



Cascadia Wildlands Project
Annual Report 2006



The Cascadia
Wildlands Project
*works to protect and
restore the forests, waters,
and wildlife of Cascadia.*

Staff

Kate Alexander

Development Intern

Amber Breiner

Development Intern

Samantha Chirillo

Canvasser

Dan Kruse

Legal Director

Josh Laughlin

Executive Director

Jeff Long

Outreach Coordinator

Kate Ritley

Development Director

Gabe Scott

Alaska Field Representative

Board of Directors

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Jason Blazar

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Jim Flynn, *President*

Jeremy Hall

Megan Kemple, *Treasurer*

Pam Reber, *Secretary*

Lauren Regan, *AAL*

Tony Silvaggio, *PhD*

Main Office

PO Box 10455

Eugene, OR 97440

541.434.1463

info@cascwild.org

Alaska Office

PO Box 853

Cordova, AK 99574

907.424.3835

gscott@cascwild.org

From the Executive Director

The success of a grassroots organization is predicated on a competent, committed, and cutting-edge staff, and of course, an active base of supporters. This past year, like recent years, was tremendously successful in terms of organizational growth and victories for wildlands and critters of Cascadia. The Cascadia Wildlands Project has become a powerful force.

A few years ago, our staff and board recognized the need to hire a Legal Director to better confront ongoing assaults to our treasured watersheds. In September, we brought on young and talented Dan Kruse as our first-ever staff attorney. Dan continues to keep government agencies and industry in compliance with the law in our quest to safeguard the old-growth forests, waterways and species in our region.

In fall 2005 we contracted Kate Ritley to assist with our outreach program and holiday auction. Immediately recognizing her creativity and knack for taking things to the next level, we hired her full-time in early 2006 to run our development program. Amongst many other things, she has helped overhaul our fundraising department, creating a more efficient, professional and productive operation.

In Cordova, Alaska, the northern-most reaches of Cascadia's temperate rainforests, Gabe Scott works to ensure the integrity of the world-class Copper River watershed. This year, Gabe united community members and conservation groups to make sure the wild Copper River remains safe from oil spills, free of reckless resource extraction, and forever full of wild salmon, grizzly bears and bald eagles.

Through his relentless public organizing, our Outreach Coordinator, Jeff Long, has made "old-growth forest protection" a household phrase in this region. Though Jeff left our staff in late 2006, he will continue to advocate for wild places as he joins our board of directors in 2007.

As the director of this growing organization, I am thrilled by our accomplishments of the past year. The Cascadia Wildlands Project has quickly become a leader in the movement to protect wild places, and in the next few years we will be working on a legislative action to permanently protect our region's ancient rainforests. Every day we get closer to our vision for Cascadia: vast areas of old-growth forests, rivers full of salmon, wolves howling in the mountains, and vibrant communities sustained by these unique landscapes.

Your support will get us there. Thank you for helping us achieve so much over the past year.





Thriving post-fire area in the Siskiyou. *Rolf Skar.*



Pine marten. *USFWS.*

Victories for Cascadia, Critters, and Communities

Our on-the-ground victories in 2006 were substantial. But behind each accomplishment is a strategic vision. Through our incremental victories, we set precedents, create working models, forge partnerships with new constituencies, change how land management agencies do business, and build public awareness.



Community hike along the McKenzie River. *Chandra LeGue.*



Cascadia



Red Tree Voles and Old Growth

In 2006, we successfully reinstated protection for the Red tree vole. This small mammal is a major food source for the northern spotted owl and is intricately woven into the complex old-growth forest web of life. Through our successful lawsuit, we were able to stop hundreds of acres of ancient forest logging projects and restore regional protection for this arboreal rodent. We also continued our partnership with the volunteer Northwest Ecosystem Survey Team (NEST) to search threatened old-growth forests for the elusive red tree vole. NEST climbed trees in eight timber sale areas, locating hundreds of vole nests that federal agencies overlooked. In the past, NEST's surveys have helped protect over 1,500 acres of mature and old-growth forests.

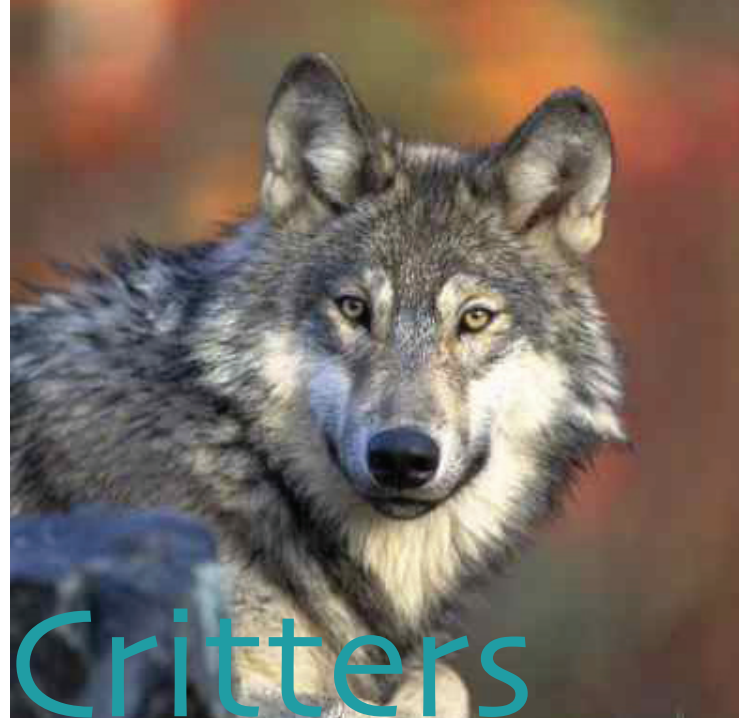
An Oil-Free, Intact Prince William Sound

This year, our Alaska field office won the support of the Cordova fishermen's union in our effort to halt the Shepard Point project. This project would construct a 4.5-mile road through virgin rainforests and dredge a deepwater port on the shore of Prince William Sound. Masked as an oil spill response facility, the project would facilitate massive coal, oil and timber extraction from the Copper River Delta. In 2006 we also participated heavily on the permit renewal process of the Trans Alaska Pipeline, which crosses dozens of tributaries to the Copper. We continue to push for an independent oversight council of the pipeline to ensure an oil-free future for the renowned Copper River.

Above Left: Forest saved by our lawsuit to protect Red tree voles. *Francis Eatherington.*

Top Right: The Red tree vole, a primary food source for northern spotted owl. *Nick Hatch.*

Bottom Right: Alaska's pristine Copper River, home to vibrant salmon runs and grizzlies. *Staff.*



Pushing for Fish Passage on the McKenzie River

After journeying nearly 250 miles from the Pacific Ocean, Chinook salmon bump their heads on Trailbridge Dam, 50 miles upstream from Eugene on the McKenzie River. In 2006, the Cascadia Wildlands Project compelled the Eugene Water and Electric Board, the utility that operates the dam, to consider creating a fish ladder at the dam as part of a federal relicensing process. If approved, the fish ladder will open upstream spawning habitat and reconnect two isolated populations of endangered bull trout.

Standing up for Imperiled Wildlife

We filed a number of successful lawsuits to protect Cascadia's imperiled critters in 2006. After an Oregon state plan to cull our cougar population by 2,000, we, along with

eight other plaintiffs, filed a successful legal challenge that has given cougars interim protection until the federal government performs an environmental analysis of the proposed action. We also won a lawsuit in San Francisco's federal district court that will likely lead to the listing of the Scotts Bar and Siskiyou Mountain salamanders under the Endangered Species Act. Both of these rare species live under rocky slopes in old-growth forests in southern Oregon. Our work to help pass a state wolf plan in 2005 bared fruit this year with a number of wolf sightings in eastern Oregon. Ironically, the federal government is currently proposing to de-list the gray wolf from the Endangered Species Act in the intermountain West, even though Oregon doesn't have any known breeding populations. We will organize around this issue in 2007.

Above Left: Gray wolves returned to Oregon in 2006. *USFWS.*

Top Right: Salmon need a fish ladder around dams to reach their spawning habitat. *USFWS.*

Bottom Right: Northern spotted owls rely on intact ancient forests for survival. *Brett Cole.*



Communities

Shining the Spotlight on Post-fire Landscapes

One of our greatest victories in 2006 involved drawing regional and national attention to the issue of post-fire clearcutting. We publicized and highlighted cutting-edge science that proves post-fire logging inhibits forest recovery and leaves forests more vulnerable to future fires. The resulting press coverage helped us stop two ill-advised Congressional bills that would have sidestepped environmental law and public review to facilitate clearcutting after any natural disturbance on our public lands. We also successfully pressured Oregon's governor, Ted Kulongoski, to legally challenge the roadless area logging at the Biscuit fire area adjacent to the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. This action ultimately led to the reinstatement of the Clinton-era Roadless Rule.

Building Bridges, Restoring Degraded Landscapes

In 2006, we worked with restoration contractors, scientists, agency personnel, loggers and others to advance restoration projects and generate employment in the woods with taxpayer money. We participated in a stewardship working group on the Middle Fork District of the Willamette National Forest that resulted in restoration projects being prioritized, including enhancing rare meadow habitat, replacing and removing culverts, thinning in plantation forests to create complexity and diversity, and placing in-stream habitat structures to benefit endangered bull trout. We also spent time on the Cottage Grove and North Umpqua Districts of the Umpqua National Forest on similar projects as well as on the McKenzie District of the Willamette National Forest.

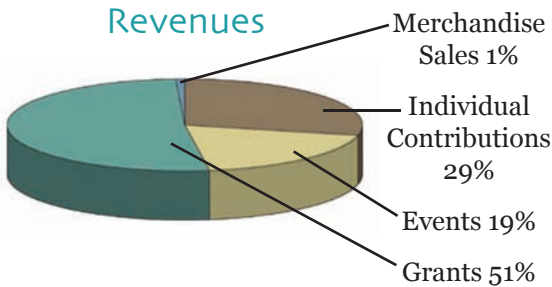
Above Left: Empowering communities to advocate for their public lands. Staff.

Top Right: Leading a hike to Babyfoot Lake, within the Biscuit fire area. Staff.

Bottom Right: Showing diverse stakeholders a recently restored tree plantation. Staff.

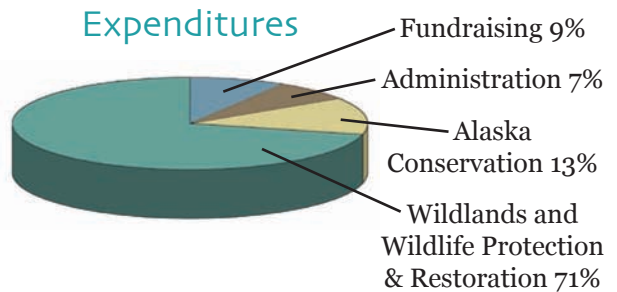
2006 Financial Report

Revenues



Total Revenues: \$161,677

Expenditures



Total Expenditures: \$138,007

We rely on many sources to support our work. Thank you to the hundreds of individuals who supported us in 2006. Special thanks to the following businesses, foundations, and generous individuals who made substantial gifts:

Business Supporters

Emerald Valley Kitchen
Get Fried Rice
Mountain Rose Herbs
Ninkasi Brewery
Paul's Bicycle Way of Life
Pacific Tree Climbing Institute
Ring of Fire
River Jewelry
Sperry Tree Care

Foundation Supporters

Acorn Foundation
Alaska Conservation Foundation
Astrov Fund
Ben and Jerry's Foundation
Burning Foundation
MRG donor advised grant directed by Rob Castleberry & Joyce Thomas
Charlotte Martin Foundation
Deer Creek Foundation
Dillard Foundation
Fund for Wild Nature
Furthur Foundation
Jubitz Family Foundation
John L. Luvaas Fund of the

Oregon Community Foundation
Loeb-Meginnes Foundation
McKenzie River Gathering Foundation
Meyer Memorial Trust
Mountaineers Foundation
Norcross Wildlife Foundation
Patagonia
Resist, Inc.
Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund
Sperling Foundation
Strong Foundation for Environmental Values
Suwinski Family Foundation
Titcomb Foundation
Whole Systems Foundation

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Dave Atcheson
Fred & Sandra Austin
Donica Beath
Debbie & Nick Berman
Linda & Douglas Carnine
Joyce Thomas & Rob Castleberry

Thomas & Lila Creager
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Frances Stevenson
Valerie Swales
Dwight Taylor
Richard & Michele Taylor
Marion Weber
Walt Bernard & Kris Woolhouse

Our Deepest Thanks

The Cascadia Wildlands Project's work would not be possible without the time, energy, and wisdom of so many groups and individuals.

Our Dedicated Volunteers: Kate Alexander, Emily Aune, Paula Beckley, Amber Breiner, Kim Buchanan, Samantha Chirillo, Kelly Densmore, Kyle Dickman, Misha Dunlap, Rachael Dunsmore, Elise and Sean Ferrarese, Josh Finsel, Mary and Jason Gatlin, Mick Garvin, Miriam Hauber, James Hiebert, Anne Hollander, Courtney Howland, Trip Jennings, Ivy Knox, Katie Laughlin, Fabian Lawrence, Pollyanna Lind, Kris Maenz, Lauren Regan, Jason Robison, Ralph and Bev McDonald, Andy Morse, Camilla Mortensen, Janine Nilsen, Cindy Noblitt, Michael Quillin, Jane and Tom Ritley, Josh Schlossberg, Katie Schumm, Amy Sonntag, Cecilia Story, Brandon Tinlin, Jody Trendler, Saxon Wood, Steve Witten, Gwen Wolfram

Our Conservation Allies: American Lands Alliance, Bark, Center for Biological Diversity, Conservation Northwest, Crag Law Center, Environmental Protection Information Center, Erin Madden, Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, Marianne Dugan, McKenzie Printers Guild, North Fork Photography, Oregon Wild, Pacific Environmental Advocacy Center, Sierra Club, Siskiyou Project, Umpqua Watersheds, UO Outdoor Program, Western Environmental Law Center, Wilderness Society, Wild Northwest Photography



CASCADIA WILDLANDS PROJECT

PO BOX 10455 • EUGENE, OR 97440
541.434.1463 • INFO@CASCWILD.ORG

WWW.CASCWILD.ORG