

CASCADIA QUARTERLY



LNG Pipeline route would run through the Umpqua National Forest. Left: Sugar Pine tree close to 7' diameter. Right: These trees would be cut in the 95' right-of-way, even though this is a highly-used recreation area. *(Francis Eatherington)*

JORDAN COVE ENERGY PROJECT TAKES A HIT: Douglas County Doesn't Issue LNG Export Permit

by Francis Eatherington, Conservation Director

The Pacific Northwest, with its expansive Pacific Ocean coastline, has recently been targeted by the fossil fuel industry as its cash-cow for exporting natural resources to Asia. But Cascadia Wildlands is doing its best to give the industry a hard time because the stakes are high for wildlands, waterways, critters and communities in the region.

Take for instance the Jordan Cove liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal proposed for Coos Bay, Oregon. A Canadian corporation, Veresen, claims it needs to either start exporting this compressed form of natural gas derived from fracking, or they will have to stop the controversial practice because unregulated fracking produces so much gas the domestic market is becoming over saturated. Fracking is the harmful process of drilling and injecting fluid into the ground at high pressure in order to fracture shale rocks to release natural gas.

Veresen has told the Federal Energy Regulatory

Commission (FERC), the US agency in charge of permitting energy operations, that it plans will be so beneficial to Oregonians it should be given the power of eminent domain to take the land it needs for the 230-mile pipeline proposed to be constructed through southwest Oregon.

But Oregonians are firmly standing in their way. Few landowners are allowing surveys on their property or agreeing to early offers.

Eminent domain means people can't say "no" to a high-pressure, unordored, three-foot diameter pipeline buried on their land; the 100-foot-wide clearcut right-of-way; the loss of privacy; the loss of the use of their land; or decreased property values associated with the pipeline. Eminent domain also means families can't negotiate for a fair price. Even though Veresen will make billions of dollars from the

continued on p.5

Cascadia WILDLANDS

we like it wild.

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Jumping Higher in Cascadia

from Executive Director Bob Ferris

We know, for instance, we will do more for predators like cougars, bobcats and bears in 2014; and work towards injecting biodiversity principles into state agencies more inclined to listen to agricultural interests and trophy hunters.



We also believe that we can further expand our wolf and suction dredging work to Washington State. And we think we can exert more wild influence in our parts of California and Alaska.

In a very real sense our new logo (see below) developed for our 15th birthday is a graphic representation of our geographic and programmatic pledge to do more with more species and in more places in Cascadia.

Our new “map-animal” logo is inspirational and exciting, but its frequent association with the Cascadia flag implies that this silhouette of a wild dream is just that without your participation and support. We succeed because you show up in increasing numbers, take actions when we ask, and continue to be generous in your financial support. Together, we jump higher and keep it wild.

What's in a logo?



We've enjoyed 15 years of “Keeping It Wild” thanks to the help we get from supporters like you. And we couldn't be more proud to be looking towards the next 15 years of working for our wild waterways, wildlife, and wildlands - because in Cascadia, **we like it wild.**

Wyden's Draft Legislation Released

"Oregon and California Land Grant Act of 2013"

by Bob Ferris, Executive Director

In late November, Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) released a draft of his long-awaited forest legislation, called "Oregon and California Land Grant Act of 2013," that would require increased logging across western Oregon's nearly 2.5-million acres of BLM lands and weaken some of our bedrock environmental laws. Instead of tripling the cut like Rep. Peter DeFazio's (D-OR) pending O&C bill, Wyden's bill doubles it.

Senator Wyden's bill would legislate a controversial form of clearcutting, euphemistically called "ecoforestry," where residual patches of forest are left behind. We call it clearcutting with retention trees. Cascadia Wildlands and Oregon Wild are

currently litigating an "ecoforestry" logging project, known as the White Castle timber sale, on the Roseburg BLM district east of Myrtle Creek. This sale is an example of what the Wyden legislation would mandate on our public lands.

The Wyden bill divides the forests up into blocks of "old-growth protection" areas and "forestry emphasis" areas. The forestry emphasis areas are also divided into "wet" forests (in the Coast Range) and "dry" forests (in southern Oregon). In the "wet" forests, clearcutting or "ecoforestry" must be performed on 8-12% of the forests under 120 years old, per decade. Streamside reserves would be cut in half from the existing protections for salmon and clean water.

The legislation would dramatically curtail public involvement in BLM land management. It requires massive 10-year logging plans designed for tens of thousands of acres. Public input would be allowed only once, at the start of the 10-year interval, on the general logging plan. The public cannot comment on or stop any of the individual clearcuts during the decade once it goes through the watered down public process.

It appears Senator Wyden is promoting this bill to bail out ailing county governments in western Oregon. Counties were once flush with money, funded by the massive overcutting of old-growth forests that occurred



O&C Lands, Salem BLM. The forest shown here wouldn't be logged as part of Wyden's plan, but it is representative of the public lands that are on the chopping block. (Benton Forest Coalition)



Max Beeken

Conservation Intern

A native Oregonian, raised in the Willamette Valley, Max graduated from the University of Oregon's Oregon Institute of Marine Biology near Coos Bay with a B.S. in Marine Biology.

His work experience as a field biologist has taken him from Oregon's south coast to the Bering Sea, the mountains of Idaho and into many of Oregon's public forestlands.

Max is a co-founder of the Coos County-based Coast Range Forest Watch, which works to further citizen science and public involvement in the management of public forestland. He also enjoys playing music, surfing and backpacking.

Max is currently interning with Cascadia Wildlands and shadowing under conservation director Francis Eatherington, with a focus on field checking and commenting on public lands timber sales. We are excited to have him on board.

INTERN SPOTLIGHT

continued on p. 4

Exposing Predator Management in Cascadia

Cascadia Wildlands Reviewing Carnivore Status State-by-State

by Spencer Lennard, Big Wildlife Advocate

The vultures circling above told me one thing: someone or something was dead. I scrambled down the steep, forested slope in southwest Oregon's backcountry. Then I saw it — a black, furry body. It was a dead black bear.

According to the local game warden, the bear was killed by poachers. "They probably took his gallbladder and his paws," the Warden lamented. "Finding them would be like finding a needle in a haystack."

Worldwide, poachers annually kill thousands of bears, as well as other predators for their body parts, many used in Asian traditional medicines. With the demand for peltson the rise, trapping for bobcats is amounting to a killing spree throughout Oregon, where there are weak regulations on the practice. Throughout Cascadia, bears, bobcats, and other ecologically valuable predators are being afforded little safety by state wildlife managers. Oregon's black bear management plan was based on a population study done in 1930. And the agency failed to revise the plan

in 2011 as it was legally required to do. Bears have been hunted for over 80 years without a scientific basis to assure the predator's population viability.

Predators have their own intrinsic value and a right to exist. The ecological services they provide make conserving them a boon to



Bobcats prefer hollow logs, brush piles, thickets, and the undersides of rock ledges to use as their homes. (*Wikimedia Commons*)

taxpayers. Just look at the wolves that have returned to Yellowstone National Park, where their presence has reduced elk overgrazing and helped return ecosystem balance. Streamside vegetation is now rebounding which has benefited

birds, beavers and fish. Predators are also good for the economy. A recent study in Yellowstone showed that wolf watching injects \$30 million/year into the surrounding community.

Wildlife managers throughout Cascadia need to provide better, scientific-based protections for our carnivores, and manage them with reverence and caution. Given the huge demand for predators from global markets, now is the time to end predator hunting and trapping throughout Cascadia.

Our Big Wildlife program works to compel state and federal agencies to enact scientific and ethical accountability in their management of predators. We are currently conducting research that will assist us in producing a "scorecard" for state wildlife agencies' management of predators. This exercise will help us identify where immediate focus is necessary to conserve predators in Cascadia.

Stay tuned as we undertake this much needed exercise.

Wyden's O&C Plan, continued from page 3

continued. before the 1990s, when they received 50% of BLM's timber receipts. As a result, property taxes for private land industrial tree-farms, owned by corporate landowners like Weyerhaeuser, were unrealisti-

cally low, so that now the counties can't collect enough taxes to pay their bills. The same goes for property taxes for residents, which remain absurdly low in some southwest Oregon counties. Instead of addressing tax inequities, the only solution being considered by politicians is simply to log more public BLM forests.

Oregon BLM lands have become a haven for wildlife, harboring endangered species that can live no place else, and a lifeline for people living amidst the "checkerboard." We use these public lands for clean air, our drinking water sources, and for recreation.

But the Wyden bill would



LNG, continued from page 1



LNG Route through BLM old growth forest, adjoining Owl Farm. (Francis Eatherington).

continued. gas export scheme, it is offering only a low, one-time payment (i.e., \$2,000 for seven acres) to affected land owners. The only local control for permitting pipelines is in the Coastal Zone, where the affected counties can deny or condition permits. In 2009, when Veresen claimed it just wanted to import natural gas from Russia to supply California, Douglas County conditioned it for import only. In 2013, Veresen asked to modify the permit so it could export gas to Asia. On January 9, 2014, the Douglas County was unable to find a majority vote to remove the import-only condition and effectively said “no.” While we expect Veresen to put up a

huge fight with appeals and lawyers, the first round went to the county.

This year, FERC will release the environmental impact statement for the Jordan Cove terminal and pipeline, and will ask for public comment. Cascadia Wildlands and our coalition will continue to highlight the impacts the pipeline construction and other facets of the scheme will have on old-growth forest reserves, imperiled species, waterways critical for salmon recovery, and communities in southwest Oregon.

Meanwhile, the state of Oregon is considering issuing various permits and providing oversight of the ballast water the LNG tankers will be releasing into Oregon waters due to the potential for invasive species. It is imperative that Oregon stands up for its citizens where they can.

For more info on the Jordan Cove project and to encourage Governor John Kitzhaber to take a strong stand for the values Oregonians hold dear, visit our website at cascwild.org and click on “Take Action”.

compromise these values greatly by weakening species protection laws and guidelines that safeguard our clean water. Amidst the demand for clean air and water protections and salmon recovery, now is not the time to increase logging and decrease environmental protections.

Cascadia Wildlands will be headed back to Washington DC later this month to testify against this dangerous bill, educate lawmakers, and stand up for what makes Oregon so special.

For more information on the O&C issue and to take action, visit cascwild.org.

Feeling Blissed in Cascadia

Here at Cascadia Wildlands, we are proud of and grateful for our long-term partnership with Luna & Larry’s Coconut Bliss, whose evolutionary coconut milk ice cream has been a huge hit at our annual Wonderland Auction since 2007. Not only that, the company surprised us this year with a special gift of \$2,000 for the protection of wildlands, waterways and species in Cascadia!

“Every aspect of our product is made with thought and care for environmental concerns, and because of this we are a natural partner with Cascadia Wildlands,” said Nicole Peltz, Events Coordinator at Coconut Bliss.



Coconut Bliss founders, Luna and Larry, created a rich and satisfying ice cream without the health and ecological impacts associated with dairy, soy, gluten, and sugar. That legacy is continued today with the sourcing of the highest quality organic ingredients, using a base of naturally rich, cholesterol-free coconut milk with a touch of pure agave. Coconut Bliss supports events with an emphasis on conscious living, health and wellness, and sustainability on a local, national and international level. They value social and environmental justice by aligning with like-minded nonprofits, and their products are made right here in Eugene, Oregon. Learn more at coconutbliss.com.

A sustainable planet is essential to sustainable business. That's why more and more companies like Coconut Bliss are actively investing in Cascadia Wildlands. Thanks Coconut Bliss!

Fighting for Wolf Recovery in Cascadia

Cascadia Pushes Back Against Proposals to Weaken Wolf Protections

by Nick Cady, Legal Director

For over two years now, the US Fish and Wildlife Service has been quietly working to eliminate federal Endangered Species Act protections for the gray wolf in nearly all of the lower 48 states. This proposal is misguided for a number of reasons, but mostly because the species has only recovered in a small portion of its historic range since it was systematically eradicated through poisoning, trapping, and hunting by the early 1900s.

In an attempt to derail this reckless proposal, Cascadia Wildlands, in conjunction with a national coalition of conservation groups and people like you, generated over one-million public comments in opposition to this premature plan. Our efforts are working as the agency has delayed a decision on the delisting a number of times. The widespread criticism from the public, conservation and wildlife groups, and wolf scientists has forced the Obama administration to conduct an independent scientific peer review of the delisting proposal. Peer review results are expected any day, and rumors are circulating that the review panel will recommend



Diamond Pack, Washington. Yearling female captured June 2010. (USFWS)

retaining protections for wolves. Retention of federal protections is critically important in places like western Oregon and California where wolves have yet to reestablish themselves.

While we continue to hold the US Fish and Wildlife Service at bay, another classically infamous federal entity, Wildlife Services, is attempting to create wolf-killing programs in Washington and Oregon. Wildlife Services is a program within the US Department of Agriculture that uses tax-payer money to kill millions of animals each year with poisons, traps, and aerial gunning. The agency is currently under a Congressional investigation for

millions in missing public funds, programmatic ineffectiveness, and a widespread culture of animal cruelty and violence. It was also subject to a lengthy exposé in the Sacramento Bee recently. Cascadia Wildlands has already once gone to court successfully to stop this agency from illegally shooting wolves from Oregon's Imnaha pack.

Despite the scientific and public criticism of the efforts to remove protections from wolves in most of the lower 48 states, not to mention the general uncertainty still on what will ultimately happen, Wildlife Services is moving full steam ahead with two proposals to kill "problem" wolves in both Washington and Oregon at the request of both states' wildlife agencies. Cascadia Wildlands has assembled a tight coalition of conservation groups and is leading the effort against Wildlife Services in both states. Needless to say, your continued support and voice is critical throughout this process. These public agencies have a duty to respond to the demands of the public. Stay tuned as this fight is far from over.



Wonderland Auction 2013.

Thank You Auction Sponsors!

Mountain Rose Herbs
UofO Outdoor Program
Ninkasi Brewing Co.
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Genesis Juice
Vanilla Jills
Green Solutions Printing

Ring of Fire
Back to the Roots Landscaping
Doak Creek
Kore Kombucha
Luna & Larry's Coconut Bliss

Celebrating 15 Years at the Wonderland Auction

by Camille Gullickson, Development and Operations Coordinator

Eleven years in the making, our annual Wonderland Auction has become bigger and better every year, and this year's soiree in the University of Oregon EMU Ballroom on December 14 was no exception. A packed house celebrating our organization's 15th anniversary enjoyed live jazz by the Liaisons Duo (Laura Kemp and Sean Peterson), incredible food and drink, and holiday cheer at this festive celebration.

First off, a big thank you to our sponsors, whose cash or in-kind donations made the event possible.

Mountain Rose Herbs (our featured Wonderland Auction Sponsor at \$5,000+), and the University of Oregon Outdoor Program (\$1,000+) warrant a special shout-out. Thanks, also, to our additional dinner sponsors: Back to the Roots Landscaping, Ring of Fire, Doak Creek Native Plant Nursery, Eugene Weekly, Genesis Organic Juice, Kore Kombucha, Marché, Ninkasi Brewing Co., Coconut Bliss, Green Solutions Printing, and Vanilla Jills.

Secondly, we'd like to thank the nearly 200 businesses and individuals who donated a wonderful array of items (a record number of

packages this year!) such as West Coast getaways, fine art, hand-crafted wood furniture, outdoor gear, fine wine, and much more to our silent and live auctions, **allowing us to raise more than \$33,000** to protect and restore endangered forests, rivers, and wildlife in Cascadia.

Last, but certainly not least, we'd like to thank the many volunteers who came early and who stayed late, and who generally did whatever needed to be done to help make our event a success. Thanks, and we look forward to the next 15 years with you!

BUSINESSES GIVE BACK

A sustainable planet is essential to sustainable business. That's why more and more companies are actively investing in Cascadia Wildlands. Business support saves wild places from imminent destruction and wildlife from extinction. *Please join us in thanking and patronizing the visionary businesses that recently supported our work with generous cash contributions:*

Business Champions (\$10,000+)

Mountain Rose Herbs

Business Champions (\$5,000-9,999)

Patagonia, Inc.

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Coconut Bliss
Tactics Board Shop

Business Partners (\$2,500-4,999)

Pivot Architecture

Business Friends (\$250-999)

Backcountry Gear Ltd.
Medicine Flower
River Jewelry
Southern Explorations
Sundance Natural Market
Green Solutions Printing

In addition, hundreds of businesses contribute goods and services to support Cascadia Wildlands, especially through our annual Wonderland Auction. *Please help us thank the businesses that support our work with their generous in-kind contributions:*

Ninkasi Brewing Company
Paul's Bicycle Way of Life Ring of Fire

Cascadia Wildlands is a proud recipient organization of 1% for the Planet, an alliance of businesses committed to leveraging their resources to create a healthier planet.



RECIPIENT

WWW.CASCWILD.ORG

THANK YOU!

winter 2014



Jordan Cove Energy
Project: No LNG Export



Wyden's O&C Draft Plan
Released



Carnivore Care in Cascadia



Fighting for
Wolf Recovery



Wonderland Auction
Event Review

**what's
inside?**

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

11th Annual Hoedown for Ancient Forests!

DATE: May 10 or 17, 2014 T.B.D.

FEATURING: the Conjugal Visitors, as well as square dancing!

Finalized event details to be announced soon. Get ready, to *get Wild!*

Wildflower Festival at Mt. Pisgah

DATE: May 18, 2014

We will have our outreach table set up at this event, come say hi!

Music Benefit Event at Luckey's Club

DATE: April 12, 2014

FEATURING: T.B.D. and Uncle Stumbles

This evening features two bands to tickle your ears and move your feet.

Watch for updates to this event by following us on Facebook, and check out the events section of our website.

Pints Gone Wild! Every first Monday of the Month

Music 6-7:30pm, Event 6-9pm. at the Ninkasi Tasting Room Patio. We are currently looking for musicians to play in the coming months.

Interested? Contact Kaley at: kaley@cascwild.org