Wild's **10 Most Endangered Places** report for 2010 highlighted unfortunate threats to some of Oregon's most unique and beautiful places. The ten places profiled offer a

brief look at the challenges our public lands face and why our work is so important. Some of these places have high-profile campaigns, while others fly under the public radar, but are no less deserving of attention.

In southwest Oregon, for example, important salmon streams and old-growth forest habitat on BLM land continue to face threats from aggressive logging in watersheds that have been abused for decades. It's hard to point to just one endangered place in this area because large-scale logging proposals threaten whole watersheds – like Evans Creek (highlighted in the report), Spencer Creek (where Oregon Wild just filed a legal challenge to proposed logging) and Upper Jenny Creek (with a new proposal to further harm northern spotted owl habitat). These watersheds offer some of the last habitat for threatened owls and native salmon,

and are unfortunately proposed for degradation instead of needed restoration.

On the other hand, campaigns to protect the wildlands and streams that surround the lower Rogue River have been at the forefront of public attention in recent years. Unfortunately, even this attention and support by champions like Rep. Peter DeFazio and Sen. Ron Wyden hasn't yet ensured protections for the Rogue. Despite an historic agreement reached this year by conservationists and the timber industry on protecting 58,000 acres of Wilderness and wild rivers, no action in Congress has been taken. Now, with the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress coming to a close, we need the Oregon delegation to push these protections forward for the Rogue, before it – and many other worthy initiatives – fall by the wayside. ©

## Take Action!

Urge Sen. Wyden, Sen. Merkley, and Rep. DeFazio to work to pass legislation protecting the Wild Rogue in 2010.

View the full "Oregon's 10 Most Endangered Places 2010" report online at [www.oregonwild.org/10most2010](http://www.oregonwild.org/10most2010)



PHOTOS BY ROB KLAVINS EXCEPT LOWER RIGHT BY KATIE HICK

## Wallowa County – it's wilder with wolves

Rob Klavins

Wolves may be a polarizing issue for some, but it's hard to argue that Oregon is wolf country again, and wolf country is beautiful!

In August, Oregon Wild led a group of 12 supporters on our first-ever Wallowa Wolf Rendezvous. The group met with scientists and locals learning to live with wolves. Like most Oregonians, lots of Wallowa County

residents are excited about the prospect of local wolves, and expressed that Oregon's first ever wolf eco-tourism group gave them hope.

We capped off the trip with a great hike up Hurricane Creek led by a local wolf advocate. While we didn't see any wolves, hiking in Oregon's wolf country with the possibility of hearing a howl made for an especially exhilarating experience.

Despite the adventures of inclement weather, flat tires, and more, the group stayed in good spirits, and even made an appearance on the OPB *Oregon Field Guide* program. Be sure to join us next year!



# Capturing the essence of Oregon

Sean Stevens

Congratulations to Kelle Herrick, Alan Hirschmugl, Brizz Meddings, Alena Nore, and Jian Xu – the winners of the 2010 Oregon Wild Outdoor Photo Contest!

In its sixth year, the contest continues to grow. To find the jaw-dropping winners, judges had to choose from over 100 contestants and nearly 450 photos. Equally impressive was the venue for the unveiling event. The Portland Japanese Garden pavilion provided a perfect visual backdrop for the fine photography. Along with the stirring images came inspirational words from Oregon Wild board president Gary Guttormsen, new Executive Director Scott Shlaes, and outgoing leader, Regna Merritt. The tributes and welcomes made for an emotional and exciting night.

Thanks to all who came, submitted amazing photos, and sponsored the contest and event: Pro Photo Supply, 1859 Magazine, All Star Rafting, Amazon.com, Columbia Sportswear, Chris Glad, Holy Kakow, Laurelwood Art, Laurelwood Brewing Company, Lavish Flora, Lensbaby, Mountain Rose Herbs, OMSI, Outside Magazine, Patagonia, Portland Japanese Garden, Ruff Wear. Also thanks to our returning guest judges Gerry Ellis and Jon Combs.

Check out photos from the event at [www.oregonwild.org/about/hikes\\_events/photo-contest](http://www.oregonwild.org/about/hikes_events/photo-contest) ©



Clockwise from upper left: Kids – Dee Wright Observatory by Alena Nore; Endangered Places – Three Sisters Hiker by Brizz Meddings; Waters – Cape Kiwanda by Jian Xu; Wildlife – Crow Bullies by Kelle Herrick; Wildlands – Painted Hills Overlook by Alan Hirschmugl

# Conservation Council

Members who gave at the Public Lands level or above during fiscal year 2010 are listed below. Oregon Wild greatly appreciates the support of all of our donors. \*Denotes an Oregon Wild board or staff member.

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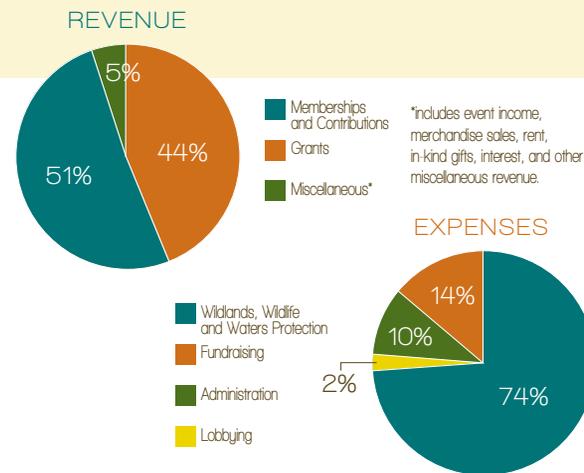
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## Revenue and Expenses for Fiscal Year 2010

At the conclusion of fiscal year 2010, Oregon Wild also holds a combined \$1,046,089 in the following temporarily restricted funds: the Winema-Fremont Restoration Fund and the Sucker Enhancement Fund. This money will fund restoration projects in the Klamath River watershed.

For more specific information, please contact Candice Guth, Director of Finance and Administration, at 503.283.6343 x 219 or [cg@oregonwild.org](mailto:cg@oregonwild.org).



## Thanks to our volunteers!

Oregon Wild thanks the dozens of volunteers who lend their time helping us to fulfill our mission. Your support is invaluable.

Vik Anantha	Ben Garcia	George Olsen
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<i>In memory of Nancy H. Carter:</i> Nancy Menken	H Gerritt Rosenthal John Thompson Catherine Vergara	<i>In memory of Walter Locke:</i> Donna Locke	Kelly Anderson Shannon Applegate and Daniel Robertson
<i>In memory of Chance the Wonder Dog:</i> L.B. Endicott	<i>In honor of Megan Gibb:</i> Bridget Fahrland	<i>In memory of Mark and Katie McManus:</i> Marjorie and Richard McManus	Susan Applegate Judy and Jim Baker Beth Caruso and Pat Clancy Megan L Gibb and Kurt Maier
<i>In honor of Pat Clancy's Birthday:</i> Barry Pelzner and Deborah Pollack	<i>In honor of Megan Gibb and Kurt Maier:</i> Janice M. Maier	<i>In honor of Regna Merritt:</i> Sally Cross and Mark Hahn Martha Bergman-Gamblin Penny and John Lind	Gary Guttormsen Chris and David "Mike" Helm Leslie and Patrick Logan Rand Schenck and Valerie Strickland Jan Wilson
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	<i>In honor of Ani Kame'enui &amp; Kabir Green:</i> Regna Merritt		



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JOHN WALLER

## Strap on your snowshoes!

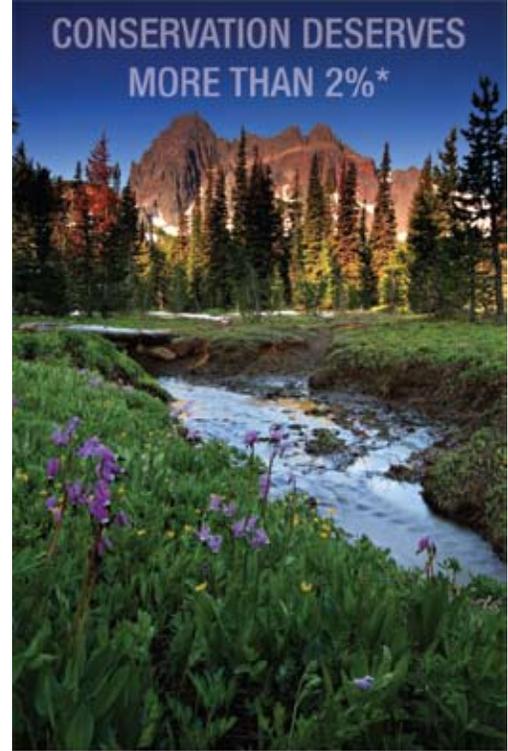
We're heading out into a winter wonderland looking for the best snow-covered trails in the state. Go to [www.oregonwild.org](http://www.oregonwild.org) for more details and to sign up for these hikes.

(ALL SATURDAYS)

- January 8** Twin Lakes (Mount Hood National Forest)
- January 8** Diamond Creek & Salt Creek Falls (Willamette National Forest)
- January 15** Salmon River Meadows (Mount Hood National Forest)
- January 22** Tamanawas Falls (Mount Hood National Forest)
- January 22** Marilyn Lakes (Willamette National Forest)
- January 29** White River (Mount Hood National Forest)
- February 5** Mirror Lake (Mount Hood National Forest)



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