

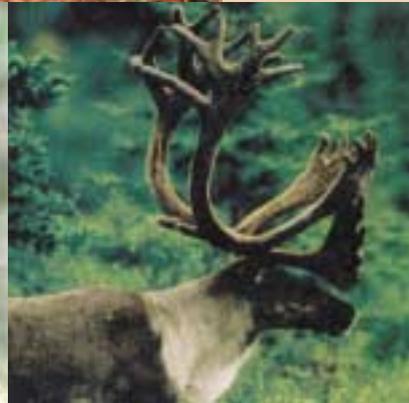
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Northwest Ecosystem Alliance

protects and restores wildlands in the Pacific Northwest and supports such efforts in British Columbia. NWEA bridges science and advocacy, working with activists, policy makers, and the general public to conserve our natural heritage.

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spotted owl Alan and Sandy Carey,
caribou J.D. Taylor, *grizzly bears* Steve Johnson



Friction can occur in relations between even the best of neighbors. Compared to, for example, Pakistan and India, the problems between the US and Canada probably are like letting morning glories spread from your yard into your neighbor's.

Still, all is not well along the world's longest unguarded border. British Columbia and other provinces provide gross subsidies to timber corporations, which then butcher forest ecosystems shared with the US. The cheap wood is then sold to American retailers, making us complicit in some of the worst deforestation happening anywhere in the world.

Pressured by the unusual alliance of US timber, labor and conservation interests (the latter led by NWEA), the Bush administration this summer slapped a 19.4 percent duty on Canadian lumber imports in an attempt to equalize the trade advantage caused by Canadian subsidies. This was greeted with the same hostility of one planting a giant redwood on the sunny side of the neighbor's garden. Anti-American sentiment and calls for reprisals were rising to the boiling point in timber towns across Canada.

It is easy to understand the Canadian resentment, as sunset finally came to dozens of uncompetitive mills that had been propped up by government handouts (in some instances for a decade or more). Some 16,000 people lost their jobs. They were innocent victims of unsustainable policies that inevitably would cause as much social pain in the future as ecological pain today. Nonetheless, the political pressure on Canada-US relations was building to extraordinary levels.

The brutal attacks of September 11 shifted the focus of those relationships. Our northern neighbors are of course our allies and friends in this extremely challenging time. The larger issues of life and death take precedence over trade. But soon the wheels of trade and diplomacy



will catch up to those of war. The daylong backups of cars and, yes, lumber trucks, are as unsustainable as BC's old growth liquidation policies.

Now the question becomes how the Bush administration will stand up to Canada's demand to re-open our border to the dumping of wood made cheap by corruption, the absence of environmental safeguards, and cash assistance. One positive sign is that the President recently assigned Mark Racicot, former Governor of Montana, to be his point person on Canadian timber trade. Certainly Montana knows the effects of Canada's timber subsidies on US mills, workers, and transboundary ecosystems.

But it won't be easy to get the "free-traders" within this administration to hold the line on using trade to bring upward parity, rather than a downward spiral, to social and environmental concerns. It doesn't help that American developers and lumber retailers blindly clamor for all the cheap wood they can get.

And Canada, with its best naval ships steaming toward the Middle East, may at some point try to leverage timber trade against other global concerns. That would truly be a shame. As great a nation as Canada is, and as sad as it is to see lack of work in BC timber towns, it is well past time for more sensible policies to reverse the wanton destruction of a beautifully forested country.

For two decades, BC has logged at a rate that is 50 percent above sustainability, pursuing an actual policy of liquidating its old-growth forests. Each year the tendrils of logging roads (built with taxpayer dollars) reach into ever more remote and, sans subsidies, unmerchantable stands. Such policies obviously cannot stand for long. BC and Canada have failed to make reforms on their own. Now they will have to.

Mitch Friedman
Executive Director



“So here we are with salmon runs teetering at the brink of extinction, the fishing industry idled by conservation efforts, a growing international push to boycott wood products not certified as sustainable and B.C.’s forest managers still entertain the idea of squeezing a few more bucks out of the forest by shaving bald the riparian zones crucial to salmon and wildlife. What political Never Never Land do these folks inhabit?”

Stephen Hume, Columnist, *Vancouver Sun*, March 1999.

The Consumption of Canada

by Joe Scott, NWEA Conservation Director

“Canada is a world leader in forest management,”
Canadian Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew, April, 2001

At the risk of dating myself, I remember a TV detective show in the late 1950s called the Naked City. At the beginning and end of the show, the unseen narrator said something like, “There are a thousand stories in the Naked City; this is one of them.” It was all very dramatic, especially to a 7-year-old boy.

I couldn’t help but think of the Naked City and its tag line when I reviewed the eloquent articles from my Canadian friends in this issue of *Northwest Conservation*.

In my three years of coordinating Nature Knows No Border, our Canada trade campaign, I have become intimately familiar with many of the people, issues, and diverse landscape of our close northern neighbors. I have walked and kayaked hundreds of miles of BC’s forests

and coastline. The sets couldn’t be more different; but, like the Naked City, there are thousands of stories—past and unfolding—on the lush mist and forest clad mountain stage of British Columbia.

The tales range from the tragic to the inspiring:

From the desperate attempts of advocates to save the remains of the Elaho valley in the face of assaults from enraged loggers;

To the defiant 70-year-old grandmother sentenced to a year in jail for protesting the destruction of her watershed;

To the years long effort to protect the Great Bear Rainforest and other critical ecosystems;

To the growing number of First Nations protests.

They are emblematic of a land and people struggling to chart their course in very confusing 21st century seas.

BC is like an awkward adolescent trying to grow from a childhood of unrestrained extractive exuberance to an adulthood of patient sustainability—a hurdle made more formidable by a powerful timber industry and its government minions.

Looming over the drama is a Jekyll and Hyde resource hungry US, demanding access to Canadian wood at bargain-basement prices and, at the same time, an end to the Canadian government handouts so that it can protect its vulnerable domestic lumber mills and shared sensitive species.





The symbolism is striking and inescapable. The subplots of cedar and caribou weave the story together and demonstrate the tensions at work.

The iconic, majestic western red cedars, sacred to First Nations people and cornerstones to BC's most sensitive salmon/grizzly ecosystems, continue to be "high-graded" unsustainably by huge vertically integrated timber companies struggling to stay afloat amidst changing societal values.

The little known woodland caribou, shadowy forest relatives of migratory tundra travelers, are driven further toward extinction as their old-growth habitat is logged and roaded. A few dozen animals remain in trans-boundary limbo in small enclaves on the flanks of the Selkirk and Purcell mountains.

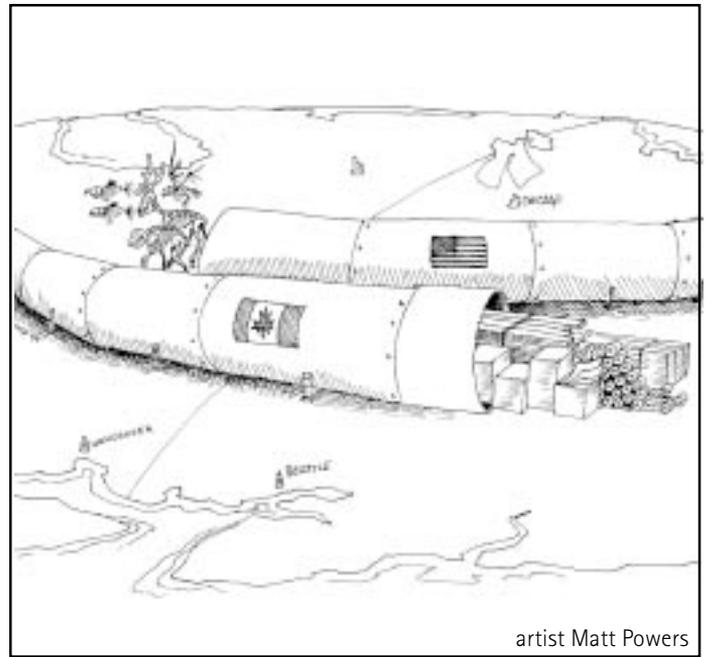
Four thousand miles away in Washington, DC, Canadian timber lobbyists and US homebuilders argue for an exemption of cedar products from onerous US countervailing duties.* Ironically, cedar is the most heavily subsidized species because it has high market value in a weak wood economy.

The BC Interior Lumber Manufacturers Association is demanding that the provincial government relax already minimal standards so that it can log the remaining old-growth caribou forests, which will ensure the demise of the southernmost herds.

Province-wide, the voracious volume driven companies are eviscerating the last valleys and ridges of stunning temperate forest ecosystems. Unprotected by any endangered species statutes or meaningful forest practices codes, forest dependent, disturbance sensitive species continue their downward spiral.

The habitat of the remaining 22 known pairs of spotted owls has been targeted for logging over the strenuous objections of government biologists and conservationists. Most notably, pacific salmon and grizzly bears—icons of the Northwest—continue their retreat before the dozers and chainsaws. In BC, the new Liberal party government is defiantly dismantling environmental protections and slashing science and enforcement budgets.

NWEA's Canada trade campaign has sought to exploit the trade war to create space for Canadian activists to push for forestry reforms. The newly formed BC Coalition for Sustainable Forest Solutions has produced a *Subsidies Report* and a *Draft Solutions Report* that incorporate real reforms in the province. Interna-



tionally we are advocating for solutions to the softwood wars that overlap environment and economics. (The Softwood Lumber Agreement between Canada and the US expired this spring.) With our allies, we have made great progress and the next few months will be critical.

But there is a bigger context. American consumption is working hand in glove with Canada's regulatory gaps to drive the tragic deforestation of Canada. We consume 80 percent of Canada's trees.

These are difficult times in which to protect the natural world. Amidst security driven contractions of freedom, we must continue to push for the expansion of democratic process. Amidst the push for unrestrained trade, we must vigorously advocate for regulatory oversight. In the face of pressure to express nationalism, we need more national self-examination. Americans must demand trade policy that engenders sustainable development and is open and democratic. But more importantly, we must discriminate when we buy wood and paper products.

Will Canada's provincial drama end in the preservation of its spectacularly rich forests or in the devastation of its industrial strength clearcuts? Canadians and Americans will together determine the outcome.

*Under US Countervailing Duty law the Commerce Department agreed (with a submission by a US timber industry umbrella group) that Canadian companies are unfairly subsidized with pricing and tenure arrangements. Commerce imposed a 19 percent duty on most Canadian lumber.



Few large North American mammals are as vulnerable to extinction as woodland caribou.

Bigger than deer, smaller than elk and moose, these relatives of reindeer depend on older forests for survival. When cleared or shredded by development, woodlands invariably lose woodland caribou.

The connection is that strong, that simple.

by Ben Parfitt, Canadian journalist

woodland Caribou endangered transborder wildlife

Many wildlife biologists view the widespread logging of North America's old-growth forests as the prime reason behind the almost complete loss of the species in the lower 48 states and its slide toward extinction in scattered pockets across Canada.

"In North America, every herd of caribou has declined once the forest has been logged—no exceptions—over the course of the last two centuries. And in eastern North America, most of those herds are now extinct," said Rick Page, a former research scientist with British Columbia's Ministry of Forests, in 1996.

In the ensuing five years, companies in British Columbia, Canada's most timber-rich province, have logged an additional 2.5 million acres of forest. Almost all of that forest was clearcut.

That logging undoubtedly caused further stress to woodland caribou in the province, including those in the Selkirk Mountains, an area of concern to conservationists and government agencies in the US and Canada.

There are five isolated populations of this magnificent ungulate species in the Selkirks. But only one in the southern Selkirks roams between BC, northwestern Idaho and northeastern Washington. Listed as "endangered" by the Endangered Species Act in the US, that population is the last to roam south of the 49th parallel.

Wildlife biologists on both sides of the border have defined a so-called "recovery zone" for this population. The zone's BC boundaries are Kootenay Lake to the east,



Woodland caribou are the only major ungulate in North America specifically adapted to life in mature, coniferous forests. Clearcutting eliminates lichens, their primary food source, for at least 100 years.

photo J.D. Taylor

the West Arm of Kootenay Lake to the north, and the Salmo River to the west. In the US, the Kootenay River forms the eastern boundary down to Sandpoint, Idaho. The arcing Pend Oreille River defines the southern and western boundaries.

Conserving older forests within the recovery zone—even in the US where woodland caribou have Endangered Species Act protection—is proving an elusive thing. Indeed, logging continues on federal, state and private lands within the zone, mirroring events in Canada.

“The US Forest Service, being a federal agency, is bound to some pretty specific guidelines as far as caribou are concerned because of their status as endangered. They can conduct timber sales, however, and they do,” said Wayne Wakkinen, wildlife research biologist with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. “And a fair amount of the recovery zone is state [and private] lands that are not bound by federal guidelines.”

Not surprisingly, identifying logging as a primary cause of caribou losses in the southern Selkirks is some-

thing that timber companies aren’t quick to embrace. That includes the Interior Lumber Manufacturers’ Association, a group that lobbies on behalf of 32 forest companies operating in BC’s Southern Interior.

“The reason for the continuing decline in that herd is predation,” insists Peter Affleck, the ILMA’s manager of forestry. There is something to Affleck’s assertion. But it lacks context. Species loss is best understood by looking at events over time.

When forests are logged or burned, the landscape is obviously altered. This temporary alteration can and often does result in an inflow of certain wildlife species that weren’t present in high concentrations before the logging took place. Several scientific studies show that North American woodland caribou populations plummeted following logging. As moose moved in to feed in and around the logged sites, wolves arrived to attack the moose, then “jumped species” to prey on smaller and easier to kill caribou.



Canada's southernmost caribou herd, the small and isolated Selkirk Mountain herd, shares habitat with the US. It is the only indigenous caribou herd remaining in the US outside of Alaska. The herd's range has been damaged by logging and its movements have been interrupted by roads. The Itcha-Ilgatchuz herd shown here has been used to augment the Selkirk herd. Yet, the Selkirk herd continues to decline.



photo Dave Neads

In the southern Selkirks, Wakkinen and others believe that an influx of white-tailed deer following logging promotes the presence of another predator: cougar. In addition to feeding on deer, cougar kill the odd caribou. If caribou numbers are drastically low to begin with, the loss of even a few individuals is enough to push the entire population to the brink of extinction.

Twice in the last decade, wildlife officials in Canada and the US have “augmented” or “inoculated” the southern Selkirk caribou herd by capturing caribou from further north in BC and relocating them to a new mountain home. Between 1987 and 1990, 60 caribou were relocated. Another 43 were brought in between 1996 and 1998. Monitoring shows that those animals successfully bred and raised new young. Yet the herd’s overall size continued to decrease.

In July of this year, Affleck and other ILMA representatives used that fact to urge the BC government to “stop the continued failed efforts of trying to develop a viable herd in the South Selkirks.” In other words, end future relocations.

“The most recent population inventory that was done indicated that there were 17 animals left in this herd—only two of which are females,” said Affleck. “I don’t think there’s any dispute of this. The inoculation efforts

have not been successful to date.”

Affleck said his numbers come from a “regional caribou committee” in southern BC. However Guy Woods, a committee member and senior wildlife biologist with BC’s Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, said Affleck may be confusing the South Selkirk population with another seriously jeopardized woodland caribou herd in the nearby Purcell Mountains.

He also questioned Affleck’s characterization of past caribou relocations as a failure, saying it is unduly “pessimistic.”

“We still have a caribou population out there,” said Woods. “I don’t think we’d have caribou there if we hadn’t done the transplants. We still have an opportunity to recover that population. Let’s be optimistic that we can solve some of these problems.”

A much bigger issue facing wildlife biologists in BC is where caribou for future relocations to the Purcell and Selkirk mountains might come from, said Woods. In general, caribou numbers are declining in most parts of the province. Consequently, there is concern about taking animals away from one area and putting them in another.

As for the best available census data on the South Selkirk herd, Wakkinen said it’s quite unclear what the actual numbers are. When an inventory was done two winters ago the herd was 34 animals, a small number to be certain, but twice that claimed by Affleck. Last winter’s light snowpack worked against an adequate inventory. A new one scheduled for this winter will



hopefully clarify the herd's status.

In the meantime, however, some pivotal decisions loom with a cross-border committee studying the issue. Asked whether he thinks the herd can survive without future augmentations Wakkinen, a committee member, replied, "I honestly don't know the answer to that. But I can't say I'm really optimistic."

The road to recovery for this critically endangered cross-border species may involve yet more augmentations. But capturing and relocating yet more animals "just so we can have caribou on a hillside" is not the long-term answer, said Wakkinen. Protecting large enough tracts of old-growth forest and encouraging the long-term recovery of second-growth forests is. And Wakkinen isn't betting that will happen.

"I question the resolve to take on that large scale, long term, habitat restoration," he said.

It is one of those under appreciated evolutionary realities that certain species thrive in the face of change while others don't. Woodland caribou survived for millennia because they dispersed across a vast forested landscape keeping their densities low. That made it hard for predators like wolves, cougars and grizzly bears to kill very many of them.

Old-growth forests—a source of refuge and important foods such as lichen—became fragmented due to logging and other human developments. The shrinking space brought caribou in closer and closer contact with predators.

"What we're asking caribou to do now is to exist in a relatively predator-rich environment. And evolutionarily, they don't do that," Wakkinen says.

For the southern Selkirk woodland caribou and other imperiled cross-border species such as grizzly bears, hope for survival is intimately tied to conservation of habitat.

Without woodlands we simply won't have woodland caribou and a host of other creatures.

— *Ben Parfitt is a resident of Victoria, BC. He is author of Forest Follies: Adventures and Misadventures in the Great Canadian Forest, and co-author with Michael M'Gonigle of Forestopia: A Practical Guide to the New Forest Economy, both published by Harbour Publishing.*

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The View From Above

observing BC's forest practices



by Chris Dillard, NWEA Conservation Associate

Clearcut in the Granby area of BC. photo Chris Dillard

In June, I spent a weekend on an aerial tour of southern British Columbia, in an area known as the Granby. As a relative newcomer to international conservation work, I have spent the last year reading and compiling reams information on BC's horrific forest practices, the huge subsidies lavished on its timber industry, and the lack of protections offered to its endangered species. This trip offered me an opportunity to see firsthand what had previously been primarily an academic experience.

Flying over the North Cascades east of Everett, WA on our way north, I wondered how fair it was for me to criticize Canadian forestry practices considering what I saw in Washington. Very fair, I would soon learn.

Viewed from above, the magnitude of BC's old-growth liquidation scheme quickly becomes apparent. Clearcuts extend in every direction as far as the eye can see. In many cases they stretch from creek bed to ridge top—up both sides of a valley—all the way to the headwaters. Logging roads that crisscross the landscape leave erosion, mudslides, and invasive species to further damage the ecosystem. It is a disturbing sight.

Wildlife Suffering

Many species are negatively impacted by industrial logging operations of the scale seen in the Granby; perhaps none so much as the grizzly bear. Between Big White Ski Area and the US border, the Granby is home to a dwindling population of an estimated 30 grizzly

bears. Unfortunately, grizzly bears and logging roads don't mix, and the bear's chance of survival in the Granby moves closer to zero with every passing day. As grizzly bear researcher Dr. Brian Horejsi noted on our flight, the Granby population may be suffering from genetic inbreeding. "You might look at a bear and say it looks fine, but what you can't see with the bears around here is what's wrong on the inside," said Dr. Horejsi.

Conservation biologists estimate that it takes an effective population of 500 bears to maintain a genetically viable population. Obviously the Granby is falling well short of that threshold.

Grizzly bears require secluded, unroaded habitat to survive. Scientific studies indicate that road densities greater than .4km/km² will not support long-term grizzly bear populations. Road densities in the entire border region of BC (except for Manning Park) exceed this threshold, making recovery of the great bear in southern BC (and the United States for that matter) all the more difficult.

So why is it that, at a time when there is so much talk of "ecosystem management" and "sustainable forestry," BC continues to log its forests at unsustainable rates in a manner that is harming wildlife?



Weak Forest Practices Code

Adopted in 1995, the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia (the Code) is the rulebook for logging of public lands in BC. Although the Code has resulted in minor improvements, the unfortunate fact is that the Code is weak and poorly enforced.

For example, no cut buffers zones around streams are critical to limiting the impact of logging on streamside ecosystems and riparian dependent species such as salmon and bulltrout. Comparing stream buffer requirements on US Forest Service lands in Washington to those in BC's Forest Practices Code, it quickly becomes apparent that the Code doesn't measure up. Small fish bearing streams that are given a 100-yard buffer in Washington are clearcut to the bank in BC.

Another problem with the Code stems from limitations set in its implementation. The Ministry of Forests (MoF) set up guidelines that strictly limit the amount that the Code can impact BC's cut level, which the MoF acknowledges is well above sustainable levels. While the Code has the goal of protecting biodiversity and at-risk species, it limits these efforts to reducing the cut level by 4 percent and 1 percent respectively.

In addition to these problems with content and implementation, the Code is not enforced. NWEA recently reviewed the 40 audits of logging operations conducted by BC's Forest Practices Board between 1997-2001. This review found that only 42.5 percent were in compliance with the Code and that 50 percent were in "significant non-compliance" as determined by their own audits. Despite this record, in 1998 the Vancouver public library levied more fines than BC's Ministry of Forests.

Lack of Endangered Species Protection

What makes the situation in BC intolerable is the total lack of a protective safety net for threatened and endangered species. In the United States, our Endangered Species Act has brought significant changes in the way we manage our forests. Since the 1980s, logging levels on national forests in the Pacific Northwest have been reduced by approximately 80 percent as a result of landscape level planning and endangered species protections.

In contrast, Canada has no federal endangered species legislation and the Code limits the amount that species protections can impact the cut level. In fact the endangered species bill currently being considered in the Canadian parliament doesn't include provisions to

protect habitat as well as other critical components of meaningful endangered species laws. In a strongly worded letter to Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien 1,331 scientists stated, "the Bill has several critical flaws that must be addressed if it is to be effective at saving species."

A Trade in Extinction

The United States consumes between 60-80 percent of BC's old-growth forests. While we, as Americans, may not have a direct say in the management of Canada's forests, once Canadian wood crosses the border, US trade law applies. It is for this reason that NWEA has teamed up with Natural Resources Defense Council, Defenders of Wildlife, and other conservationists on both sides of the border to use trade as a lever to effect a change in BC's forest practices. Through this work we hope to pressure BC and other Canadian provinces to make systemic changes to their land management practices that will benefit species on both sides of the border.

Many wildlife species are negatively impacted by industrial logging operations. The grizzly bear, in particular, requires secluded, unroaded habitat to survive. Between Big White Ski Area and the US border, the Granby Area of BC is home to a dwindling population of an estimated 30 grizzly bears.



photo Steve Johnson



BC's Disappearing Sacred Cedar

Clearcut of a centuries old cedar grove in Sims Creek Valley near Whistler, BC.



by Joe Foy, Western Canada Wilderness Committee Campaign Director

photos Joe Foy

Forty years ago when I was a young tadpole of seven years, I'd often appear at our back door covered head to toe in black soot. Mom would soon quick-march me to the shower to hose off the grimy coating—the result of my clambering up, over and through the massive, charred western red cedar stumps that inhabited our backyard alder and maple forest in Surrey, British Columbia.

Those backyard expeditions began a fascination with ancient red cedar trees that remains with me today.

By 1900 the old-growth red cedar forests that once covered large areas of the lower Fraser Valley, where I lived, had been mostly cut down. Yet under the inch-thick layer of charred wood left over on our backyard stumps from the slash-burning fires of long ago, the sweet smelling cedar wood could still be rediscovered with a pocketknife. Such is the cedar's remarkable ability to resist rot.

As a teenager I hiked into my first living ancient red cedar grove, at the south end of Chilliwack Lake, near the US-Canada boundary line. Wow. Massive gnarled red giants, 30 feet in circumference, powered out of the green sword fern and devil's club to fade away far up in the misty canopy. The living reality was more beautiful, more magical and mystical than I'd ever imagined. Now protected in an ecological reserve, these huge ancient red

cedars are fifty miles east of my childhood home.

Logging has eliminated all the low elevation cedar groves in between.

Historical and Future Values

For the past 15 years, I've worked as a campaigner with the Western Canada Wilderness Committee, Canada's largest membership-based wilderness preservation organization. Over that time I've hiked up remote valleys and boated to misty islands and inlets to find some of BC's remaining ancient cedars in the ongoing effort to protect them from logging. In doing so, I have begun to see them in an entirely new light. That light first flickered on in the Stein Valley, near Lytton, BC.

During the 1980s, conservationists and local First Nations joined together in the struggle to preserve the 250,000-acre Stein River Valley from logging by a large



multinational timber company. A grove of canyon-bottom red cedars, standing in the middle of the proposed logging road right-of-way, soon became overnight celebrities and the front line of defense. These ancient trees—several hundred of them—had long tapering scars, where bark had been stripped off by generations of Nla'pamux First Nation people for the purpose of making baskets, net, rope and clothing. Careful core sampling of the scars revealed that the oldest harvest-scars dated back to the 1840s. The youngest scars were as recent as the 1940s. All the harvested trees were still alive.

The “rediscovery” and examination of this red cedar grove helped tip the scales in favor of preservation and, in 1995, the BC Provincial government and the Nla'pamux Tribal Council jointly announced the Stein Valley Nla'pamux Heritage Park.

It's hard to over-estimate the importance of red cedar to the many First Nations cultures that exist in BC. Differing in language and custom, they are bound together by a common heritage—past, present and future—of cedar and salmon. Newly made ocean-going dugout

cedar canoes are part of the coastal scene again. Once more, arms and backs strain to the beat of ancient songs as great cedar totem poles are raised in front of traditional cedar longhouses. Young people are going out in greater and greater numbers with elders to learn the proper, respectful way to harvest and utilize cedar bark. From Stein Valley to Meares Island to the Queen Charlotte Islands (Haida Gwaii), more and more First Nations are rediscovering and using evidence of past and present cedar use to help protect their territories and revitalize their cultures.

Pressure to Log

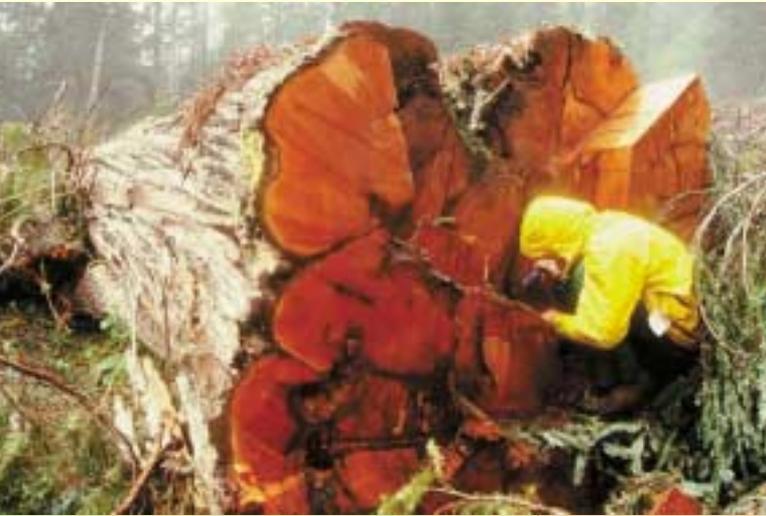
And yet, hanging over all this wonderful cedar-based history and cultural revival is a single grim reality. BC's old-growth red cedar groves are being ruthlessly hunted down stand by stand, then cut and sold to the highest bidder by the province's largest timber companies. There is not much left. Some First Nations' territories have already been completely stripped of old-growth red cedar by the corporations.



The Sims Creek Valley clearcut covers about 100 acres.



Thirty-five foot western red cedar in East Creek Valley, part of BC's inland rainforest, near Kootenay Lake.



Western Canada Wilderness Committee campaigner counts the rings of a cut red cedar tree. This tree was 1,000 years old.

World economic pressures and conservation of forests in the US are increasing the cutting of BC's ancient cedar groves.



In recent years the demand for the beautiful rot resistant old-growth cedar has soared on the global market as the supply has shrunk. As old-growth redwood in California ran out and conservationists campaigned to curtail redwood logging, demand for a substitute increased.

The subsequent increased logging of old-growth western red cedar in Oregon, Washington and British Columbia filled the gap. Unfortunately, almost all of the remaining unprotected red cedar in the US was quickly "mined out." As the lumbermen put it, old-growth red cedar is "commercially extinct" in the US today.

This has left BC as the last jurisdiction in the world with stands of old-growth red cedar still available for logging. More than 95 percent of the world's remaining stands are located in the First Nations' traditional territories of British Columbia.

On January 17, 1995 a massive earthquake nearly leveled Kobe, Japan. The resulting political fallout precipitated a change in Japan's building code. Japan no longer wanted green hemlock lumber from BC because it shrank and twisted as it dried. Houses made from it were not earthquake proof. Until that day, hemlock was a staple of the province's coastal lumber industry. It is the most common old-growth tree in BC's coastal forest. After the big shake-up, prices for hemlock crumbled. BC's timber companies looked for a way to hold onto corporate profits. Their eyes fell on western red cedar, which now had a value twice that of hemlock.

Thousand-year-old red cedars were being targeted even in the most remote and difficult locations. Helicopters winched them off slopes too rocky and steep to build roads to. Timber company crews punched logging roads into wilderness valleys to access headwaters cedar groves.



Where we are going from here:

New duties on Canadian softwood imports pave the way for more reforms

On October 31, 2001, the US Department of Commerce (Commerce) imposed a 12.2 percent tax on certain Canadian softwood lumber imported into the US as a result of its "anti-dumping" investigations of Canadian lumber producers.

The tax comes on top of a 19.2 percent tariff levied in August (the result of litigation brought by the US timber industry under US trade laws over unfair subsidies to Canada's timber industry). These tariffs have resulted in mill closures across British Columbia and drastic reductions in logging, at least temporarily.

Although Commerce denied conservationists' petition to levy additional tariffs on Canadian imports to account for BC's "waiver of environmental restrictions subsidy," our efforts have significantly broadened the scope of the softwood discussions. It is entirely possible that BC and other Canadian provinces will be forced to restructure an industry that is out of step with the 21st century.

For possibly the first time in history environmental impacts are playing a central role in the process of negotiating a major (\$10 billion/year) trade relationship. Moreover, the international pressure on Canadian governments to reform their monopolistic forest industry and their harmful forest practices has created space for our Canadian colleagues to advance a modern vision for forest management.

Although there has been significant progress, the outcome of the negotiations is anything but clear. President Bush recently appointed former Montana Governor Marc Racicot to head the US negotiating team. The "War on Terrorism" may play a role in the negotiating process as Bush is under increased pressure to find solutions to issues that could undermine his international coalition.

Among the possible outcomes is a so-called "bridging agreement" that could substitute an export tax for the existing US collected duties. The provincial governments would collect the tax and return it to Canadian government coffers. The tax would be gradually reduced to zero as structural forestry reforms are phased in.

Though many of the reforms focus on economic issues, NWEA believes that these reforms would result in significant improvements on the ground for wildlife and the ecosystems they depend on. The challenge for Canadian and US conservationists is to maintain pressure for the institution of environmental reforms in softwood negotiations on a timber industry that has enjoyed free reign over the public forests of our northern neighbors.

To stay informed and take action as this critical trade issue enters its final stages go to: www.ecosystem.org/projects_softwoodlumber.html

The Trade Connection

Because of the remoteness of the remaining red cedar groves and the expense of access, the BC government began to heavily subsidize the timber companies through the setting of very low stumpage fees, making it profitable to log hemlock along with the red cedar. Timber company representatives fanned out from Amsterdam to Albuquerque and pushed the attributes of western red cedar as the environmentally sound alternative to chemically treated, rot-proof wood products. It all worked. Sales and profits went up and the ancient red cedar groves came down at an ever-faster rate.

Finally, the US Department of Commerce became alarmed at the wave of cheap subsidized old-growth wood products flooding US markets. On August 9, 2001, they slapped a countervailing duty of 19 percent on the wall of wood crossing the border, including red cedar.

As I write this article, the BC red cedar massacre has slowed because of this countervailing duty. The BC timber lobby, backed by some US cedar mills who are starved for BC red cedar, have kicked off an advertising campaign entitled "Dumb and Dumber" in an effort to convince US trade negotiators to drop the duty on redcedar because it's "dumb" (using the rationale that since red cedar is commercially extinct in the US, it does not compete with US red cedar logging operations).

Western red cedar has great ecological value, rarity and cultural importance to First Nations. As negotiations continue back and forth across the 49th parallel, I believe it's time to put old-growth red cedar in the same category as old-growth redwood: off limits to commercial logging.



Cougar Hunting Again?



In 1996, Washington voters overwhelmingly approved Initiative 655 (that NWEA helped sponsor) to stop the trophy hunting of cougars with hounds. It won by

a majority in 30 of 39 counties.

Since then the Washington state legislature passed a law allowing the Department of Fish and Wildlife to again allow limited hunting with hounds in areas where public safety and livestock depredation are a concern.

Time has shown that more cougars were legally killed in the 1998-99 cougar season (296) than were killed any single year before the initiative (283 for 1995). Comparing the number of cougars killed legally the four years before the initiative with the four years post initiative, more cougars were killed after the initiative (767) than were killed before (721).

Now the Commission wants to add the ability for hound hunters to pursue cougars after the target cougars are killed in select areas. They think that this may “teach” cougars to stay away from people and livestock. There is no science that pertains to “training” cougars with hounds! They are doing so under the guise of relentless pressure from the hound hunting community.

The language in the legislation that reinstated limited cougar hunting with hounds does not give the latitude to initiate a pursuit season of hounds on cougars. Any decision by the Commission is out of bounds with the letter and intent of the legislation.

Please write the Washington Wildlife Commission (Washington Department of Wildlife, 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA98501, email: commission@dfw.wa.gov) and tell them not to initiate a hound pursuit season for cougars.

If you are able to attend the Commission meeting that will publicly air this matter in Vancouver on Dec. 7 or 8, please contact Hudson Dodd at 360-671-9950, ext. 26.

Crystal Mountain DEIS

The US Forest Service released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Crystal Mountain Ski Area Master Plan, with the comment period ending on October 31, 2001. NWEA thanks all of you who took the time to write comments regarding your concerns for this popular recreation area.

The Forest Service had selected Alternative 6 as its preferred alternative, which is a proposed \$94 million, four-season resort that could more than double Crystal Mountain’s yearly visits from approximately 325,000 to 825,000. The project as it stands could impact wilderness and riparian areas resulting in the irreversible loss of old-growth forests, alpine plant communities, and wildlife habitat.

NWEA supports a significantly scaled down version of this project and has submitted comments on the DEIS. For more information on the Crystal Mountain Ski Area Master Plan, visit the Crystal Conservation Coalition website at: www.crystalcoalition.org.

Loomis Forest Planning Begins



The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) held its first public planning meeting for the Loomis Forest in September. Here they

presented timelines and what planning efforts would cover. NWEA is particularly following the planning process for the two areas we recently protected under the Natural Resources Conservation Areas program. Because many of you contributed to the Loomis Forest Fund, we would urge you to contact Andrew Stenbeck, Department of Natural Resources at 509-995-7964. Ask that you be kept informed regarding plans for the lands you helped protect.



Do something to help NWEA with our efforts to protect the Northwest's willands and wildlife.

Volunteer

There are three easy ways to learn more about volunteer opportunities with NWEA:

1. Visit our website's improved volunteer section. Check the opportunities that interest you, and we'll follow-up with you to discuss options: www.ecosystem.org/getinvolved_volunteer.html
2. Contact NWEA volunteer coordinator Hudson Dodd with information about your interests and availability: hdodd@ecosystem.org or 360-671-9950 x26.
3. Contact The Cascades Conservation Partnership volunteer coordinator Kelly Muzeroll to learn about volunteering for The Partnership campaign: partnership@ecosystem.org or 206-675-9747 x205.

Here are three excellent sample volunteer opportunities:

1. Northwest Old-Growth Campaign Letter-Writing Party



The logging of old growth in our national forests is not a thing of the past. There are dozens of timber sales slated for cutting in native forest stands, particularly in the

Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

NWEA is working with a coalition of other conservation groups to end old-growth logging in the Pacific Northwest's national forestlands once and for all. The Northwest Old-Growth Campaign publicly launched on October 15 (see pg. 22).

To succeed, the campaign needs to demonstrate massive support for our position. To do this, we need to generate large numbers of personalized, hand-written letters to our Congressional delegation, as well as letters to the editor of regional newspapers. And one of the best ways to generate such letters is for volunteers to host get-togethers and ask family/friends to write letters on the spot. We have prepared packets for hosts that make the process easy—with tips on hosting a party, materials (including sample letters), and a great video on ancient forests. Contact Hudson Dodd for more information.

2. State Trust Lands Educational Presentation Project

A team of NWEA volunteers and staff has written an informative presentation that examines policy, history and funding issues surrounding the management of Washington state trust lands. The script is augmented by a slideshow or a video version of the presentation.

This presentation aims to educate Washington citizens about their state trust lands. It advocates for management that

takes into account public values such as clean water, recreational opportunities, and wildlife habitat, in balance with revenue production through timber harvest and other extractive activities.

There is a team of volunteers giving the presentation around the state. We are seeking additional volunteers for the speakers' bureau—folks available to give occasional presentations on evenings or weekends. If you are interested in joining our speakers' bureau, please contact Hudson Dodd.

3. Soul Salmon Raffles



The Cascades Conservation Partnership outreach team put together a fun and creative focus to raise awareness and funds for over the winter. They commissioned regional artists to adorn three

incredible eight-foot salmon sculptures, as part of the Soul Salmon series. Outreach volunteers will sell raffle tickets all winter, each ticket a chance to win one of the beautiful sculptures.

Soul Salmon 2001 is a project bringing together Northwest artists, businesses, institutions and tribes creatively interpret wild salmon in order to educate communities, inspire local salmon culture and generate charity to save native salmon.

The Partnership needs help selling Soul Salmon raffle tickets for our three salmon! Proceeds from this super-raffle will go directly to the acquisition of The Partnership's targeted Yakima River lands (see article on pg. 21). We also need volunteers to help us collect donations for our special holiday gift boxes and cards. To get involved, contact Kelly Muzeroll.

Volunteer Thanks

A heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who worked on a multitude of projects this summer and fall to help make NWEA such a successful force in the Northwest's conservation movement.

- Howard Appollonio • Jennifer Barna • John Barnard • Peter Bergler • Tana Beus • Paul Brookshire • Colby Chester • Joel Cooperberg • Gayle Copenbarger • Todd Degolier • Dean Drugge • Siobhan Edwards • Doris Ferm • Scott Fields • Kate Freund • David Gladstone • Jake Hamilton • Dan Hammill • Bud Hardwick • Gwen Heisterkamp • Michael Hinkel • Kevin Hobart • Jennifer Hooper • Steve Horst • David Incho • Steve Irving • Roger Iverson • Cindy Jackson • Chris Johnson • Linda Johnson • Zoe Johnson • Derek Jordan • Brett Kroening • Tatiana Koveshnikova • Henry Lagergren • Ase Lieden • Sherri Lynd • Vanessa Lyons • Katherine Marieb • Tom McNeely • Kristina Miles • Tina Mirabile • Gary Munding • Doug Murray • Kristine Newman • Andrea Olah • Peg Peterson • Keith Posse • Tom Pratum • Peggy Printz • Alan Rhodes • Susan Rhodes • Marissa Rosati • Travis Scott • Greg Seeligson • Regan Smith • Fred Spadero • Betsy Stalter • Amy Stix • Steve Walker • Kristin Weaver • Brandon White • Andy Wickstrand • Ken Wilcox • Tanja Wilcox • Lucretia Williams • Kiyoshi Yamashita • Helene Zaslow



VIP Volunteers Instrumental in Progress

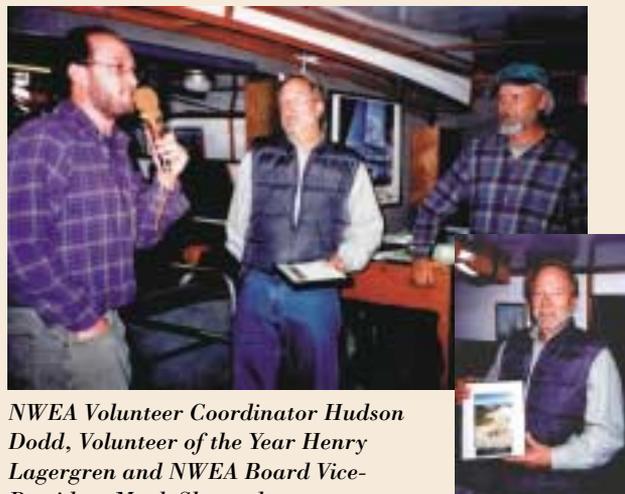
Lots of folks (roughly 500) from all walks of life volunteer each year for NWEA's mission. Each and every one makes an important contribution to our work. So we decided to put on a First Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event.

On September 18, NWEA chartered the *Island Caper*, a 110-foot long tour boat, captained by naturalist David Given-Seymour. Over 80 of our dedicated volunteers and their guests boarded the boat for a delightful sunset cruise, with mouthwatering hors d'oeuvres prepared by Jud Sherwood and beverages donated by Orchard Street Brewery and Mt. Baker Vineyards.

By all accounts the event went swimmingly (well, boatingly anyway). It gave many people the opportunity to meet other NWEA volunteers working on various far-flung projects—volunteers whose paths might otherwise never cross. As with any event, there were wonderful volunteers who were not able to attend. The NWEA board and staff would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your hard work and outstanding dedication to the cause of protecting and restoring wildlands in the Pacific Northwest.

Later in the evening, we held the first annual NWEA volunteer awards ceremony. In his opening remarks, NWEA board vice-president Mark Skatrud stressed the value of the work done by all the volunteers, how much the staff and board appreciate the amazing work the volunteers do, and that by recognizing some volunteers with awards we were in no way slighting others.

All winners received a \$15 gift-certificate to REI, along with various augmenting prizes. Runners-up received Living Tree paper recycled stationary packs.



NWEA Volunteer Coordinator Hudson Dodd, Volunteer of the Year Henry Lagergren and NWEA Board Vice-President Mark Skatrud

Volunteer Year of the Henry Lagergren

wilderness fieldwork, miscellaneous outreach, office support, research, phoning, state lands ground-truthing, special events



*Volunteers
Howard
Applonio and
Sandra Lucke
enjoying the
cruise*



*Tina Mirable, Sally
Hewitt and Tom
Pratum*



*Joni Cameron,
Alex Devaux-
Wenger and
Barry Wenger*



Jodi Broughton and Tom McNeely

NWEA 2001 Volunteer Awards

September 2000 -
September 2001

Interns (Unpaid)

Runners-up: Kristina Miles and Joni Cameron
Winner: Kate Freund—national forests program and old-growth campaign support

Administration/Office

Runners-up: Jennifer Hooper, Henry Lagergren, Susan Rhodes
Winner: Tom McNeely—computer network support and computer trouble-shooting

Outreach

Runners-up: Chris Johnson, Erin Martindale
Winners (TIE): John Barnard—old-growth campaign tabling coordination, and Tom Pratum—state lands presentations

Fieldwork

Runners-up: Steve Irving, Helene Zaslow, and Kathy Marieb
Winner: Derek Jordan—remote camera coordination, wilderness fieldwork coordination

Special Project

Runners-up: Peter Bergler, Jamie Dulfer, and Peg Peterson
Winner: Peggy Printz—lynx sculpture sales, donor cultivation program

Rare Carnivore Remote Camera Project

by Hudson Dodd, NWEA Volunteer Coordinator

NWEA worked cooperatively with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife again this summer for another field season of the Rare Carnivore Remote Camera Project. This effort aims to document the presence of important species in the North Cascades, including grizzly bear, lynx, fisher, marten, bobcat and cougar. By placing cameras in the backcountry, connecting a motion and heat sensor, and baiting a nearby tree with scent lure, NWEA volunteers photograph these wild, shy, animals.

By photographing real animals in the wild, we confirm their presence. This documentation is key to the development and implementation of appropriate management plans for these species. Science-based management is NWEA's objective for all ecosystem components. WDFW provides the camera equipment and the oversight for placement of the cameras. NWEA provides the volunteers to do the backpacking into the gorgeous high country of the North Cascades, placing and servicing cameras over the course of the summer.

This year's cameras captured an amazing collection of snapshots of carnivorous critters. The plethora of black bear family portraits we obtained offers a delightful look at mama bears with their cubs nearby, often in trees. Several shots of big cats came in, as did a few as yet unconfirmed photos of what appear to be a wolverine.



If it is indeed a wolverine, this would be the first documented sighting in Washington state of one of these reclusive beasts in more than 25 years!

We plan to conduct this fieldwork again next year, and will be looking for additional volunteers for the June-September field season. If you are interested, contact Hudson Dodd at hdodd@ecosystem.org, or 360-671-9950 ext. 26.



2001 FIRES AND EASTSIDE FORESTS

by Liz Tanke, NWEA Eastside Field Representative and Barb Swanson, NWEA Conservation Associate

To no one's surprise, fires made big headlines again this year. Once more, the front page and network news capitalized on our fear of fire and perpetuated the Smokey Bear myth. Yet compared to national attention given wildfires, the 2001 fire season was mild, with only 520,000 acres of national fires involved in fires—about one-quarter of last year's 2.1 million acres.

Fires in Eastern Washington

Fires burned in eastern Washington from July into early October, bringing in firefighting forces from around the country to suppress them. On national forest lands, the majority of fires burned in remote areas such as North Cascades National Park; the Alpine Lakes and other Wilderness Areas; and several Roadless Areas.

For the most part, these fires burned in mid-to-high elevation forests, creating natural conditions that will benefit habitat. The Rex Creek fire also burned south-facing low elevation forests above Lake Chelan along almost 25 miles of shoreline. Despite extremely dry conditions and occasionally explosive fire behavior, this fire and the Icicle Creek fires cleared away the grass and brush under the forest canopy in the lower elevations.

Fires that threatened communities and rural residents include the Brewster complex, Virginia Lakes fires and the Libby Creek fire. These fires burned in rolling sagebrush, grassland and scattered trees, mostly on private, state and tribal lands. Even there, reports indicate the fires were often beneficial (not considering the impacts of bulldozed fire lines, noxious weed spread and post-fire salvage logging).

Costs of Firefighting and Rehabilitation

Despite the remoteness of many fires and their potential benefits, considerable effort and expense went into suppressing almost every fire, not just those near communities. Granted, the task of predicting which fires will remain in remote areas and which will eventually reach areas of human habitation poses quite a challenge, and the Forest Service often faces pressure from angry citizens.

But fire suppression expenditures skyrocketed to \$700 million this year—*twice the cost per acre of last year* and \$230 million more than allotted. The overdraft may be taken out of other Forest Service budget items, forcing cutbacks in recreation and other departments.

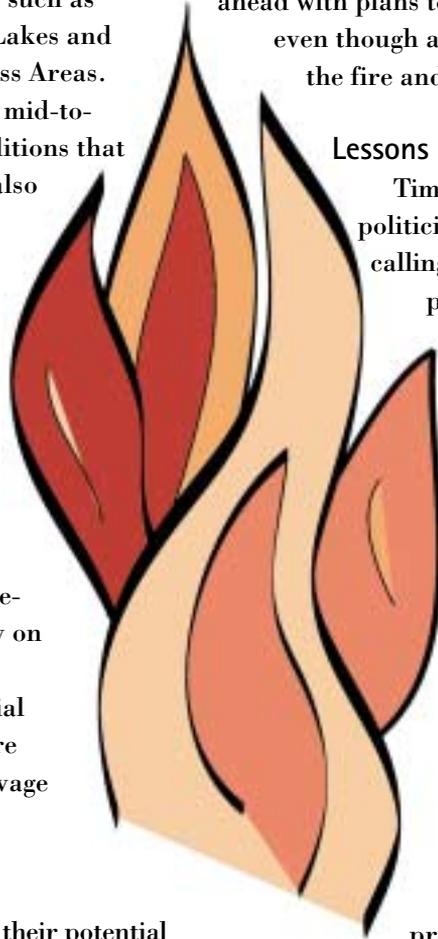
Salvage Fire Sales

Despite pressure from some eastside politicians, the Forest Service is planning relatively little salvage logging in the burned areas, mostly in the Tonasket District of the Okanogan National Forest. The Washington State Department of Resources (DNR) however, is racing ahead with plans to salvage log the Libby Creek burn, even though a DNR fire vehicle accidentally ignited the fire and the ecosystem is very dry and fragile.

Lessons for Forest Management

Timber companies, timber-friendly politicians and some agency officials will be calling for more national forest logging to prevent fires like those of 2001, even though the facts do not support that position. For one, only 14 percent of this summer's fires burned on national forest lands. The majority of fires threatening communities were burning in arid grass and scrublands, which no amount of logging can prevent. (See Pacific Biodiversity Institute website at www.pacificbio.org)

Since it's impossible to eliminate fires from the western landscape, the answer is for rural residents and communities to take responsibility for making their homes fire safe and defensible. With limited funds for fire prevention and suppression, the Forest Service needs to concentrate their efforts around Wild-land Urban Interface communities, not in Wilderness and other remote areas. Visit www.ecosystem.org/projects_eastsideforests-fire.html for more information.





The Cascades Conservation Partnership has now raised an incredible \$11.3 million in private funds from 11,000 donors—most likely including you. The campaign is targeting about 1,000 acres along the Yakima River, upstream of Lake Easton, to protect with private money before year's end.

The lands we're working to protect this year include three miles of the Yakima River, which meanders naturally in the valley, forming side channels and sloughs that are vitally important habitat for native salmon and trout.

These magnificent acres are located in a valley bottom covered with mature stands of fir, cottonwood, pine, and cedar. They include extensive riparian habitat along the river and tributaries. The targeted lands provide diverse and important habitat for many types of wildlife including elk, martens, blacktail deer, black bear, cougar, bobcat, goshawks, pileated woodpeckers, and Cooper's hawks. The forest canopy provides important cover for resident forest birds and migratory songbirds.

The properties contain a wide variety of recreational opportunities. The river is a choice spot for fishing and

boating activities. The Iron Horse State Park provides excellent opportunities for camping, swimming, and picnicking. The Iron Horse Trail is a popular cross-state trail for hiking, bicycling, horseback riding and cross-country skiing.

The landowner, US Timberlands, has obtained state logging permits to log more than 165 acres of some of the very best wildlife habitat on these properties, land that is intermixed with the riparian corridors and wetlands. Since these lands lie along the scenic Yakima River and are close to Easton and Lake Easton State Park, there is a real threat these lands will be sold and developed. See www.ecosystem.org/tccp/lands/yakima.html for more details on The Partnership's current efforts to protect these Yakima River lands.

The Partnership has also secured \$4 million from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) with the help of our Washington Congressional delegation this year. In addition, the campaign has worked out a deal with the Forest Service to leverage \$2 million from last year's LWCF Pacific Crest Trail line item to buy two parcels on the Pacific Crest Trail south of I-90 in the center of one of our key wildlife corridors. Further, The Partnership is putting together a proposal for \$4-\$5 million from a federal endangered species habitat fund to protect even more critical forestland.

So in adding it all up, the campaign should end the year having gained \$10+ million in federal funds! This moves us steadily ahead to stop logging on important forestlands (protected lands to be announced next issue).

Federal Money for Wildland-Urban Interface

Congress approved the FY 2002 Interior Appropriations bill in late October. The Forest Service's overall budget was funded at \$4.1 billion. In the bill, \$1.2 billion was allocated for the National Fire Plan, with \$209 million earmarked for hazardous fuels reduction and an additional appropriation of \$346 million for emergency fire suppression activities.

The Senate's version of the bill included language that would restrict 60 percent of hazardous fuels reduction funds (or \$125 million) to the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) in order to protect communities. However, the House rejected the Senate's language in conference and offered a watered down alternative. The alternative takes away the requirement for the Forest Service to spend 60 percent of their fuels reduction funds in the WUI, but states the Forest Service has to justify its actions to Congress if it fails to spend these funds in the WUI.

In the next year, fuels reduction projects need to be continually monitored to insure that fuels reduction funds are actually being spent to protect communities. The Forest Service must also be held accountable for mixing commercial timber sales with restoration and fuels reduction projects, spending fuels reduction funds to clean up logging slash, and doing fuels reduction work in threatened and endangered species habitat and other areas that do not need fuels reduction work.



NORTHWEST OLD-GROWTH CAMPAIGN

by Dave Werntz, NWEA Science Director

On a bright, blustery autumn day in October, conservationists assembled in Seattle and Portland to launch a campaign to finally and permanently protect the Pacific Northwest's old-growth forests. In Seattle, they were backed by Representative Jay Inslee (D-WA) and other dignitaries from the region who joined the call to preserve over a million acres of old forests threatened by logging on federal lands.

Jasmine Minbashian, Northwest Old-Growth Campaign Organizer, kicked off the effort by laying out the case for protecting all remaining mature and old-growth forests. More than 80 percent of the Northwest's old-growth forests have been logged or developed, and the region's residents overwhelmingly support protection of the remaining old-growth. In addition, Minbashian says, the regional economy has transformed over the last decade, and wood products have significantly diminished in importance.

In his remarks, Congressman Inslee announced his intention to introduce legislation early next year that would protect mature and old growth forests on federal land in western Washington and Oregon. He spoke

passionately about the compelling need to save old forests, emphasizing the importance of these forests to fish and wildlife, and the citizens of the Pacific Northwest.

"The time has never been more urgent to stop cutting Washington's and Oregon's ancient trees," Rep. Inslee said. "You can save old-growth forests only one time, and that time is now."

Other speakers included Laverne Troxel, from the town of Randle (near the Gifford Pinchot National Forest), who pointed out that her town no longer relies on old-growth logging and, in fact, would face a brighter economic future with old forests protected.

Emeritus Professor of Botany from the University of Washington, Arthur Kruckeberg, described the growing consensus that all old forest stands provide critical functions in natural and recovering landscapes. Peter Illyn from Christians for Environmental Stewardship addressed the spiritual values of old-growth forests.

The Northwest Old-Growth Campaign is a coalition of 13 forest conservation organizations: Northwest Ecosystem Alliance, Pacific Crest Biodiversity Project, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Black Hills Audubon Society, Oregon Natural Resources Council, Cascadia Wildlands Project, Umpqua Watersheds, Inc., Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, The Siskiyou Project, The Sierra Club - Oregon Chapter, Bark, ForestEthics, and American Lands Alliance. For more information, see www.nwoldgrowth.org.

The Seattle Times
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2001
Drive to save old forests begins
By CHRIS WYLLIE
Seattle Times staff reporter
In a push to cap off changes that started a decade ago with the scuttled owl environmental groups kicked off a campaign yesterday to persuade Congress and the White House to halt all old-growth logging on federal lands.
servatives in Congress won't come easy. The U.S. Forest Service already has had trouble finding buyers for some timber sales, and some argue enough old-growth forests already have been set aside.
"It seems like we're wanting to save the last old-growth tree again and again and again," said

Tuesday, October 16, 2001 - The Ashland Daily Tidings - Page 3
New effort launched to halt old-growth logging
By AP and The Tidings
PORTLAND — Environmentalists launched a new effort Monday to halt old-growth logging on federal land in Oregon and Washington state, saying that politics, the economy and public attitudes are shifting toward conservation.
The 19 environmental groups say the Pacific Northwest economy has shifted away from dependence on timber; polls show increased urban and rural support for forest protection, lumber retailers are phasing out old-growth wood products and many politicians are backing limits on harvesting ancient trees.
"Pines have changed," said

Seattle Post-Intelligencer MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2001
Renewed effort aims to save old-growth timber on federal land
BY ROBERT MACLEAN
Staff reporter
Bused by public-opinion polls, environmentalists today are starting a renewed campaign to prohibit logging of most remaining old-growth timber in the Pacific Northwest.
The owl was chosen, as a sort of symbol for many other life forms that live in the old forests, prominent environmentalists said.
"We think public sentiment has been made clear," Inslee said Friday.
"This can be done in a way that does not significantly diminish our economy and that certainly leaves intact our ability to produce fiber."
Conservationists cite figures showing that less than one-tenth of the Northwest's economic activity now is generated by timber.

The Northwest Old-Growth Campaign recently received attention in many newspapers including: The New York Times (AP), Columbian, Oregonian (AP), Medford Tribune, Eugene Register-Guard, Roseburg Daily Review, Bellingham Herald; several radio stations, including Spokane Public Radio, OPB, KPLU, KUOW, KIRO, KOMO; and NW Cable News.

Ensuring our Legacy Remains

by Mary Humphries, NWEA Development Director

Perhaps you are a longstanding, loyal member of Northwest Ecosystem Alliance. Perhaps you became a member of Northwest Ecosystem Alliance when we were furiously raising money to protect 25,000 acres in Washington's Loomis State Forest. Or maybe you joined the organization with a recent gift to The Cascades Conservation Partnership. Whether you are a new ally or an old friend, all of us share something in common: Pride in our collective accomplishments; a lasting commitment to our Northwest forests and wildlife; and a genuine spirit of generosity.

Now, more than ever, we need to band together and take care of those things we treasure most here at home—quality of life, clean drinking water, breathtaking forests.

Our national leaders are largely focused on the war on terrorism and international affairs. State and local officials are spending much of their time on security measures and emergency preparedness. This leaves you and I with a growing responsibility to address issues of importance in our own home towns and throughout the state.

In times of need, people look to their communities for help. Similarly, NWEA is looking to you—our community—for help. Please consider making a gift to Northwest Ecosystem Alliance. You are the lifeblood of this organization and we are counting on your support.

In the aftermath of September's tragic events, we are all struggling to comprehend the enormity of what has happened. Difficult times lie ahead—they can either paralyze us or compel us to defend the values and ideals we cherish as a nation. Conservation has always been one of those enduring values for it defines our relationship with a land that has endowed us with many riches—solitude, tranquility, hope.

Please, let's make sure that Washington's old-growth forests and majestic creatures remain a part of our outstanding legacy. Thank you.



Show your support for the Northwest's wildlife and wildlands by joining NWEA, making a gift, or buying merchandise!

I'd like to join NWEA at \$_____

I'd like to buy a gift membership at \$_____ for _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____

I'd like to purchase a NWEA logo T-shirt (\$16, includes shipping & handling; S - XL)

Sage with maroon/green. Size: _____

Tan with maroon/black. Size: _____

Grey with maroon/black. Size: _____

Ship to: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____

Send check payable to NWEA at 1421 Cornwall Ave #201, Bellingham, WA 98225

OR provide credit card information below,

Card # _____
Expires _____ Phone _____

Join one of NWEA's email alert lists

WildNW focuses on national forests, biodiversity, and endangered species.

CanadaTrade focuses on US/Canadian trans-border forests, species, and trade issues.

StateLands covers Washington state public lands issues.

Partnership is for regular updates on The Cascades Conservation Partnership campaign.

To subscribe to these lists, send a blank-subject email message to: majordomo@onenw.org with <subscribe wildnw>, <subscribe canadatrade>, <subscribe statelands> or <subscribe partnership> in the body of the message (without < > brackets).

Whatcom Forests focuses on Whatcom County land use issues.

To subscribe send an email to Lisa McShane at lmcshane@ecosystem.org

Northwest Ecosystem Alliance

Since 1988, Northwest Ecosystem Alliance (NWEA) has fought relentlessly to maintain the ecological integrity of the Northwest's wildlands by combining organizing, media and science skills with innovative strategy and fieldwork. Along with protecting countless acres of forestland, we have worked diligently to protect threatened species such as the lynx, gray wolf and salmon.

We led the successful campaign to protect 25,000 acres of wildlands in north-central Washington's Loomis State Forest in 1999. Raising nearly \$17 million in a little more than one year for this effort inspired new momentum for conservation in the Northwest. We are proud to be in coalition efforts such as The Cascades Conservation Partnership and Northwest Old-Growth Campaign along with our dynamic program work.

Northwest Ecosystem Alliance

1421 Cornwall Avenue #201
Bellingham, WA 98225-4547
www.ecosystem.org
360.671.9950



Protecting Canadian wildlands and transboundary wildlife.

GOAL: Preserving Canadian forests and wildlife by collaborating with Canadian conservationists to eliminate unfair trade subsidies, institute sound conservation laws, coordinate management of transboundary ecosystems and protect natural areas.
www.ecosystem.org/projects_transboundary.html

Saving the "missing link" lands between Washington's North and South Cascades.

GOAL: Purchasing and protecting more than 75,000 acres of privately owned forests that link the Alpine Lakes to Mt. Rainier. These lands are integral to restoring what was a vast and healthy ecosystem.
www.cascadespartners.org

Safeguarding Washington's national forests.

GOAL: Protecting old-growth forests, roadless areas and endangered species' habitats. Ensuring that federal lands are managed in accordance with principles of conservation science.
www.ecosystem.org/projects_nationalforests.html and
www.nwoldgrowth.org

Reforming management of Washington's two million acres of public lands.

GOAL: Ensuring our state public lands are managed for quality of life, clean water, diverse wildlife, and other ecosystem functions, rather than solely for monetary benefits.
www.ecosystem.org/projects_statepubliclands.html

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