

Update on the O&C Debate

With help from supporters like you, PRC is deeply involved in the debate over the future of over 2.6 million acres of federal lands currently managed under the *Oregon and California Lands Act* (O&C). O&C lands comprise significant portions of some of Oregon's best remaining rivers and watersheds, such as the Umpqua, Rogue, McKenzie and Siuslaw. What happens to these lands will have a substantial effect on the health of our rivers and fisheries. Over 1.8 million Oregonians rely on protected rivers and streams on O&C lands for their drinking water.

In July, the Natural Resources Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives advanced legislation sponsored by Oregon Representatives Peter DeFazio, Kurt Schrader and Greg Walden, aimed at drastically increasing logging on O&C lands. This proposal would put a staggering 1.5 million of the 2.8 million acres of public forestlands into a "trust" to benefit private timber and would be given a free pass from compliance with environmental laws that protect clean water and salmon.

Senator Wyden recently released his O&C Legislative Framework. We have been working with the Senator and his staff to provide them with information on conservation values as well as threats to drinking water and aquatic



habitat on O&C lands. PRC seeks to inform a solution that preserves and makes permanent key components of the Northwest Forest Plan, adheres to federal environmental laws and does not create dangerous precedents for the management of federal lands elsewhere. We expect a proposal will be introduced by Senator Wyden early this fall.



SIERRA NEVADA FOREST PLANNING

PRC continues to advocate for aquatic resources and ecosystem protection throughout Sierra Nevada National Forests. As mentioned in our 2012 newsletter, we are using our policy report, *Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystems on Sierra Nevada National Forests: Policy Analysis and Recommendations for the Future* to inform our conservation strategy in the Sierra Nevada. This report identifies numerous threats to aquatic resources and recommends a suite of policy and management goals as well as research needs necessary to preserve and recover aquatic species and ecosystems.

PRC's Conservation Director, Greg Haller, has been attending meetings with the Regional Forester and with Forest Supervisors and agency staff to discuss the development of forest plans for the Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests. He has also been meeting regularly with the conservation community to develop strategies and coordinate comments on draft assessments and plans.

The full report and more on our efforts in the Sierra Nevada can be found on our website.

Protect the Best Restore the Rest

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MONTANANS FOR HEALTHY RIVERS

PRC has organized an ambitious river campaign in Montana based on the model of our Legacy River program—instituting watershed scale conservation for Montana's most climate resilient rivers and native fish strong-



holds. The campaign has an ambitious goal of conserving hundreds of miles of Western Montana's best free-flowing rivers and wild trout fisheries by combining incentive-based conservation measures on rivers that flow across private lands with new Wild and Scenic River designations for select rivers that flow across public lands. Only by combining protections on public lands and private lands can we truly protect Montana's rivers from headwaters to mouth.

To that end, PRC joined with American Rivers, the Clark Fork Coalition, the

Greater Yellowstone Coalition and American Whitewater in formal partnership for this campaign. 2013 promises to be an active year for Montanans for Healthy Rivers as the campaign begins its outreach and public education efforts. Initial efforts are focused on educating audiences sympathetic to the goals of the campaign, such as conservation groups, outfitters, guides and other recreational interests. PRC Executive Director, John Kober, also recently met with Governor Steve Bullock and Senator Jon Tester's State Director to inform them of the campaign.

The private lands prong of this campaign has been given a boost by the recently passed *Water Resources and Development Act of 2013* (WRDA). Senator Baucus was able to secure \$30 million for proactive, incentive-based river conservation and flood mitigation projects. Passage of WRDA by the Senate bodes well for the success of our Montana campaign.

Make sure to check out www.healthyriverst.org to learn more about this ambitious campaign.

EarthShare Oregon

PRC is a proud member of EarthShare Oregon. What does this mean to you? If you work for the State of Oregon, the Federal Government, Kaiser Permanente, NW Natural, PGE or one of more than 100 participating companies, you can choose to have a donation sent automatically to your favorite Oregon conservation groups, including PRC. EarthShare's workplace and online giving options are easy ways for you to share responsibility for stewarding Oregon's environmental legacy.



If your workplace is not currently involved in an EarthShare giving campaign and you would like to participate, EarthShare can work with your employer to set up a program that meets your company's needs.

For more information, visit www.earthshare-oregon.org

Legacy Giving

Have you considered what legacy you will leave behind when you are gone? If leaving a legacy of preserving the best rivers and watersheds in the Pacific Northwest is important to you we hope you will consider a legacy gift to PRC.

There are many different ways to make a legacy gift to PRC. Please consult your tax advisor or estate planning professional to determine which is best for you, but here are some options:

Cash

Funding a gift with cash is one of the simplest ways to create a planned gift.

Bequest

You can name PRC in your will or trust. Contact us for sample bequest language.

Stock

A gift of appreciated securities or other assets could avoid capital gains while providing a tax deduction.

Other Options

Include life income gifts such as charitable gift annuities or charitable remainder trusts, life insurance policies, gifts of retirement funds (IRAs), and gifts of real estate in which a life estate is retained.

Please contact PRC to discuss how these options might work for you. If you have already named PRC in your estate plans, please let us know. If you wish to designate your gift to support a specific PRC program, please consult the PRC Development Director.

Recognition of our River Guardians

PRC would like to recognize and show our appreciation for our River Guardians, supporters who participate in our monthly giving program throughout the year:

Christ Bouneff
Kathy Cashman
Megan Chinburg
Ellen Chu
Maurice Cooper
Bill Gardner
George and Debbie Grable
Roger Hall
Wendy Hambridge
James Koenig
John Lawrence Jr., Ph.D.
Jon Lund
Nathan Mantua
Mary Ann Matthews
Kay O'Dierno
Rebecca Ramage
Nancy Schary
Jim Scott, M.D.
Jack and Shirley Sonnichsen
Robert T. Souers
Mitchell Van Hecke
David Wilson

If you have any questions about becoming a River Guardian, feel free to contact us at info@pacificrivers.org

THANK YOU!

A special thank you to our supporting foundations

Patagonia
The Firedoll Foundation
The Giles W. and Elise G. Mead Foundation
The Lazar Foundation
The Meyer Memorial Trust
The North Umpqua Foundation
The Northwest Fund for the Environment

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The Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Inc.
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The John and Betty Soreng Environmental Fund
Tahoe Oral Surgery and Implant Center
Wai Stand Up Paddle Board

What's Next for PRC?

PRC has teamed up with Eugene-based Beyond Toxics to develop a new campaign to investigate the use of dangerous herbicides on private forestlands. The *Oregon Forest Practices Act* (OFPA) sanctions the use of these toxic chemicals, including Atrazine, which is banned in Europe because of its potential to cause birth defects in people, wildlife and native aquatic species. The Oregon Health Authority has confirmed the presence of Atrazine in people living near private forestlands around Triangle Lake. Adding urgency to this issue is Congressman DeFazio's proposed O&C legislation, which would extend the OFPA to 1.5 million acres of public lands and allow the use of these chemicals on federal lands where they are currently banned.

PRC plans to analyze existing information on the effects that spraying these chemicals have on salmon populations and drinking water. We will also seek to challenge the OFPA and its outdated and insufficient protections for clean water and rivers. We hope you will give us your support and feedback on this new effort by PRC to help curb herbicide use on Oregon's private lands.



Thank You, Chris and Thuan!

We want to give a special shout out to our summer interns, Chris Thomas and Thuan Chau, as they finish up their time at PRC.

**We really
appreciate
all their hard
work!**



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**PROTECTING
& RESTORING
RIVERS
FOR 25 YEARS**