

OFCO NEWS

Newsletter of the Olympia Forest Coalition

March 2003

Conference on Models for National Forest Protection - Save May 10-11!

The Olympic Forest Coalition, joined by the Olympic National Forest, Evergreen State College Masters of Environmental Studies Program, Olympic Park Associates, Sasquatch Group (Sierra Club) and others, is organizing a conference on **Models for National Forest Protection**, to be held at The Evergreen State College in Olympia on Saturday, May 10, 2003. On May 11 we will offer a series of optional field trips, including three to the Olympic National Forest.

Olympia resident Bonnie Phillips is the central organizer, working through an internship with OFCO as part of her graduate studies at Evergreen. She is joined by Liz Tuttle of Port Angeles, an intern with OFCO through her environmental graduate program at Antioch College in Seattle. Other OFCO Board members and volunteers, along with students from Evergreen, are also part of the organizing team.

U.S. Rep. Jay Inslee has tentatively agreed to be our keynote speaker. Panel discussions will follow, one comprising environmental representatives discussing the basics of each model (Wilderness, Roadless Areas, Old Growth Protection, and "End Commercial Logging"). In the second panel, spokespersons outside the environmental community will discuss barriers to, and opportunities for, collaboration on various protection models.

In the afternoon session, attendees can choose from several options for two sets of participatory breakout sessions. Finally, a plenary session will feature a presentation by Evergreen undergraduate students on their work in a special curriculum program, "Protecting Washington's Wilderness." They will soon publish a book on the subject.

We have set low entrance fees: Students, free; Others, \$10-25 sliding scale. Because this is a subsidized conference, any donations are truly welcome!

By late March we will have a separate conference page on our web site: www.olympicforest.org. Our next

newsletter (late April) will carry the full agenda. Please plan ahead! You may register at the door, but a preliminary head count will be critical to estimating how much coffee and tea to have at the ready, how many conference packets to make, and so forth.

Make sure you mark the dates on your calendar NOW. We hope to see you there.

Alex Bradley Moves to Her Southern Home

Those who know Alex understand that she was the heart and soul of our parent organization, the Quilcene Ancient Forest Coalition, and the chief motivator for forming the expanded, forest-wide Olympic Forest Coalition. Those who know Alex well may also remember that she spent one month a year in her southern home on the Yucatan Peninsula.

We bade Alex a good vacation when she left in November; and had a lot of mixed feelings when she returned in December to tell us she had a job offer and was soon heading back south. Mixed, of course, because we knew we would seriously miss her as a friend and colleague. But we also know that this opportunity was her heart's desire.

Alex left in January and now lives in Akumal, a friendly community an hour or two south of Cancun, on the Caribbean Coast. She is serving as an accountant and database expert for an environmental center whose focus is on saving the coral reefs and endangered species from sewage-based pollution. She will be spending a year in Akumal, and then, who knows? Alex has left all her options open! We hope she will come back to Port Townsend, but we wish her well wherever her heart takes her next. **Hasta luego (see you later), NOT adios (goodbye), Amiga!**

OFCO Comments on Forest Service Project Proposals . . .

A central focus for OFCO involves closely monitoring agency project proposals on Olympic National Forest from the scoping through implementation phases, providing feedback to the Forest Service at each interval. By submitting formal, written comments, as well as maintaining an informal dialogue with the Forest Service, OFCO's goal is to help ensure that projects are carried out in the most ecologically sensitive manner possible. Collaboration with the agency for the benefit of local ecosystems and watersheds is OFCO's highest calling. We are, however, greatly concerned about increased logging levels being sought by the Bush administration, suggesting that there may be more to monitor, discuss with the Forest Service, and challenge if necessary in the near future.

Access and Travel Management (ATM). OFCO has recently provided input to the Forest Service on two topics of interest. One of these entails a draft proposal for revising the Access and Travel Management plan, which sets maintenance prescriptions for the Forest's massive and damaging network of roads. Happily, the Forest Service has proposed that over seven hundred miles, or approximately one-third of the current road total, be decommissioned (i.e., closed, obliterated, and restored to natural conditions). OFCO's comments on the ATM draft (available on our website) applaud the agency's recognition of the need to act aggressively in addressing the crisis of the Forest's failing road system. We have additionally highlighted several other problematic roads in our comments, not yet acknowledged by the Forest Service, that are of equal priority for being permanently put to bed to meet appropriate restoration objectives.

Snow Salmon Timber Sale. The controversial Snow Salmon timber sale has also garnered significant attention from OFCO and other conservation groups. This sale's environmental assessment (EA) describes the proposed action as a commercial thin of 787 acres, in twenty stands of 70-year old trees, within the Snow Creek and Salmon Creek watersheds. Over *nine miles* of temporary road would be constructed to facilitate this logging, ostensibly for the purpose of accelerating the development of a complex, late successional forest structure.

OFCO's comments to the Forest Service, based upon review of the Snow Salmon EA and subsequent field trips

to the sale units, have called into question the agency's characterization of these stands as largely uniform. Indeed, the units are quite varied in their composition, with most exhibiting robust characteristics that would likely be undermined via mechanical "stand enhancement." Economic factors in the sale are also inadequately addressed in the EA. Most disconcerting, however, are the startling road construction plans within an already excessively roaded area. New road building to this extent, even if temporary, would further compromise an already degraded watershed's functioning for a decade or more. The public now awaits the Forest Service's decision on the Snow Salmon sale, with hope that the original proposal is greatly improved upon. Correspondingly, upon release of this decision, OFCO will determine what subsequent position or action is necessary on its part.

Dosewallips Road: We just received a revised version of the Dosewallips Washout Environmental Assessment as we were putting this newsletter to bed. Comments are due March 28. If you want more information on this please email Jim Scarborough: Jim@olympicforest.org.

TESC Students Ready Book on Washington's Wilderness

Evergreen State College in Olympia has been offering a three-quarter program in 2002-2003 called Protecting Washington's Wilderness. These students are studying the important figures that helped pass the 1984 wilderness bill; while also researching current wilderness and other protection proposals, as well as related environmental issues on the unprotected areas. Two students, Lana Byal and Rick Darnell, have been assigned to learn and write about the Olympic Peninsula's wildlands. Bonnie Philips has visited their class to discuss the "Spotted Owl" years and other issues facing Washington State environmentalists, and has been interviewed by Lana. Rick attended our most recent OFCO meeting. They will both be attending a meeting OFCO has arranged with Olympic National Forest Supervisor Dale Hom. And they, as well as other students, will be an integral part of our conference on **Models for National Forest Protection**. We all look forward to reading their upcoming book!

...While Rollbacks on National Forests Continue

Last month we reported new threats to the Olympic National Forest. You can read our comments on changes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Appeals Regulations at www.olympicforest.org, our web site. Comments to the National Forest Management Act have a new deadline, April 7. Later in March, we'll post comments on additional proposed NEPA revisions.

Both NEPA and NFMA were enacted by Congress and signed by the president, so changes must again go through Congress and the president. But regulations under these laws are subject to administrative rule-changes. Public comment -- though often unheeded -- is part of the process. The NEPA changes so far include attempts to put more management activities into a classification known as Categorical Exclusions (CEs). Under a CE, no environmental analysis is required, nor are citizens allowed to appeal the project.

The federal government has just announced a new web site: www.regulations.gov. Go there and write *Forest Service* in the appropriate box; you will get details of the regulation changes and the comment deadlines.

Other potential changes on the Olympic involve use of the Healthy Forest Initiative (as yet ill-defined) for increased timber cutting volume, as well as the so-called Forest Stewardship program passed in the recent Omnibus spending bill, which will allow the Forest Service to contract with private corporations -- for services such as clearing brush and replanting -- while reimbursing them with trees to cut and process. This *quid pro quo* is commonly called "goods for services," and sounds benign until you think about it a bit.

This all works out to more logging on the Olympic National Forest. OFCO has set up a meeting with Forest Supervisor Dale Hom in mid-March to discuss this at greater length. We'll report on this in the next newsletter. Our May conference will include a panel called *Threats to the Northwest Forest Plan*, including an environmental attorney, the Forest Service Representative to the Regional Ecosystem Office, and a timber industry representative.

There are definite threats, and there are "could be" threats. We are incrementally piecing this all together so that we can provide increasingly clear information to you.

Friday announcements, the Tongass Plan and other bad news: Citizen rights continue to erode. On Friday, February 28, the Forest Service released a supplemental EIS for management of the Tongass National Forest. According to a Sierra Club press release:

"Today's decision...is especially egregious because there is very little that Americans will be able to do to scrutinize or challenge [it]. A rider attached to the recently passed 2003 Omnibus Appropriations bill this month by Senator Ted Stevens (R-AK) prohibits the public from seeking administrative appeal or judicial review of the Tongass wilderness decision.

"Combined with the Bush administration's attempts to weaken or eliminate the landmark Roadless Rule, today's decision on the Tongass could leave large swaths of Alaska's wild forests open to the timber industry."

Fridays and holidays are typically times when the public is distracted. Saturday is the day that the fewest people read the headlines or watch the news. Other examples of the Bush administration's Friday (and near holiday) announcements:

Friday, Jan 17, 2003 — released Draft Environmental Impact Statement for expanded drilling in the NPR-A (Western Arctic).

Friday, Jan. 10, 2003 — released Final Environmental Impact Statement authorizing largest oil and gas project ever on public lands (39,000 new wells in the Power River Basin of Wyoming and Montana).

Friday, Jan 10, 2003 — proposed guidance restricting scope of Clean Water Act

Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2002 (**Christmas Eve**) — Interior Department released a new rule allowing states and local jurisdictions to use Revised Statute (RS) 2477 to turn old trails, abandoned dirt roads, and stream beds into new highways (published in Federal Register on Jan. 6, 2003)

Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2002 (**Thanksgiving week**) — proposed revisions to the National Forest Management Act

Friday, Nov. 22, 2002 — announced proposed new rules to weaken the Clean Air Act (New Source Review). The rules were entered into the Federal Register on New Year's Eve, 2002. No public comment period followed. Instead, they relied on comments about a proposal that the Clinton Administration put out in 1996 and 1998. The public was shut out of the most recent round.

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Of Carpetbaggers and Snake Oil Salesmen

by Jim Scarborough

(Our positions on issues are often based on our life experience as well as current realities. Jim is the son and grandson of coal miners, from a small town in Virginia's Appalachian Mountains. He has had personal experience with "carpetbaggers and snake oil salesmen." Ed.)

Hidden within the shadows of America's market place and political apparatus, teams of ravenous piranhas lie in wait, ready to spring upon hapless victims at the most opportune moment. A curious breed, these piranhas lack the gills and protruding fangs we expect; instead they typically sport \$1,000 suits, flawless hair, and smiles that could light up a conifer forest. That is, prior to the conifer forest being cut to the ground, at the piranhas' behest. Choice prey for these slick devils is invariably the vulnerable and weakened sort -- most often struggling rural communities, with adjacent public forestlands. A balanced meat and vegetable diet, if you will.

Call them carpetbaggers or snake oil salesmen, or just plain con men; these opportunists descend on remote towns like anvils dropped from tenth story windows. Their motivation is painfully simple: political gain for themselves, financial gain for their buddies in the private sector. Nowhere recently has this scenario played out in more classic fashion than in Undersecretary of Agriculture Mark Rey's visit to Republic, WA in January. Aware that many townspeople were alarmed over the potential closure of the local sawmill, Rey saw an opportunity to further stoke the coals. With vocal, misplaced blame directed by some at Clinton-era national forest policies and local conservationists, his timing was perfect.

Standing with such timber industry allies as U.S. Congressman George Nethercutt, State Lands Commissioner Doug Sutherland and state Senator Bob Morton, Rey delivered his pitch for saving the mill by proposing accelerated logging on nearby Colville National Forest. In carefully phrased remarks that would have made Clinton himself blush, Rey made clear that any hitch in his proposal resulting in subsequent closure of the mill could be attributed to non-compliant environmentalists. With that, the well-fed piranha departed as quickly as he came, racing back to D.C. to be congratulated by the timber executives who helped bankroll George W. Bush's presidential campaign. Meanwhile, "surviving" stakeholders in Republic were left to forge a plan of desperation

with the browbeaten Forest Service, all the while casting a wary eye on those who still believe that intact forests are actually good for communities.

Never mind that lumber markets are now in a hole (pushed there largely by cheap Canadian imports); that technologically outdated mills are no longer competitive; that logging levels on private and state lands are still grossly unsustainable; that over the years only *four* timber sales on Colville National Forest have been stopped by the local Kettle Range Conservation Group; or that Washington State is experiencing perhaps its worst recession in 30 years. Nah, it's gotta be Bubba's and the greenies' fault, or so Mark Rey and his cronies would tell us.



But why fret about this issue here, hours away from Republic? Consider the Olympic Peninsula in this same context. Its timber job numbers shrank dramatically from their peak in the '60s and early '70s (long before harvest reductions took effect). Consider also that the Peninsula is subject to the same economic factors presently strangling the rest of the state, with all the attendant feelings of helplessness and anger. In our own neck of the woods we can and should expect repeated invasions by profiteers sowing the seeds of discontent via unfounded accusations and false promises. Former Senator Slade Gorton, of course, was a master at this sleight of hand, but a new generation of piranhas cometh.

What to do then when this occurs? Conservationists have recognized the need to build and maintain trusting, collaborative relationships with local residents and agency personnel. These efforts must be redoubled, given that only a tightly knit community fabric is capable of adequately repelling the Mark Reys of the world. Yet in this endeavor, we must be equally steadfast in declaring our ongoing passion in defense of Olympic's native forests. We must clearly and concisely state that wrecked forests are in every way contradictory to the health of human communities. And when an official hotshot rolls into town suggesting otherwise, as they will, we should be willing to expose that person in no uncertain terms as a threat to the place we call home.

Countercurrents: Water and Fish in the Quilcene Watershed

By Ted Labbe, Habitat Biologist, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

We all treasure our public lands for the variety of functions and values they provide: wilderness recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, old-growth forests, and clean drinking water. Conflicts between water use and endangered fish are common across the West, but many in the relatively water-rich Puget Sound area believe these conflicts are remote from our reality. In fact, such disagreements are common in our region. We have one in our own backyard in the Big and Little Quilcene watersheds, in the northeast corner of the Olympic Peninsula.

The City of Port Townsend maintains a municipal water diversion facility on the Big Quilcene at rivermile (RM) 9.4, and another smaller facility on the Little Quilcene River at RM 7.2. The rivers and diversions are an important source of clean drinking water for the

conditions, rendering them particularly vulnerable to additional habitat impacts such as water withdrawal and riparian forest degradation (Lichatowich 1994). A recent habitat assessment identified low stream flows as a major limiting factor for summer chum in both the Big and Little Quilcene rivers (WDFW and PNPTT 2001). Two recent instream flow studies illustrate the sensitivity of the lower river to human-induced flow manipulations (WDOE 1999, Hosey and Associates 1985). Given the natural watershed constraints and the presence of at-risk fish stocks, many believe it unconscionable that any water withdrawal is permitted during the low flow period (July through mid November).

Recently, a multi-stakeholder watershed planning group recommended investigating additional off-river

Conflicts between water use and endangered fish are common across the West...We have one in our own backyard.

residents of Port Townsend and are crucial to the operation of the Port Townsend Paper Company mill, one of the largest employers in east Jefferson County. Downstream reaches of both rivers are also critical habitat for threatened Hood Canal summer chum salmon, as well as coho and fall chum salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. Historically, the Big Quilcene River supported a native run of Chinook salmon that has been extirpated. Both Hood Canal summer chum and Puget Sound Chinook salmon are listed as "threatened" on the Endangered Species Act.

While the City monitors stream flows to maintain a minimum flow of 27 cubic feet per second in the Big Quilcene River, in most years one-third to one-half of the total river flow is diverted during the late summer-early fall period. During this period, summer chum salmon migrate into and spawn in the river, and other resident fish experience elevated water temperatures resulting from degraded riparian habitat and low stream flows. As a result of reduced flows, many biologists believe summer chum are forced to spawn in less favorable areas, reducing over-winter survival of incubating eggs in the streambed.

Lying in the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains, the Big and Little Quilcene rivers experience low summer stream flows that limit local fish stocks under natural

water storage options to reduce the need for withdrawals during the late summer critical low flow period. Over claims by the City that such options would be too costly, the planning group has sought a grant from the Washington Department of Ecology to study additional water storage sites and options. The City's existing water storage reservoir at Lords Lake has limited capacity, and probably could not be expanded. Thus, at present, the City's thirst for Big and Little Quilcene river water can only be maintained by continuous diversion. During a typical year, city water use averages 1.0-1.2 million gallons/day vs. the paper mill's 12-14 million gallons/day. It is currently unknown how much diverted water is lost to leakage from Lords Lake or the aging pipeline network.

Another wrinkle in the story are indirect impacts to the area's Indian Tribes, which rely on the health of fish, shellfish, and wildlife populations for their economic and cultural well-being. With habitat-induced salmon declines, the viability of Tribal fisheries has been undermined. Over the last 10 years the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Quilcene Fish Hatchery has supplemented summer chum salmon in the Big Quilcene River, and the Tribes have made significant changes to their fisheries to minimize interceptions of this imperiled stock. Meanwhile, relatively small gains in habitat protection and restoration

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Quilcene, from page 5

have been made over this period.

In addition to downstream flow effects, there are other impacts from these diversion facilities. Although the diversion dams are upstream of natural barriers that limit anadromous salmon passage, resident cutthroat trout are present in the upper portions of both watersheds. And while the Little Quilcene diversion allows for fish passage, the older Big Quilcene diversion dam does not. In addition, the Big Quilcene facility access road runs adjacent to the river for 2.5 miles constricting the channel and limiting habitat-forming tree fall into the river.

As forest activists, we have a voice in this matter. In 2000, the City initiated the renewal process for their special use permit to divert and convey Big and Little Quilcene river water across ONF lands, triggering NEPA. Since the initial scoping meetings in March-April 2002, the City and ONF have been preparing an Environmental Assessment. Once the EA is published and distributed, there will be a 30-day public comment period after which a decision will be made to re-issue the special use permit with or without constraints and mitigation measures. The release of the EA is anticipated sometime this spring.

The City and ONF staffs steadfastly maintain that the USFS does not have authority over water right matters -- which authority, they argue, rests solely with the State. However, in the Methow watershed of eastern Washington, the continued operation of private irrigation ditches crossing NF lands *was* conditioned on certain monitoring and mitigation measures by area farmers as a result of water withdrawal impacts on downstream threatened Chinook salmon. Furthermore, the USFS has explicit requirements under the Northwest Forest Plan to:

1. "Identify in-stream flows needed to maintain riparian resources, channel conditions, and fish passage" (LH-1, ROD p. C-36);
2. For surface water development proposals, "give priority emphasis to in-stream flows and habitat conditions that maintain or restore riparian resources, favorable channel conditions, and fish passage" (LH-2, p. C36); and
3. "Adjust existing leases, permits, rights-of-way, and easements to eliminate adverse effects that retard or prevent the attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives" (LH-3, p. C37).

□

References:

- Hosey and Associates. 1985. Instream flow and aquatic mitigation proposal for the Big Quilcene Hydroelectric Project. Bellevue, WA.
- Lichatowich, J. 1994. The status of anadromous fish stocks in the streams of eastern Jefferson County.

Dungeness-Quilcene Pilot Project, Jamestown S' Klallam Tribe, Sequim, WA.

USDA and USDI. 1994. Record of decision for amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management planning documents within the range of the Northern Spotted Owl. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, and U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management.

WDOE. 1999. Big Quilcene River fish habitat analysis using the instream flow incremental methodology. Open file technical report 99-05. Washington Dept. of Ecology, Water Resources Program, Olympia, WA.

WDFW and PNPTT. 2000. Summer chum salmon conservation initiative: an implementation plan to recover summer chum salmon in the Hood Canal and Strait of Juan de Fuca region. Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and Point No Point Treaty Tribes, Olympia, WA.

What you can do: Write ONF and tell them your reservations with the unconditional renewal of the City of Port Townsend's special use permit for municipal water diversion on our public forest lands. Tell the Forest Service that you are concerned about impacts to downstream-threatened salmon populations, and the aquatic ecosystem. Ask them to require more rigorous stream flow monitoring by the City of Port Townsend in downstream areas used by salmon. Tell them real solutions to reduce water withdrawal impacts on threatened salmon are needed during the critical late summer-early fall period, including: mandatory water conservation measures such as repair of leaky pipeline segments, construction of an additional off-site water storage facility to eliminate the need for water withdrawal during July-mid November, and development of an effective water recycling/re-use plan by the City and mill.

David Craig, District Manager
Olympic National Forest
Hood Canal Ranger District
PO Box 68
Hoodsport, WA 98548

Rollbacks, from page 3

Friday, May 3rd, 2002 — announced new rules creating loopholes for Mountaintop removal mining allowing mining companies to blow the tops of mountains and dump the waste into rivers and streams.

Friday, March 30th, 2001 — removed Clinton rule requiring that Federal contractors have to have complied with U.S. environmental laws."

Goblin Knoll -Canyon of the Dungeness

by John Woolley

(John, an inveterate hiker on the Olympic National Forest, will be writing about some of his trips to help lure you into the backcountry. He and Jim Scarborough took this hike on Saturday, February 22, 2003. Ed.)

Jim and I accessed Cranberry Lake by surviving the many dips and gullies of a typical post-logging Olympic National Forest road. No cranberries grow on the lake, but the appearance is similar. Some open waters, but most of this old glacial gouge is marsh and swamp. Several trees actually grow in the middle of the “lake.”

We descend 500 feet down the steep, dry ravine that would carry the overflow from the lake. Very limited use of this wetland/lake gives way to faint deer trails and a strong sense of remoteness. So we are surprised to hear voices below and the plunk of rocks being tossed into the river. Six young men and boys are camped across the Dungeness River on a brushy ledge just above the round rock riverside. We admire their sense of adventure; it’s still winter, the nights are long, and there is no trail access to their camp. Their wet-wood fire smokes listlessly. They can’t see us, and the river sounds cover any noise we might make. Jim is tempted to make a few Sasquatch calls for their entertainment, but we continue on into the vastness of “Orc Bottom.”



A few big trees and mostly medium-sized hemlocks dominate this dark place. We sit by the river for lunch. Unusually clear, the river flow appears below normal, with surprisingly mild rapids and some vivid dark green pools near steep banks. Common in the lowlands, these glacial erratics recall the power of the Ice Age glaciers that brought these rocks south from Vancouver Island. The continental ice sheet was so deep that it nearly reached the 4200-foot summit of what we now call Mt. Zion.

We clamber over moss-covered ancient deadfall, often hollow from many years of undisturbed decomposition. Looking for a large knoll I visited more than twenty years ago, Jim senses we’re nearing the slope edge of the canyon. But no, we instead rediscover the massive knoll, completely surrounded by bottomland, its top well over 100 feet above our heads. Not indicated on topographical maps, it is indeed a long ago island in the middle of an Ice Age river, probably initially honed by glaciers.

Climbing to the top of Goblin Knoll is a bit of a scramble. The mosses and ground plants are inches thick, covering the rock of the promontory. On top, the frilly fern ground cover is Elysian. Bottomland trees still tower above us. The summit runs elongated for sixty feet, offering several perches to view the sub-canopy forest.

Leaving much of the bottom unexplored, we work our way upriver. Having decided to loop back to Jim’s car, we hope the riverside offers a hospitable route. It doesn’t for very long. So we climb up, then back down, continuing into a narrowing gorge. One area even has a sandy beach by a deep green pool, with 15-foot tall boulders on our side of the river. Jim suggests it would make a mythical swimming hole on a warm summer day. Fat chance!



The canyon walls close in again, so we start up slope. Large Douglas-firs grow beneath rock walls, above where we ascend on barely discernible deer routes. A steep slope between rock faces lets us continue up to about 500 feet above the river. We reach a small summit, with a ravine on the right and a 60-foot deep graben between us and the continuation of the slope. The topos again don’t reflect this detail, so we descend and contour up another 200+ feet, finally approaching a u-shaped depression that leads northeast back to the grasslands bordering Cranberry Lake. We startle nine ducks (probably mallards). An aggressive exotic, herb Robert, is here, as are a few very gnarled apple trees. Hard to tell if these trees will leaf; otherwise there is no evidence of any human activity. I recall the fresh bear scat I saw here last May. Almost regretfully, we climb through trees to reach the road and a short walk back to the car.



Jim notes that our access road appears to border the Caraco Cat old-growth logging operation from the salvage rider days, circa 1995/6. We had earlier caught sight of a “boundary clear-cut” sign on a tree as we descended from Cranberry Lake. Fortunately, this cut was not carried out. I am continually rewarded by my visits to these de facto remnants of wilderness along the Dungeness Canyon. They are so near human encroachment, yet reflect a feeling of long ago and far away.

Memberships and Donations Needed!

Thanks to all of you for past contributions. We hope you will be generous with new memberships and donations. With greater threats to the Olympic National Forest looming, we will be far more active in the future, but only with your help. We also need more volunteers. There are many ways to contribute to the Olympic Forest Coalition. Membership in OFCO is:

- \$25 - regularly annual membership dues
- \$10 - living lightly membership dues
- \$___ - all donations gratefully accepted

Please send your check to: Bonnie Phillips, OFCO, 606 Lilly Road NE #115, Olympia, WA 98506. If you are interested in volunteering for OFCO, give Bonnie a call and she'll plug you in.

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Our web site: Check www.olympicforest.org to read OFCO's comments to Olympic National Forest Service and to changes in regulations governing our national forests.

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