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KS WILD NEWS

The Journal of the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center

Spring 2006

Bush Administration Invades Roadless Areas in the Siskiyous

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KS WILD

Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center
PO Box 332, Williams OR, 97544
541-846-9273 - www.kswild.org



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KS Wild Staff

Lesley Adams
Outreach Coordinator

Erin Madden
Staff Attorney

David Levine
Administrative Director

George Sexton
Conservation Director

Stephanie Tidwell
Executive Director

Joseph Vaile
Campaign Director

Nurelle Harrigan
Door Canvass

Offices

Membership:
P.O. Box 332
Williams, OR 97544
541-846-9273

Conservation:
P.O. Box 102
Ashland, OR 97520
541-488-5789

Legal:
917 SW Oak, #414
Portland, OR 97205
503-796-7811

www.kswild.org

Cover Photo Oregon's largest unprotected roadless area:
Mike's Gulch, in bold fall color, is in the South Kalmiopsis Roadless Area. The administration is making the unpopular proposal for logging in this rare roadless treasure.
Photo by Rolf Skar.

Your Letters Made a Difference

Thanks to everyone who wrote letters and made phone calls on the Big Butte Springs timber sale, located in Medford's municipal watershed. The Rogue River National Forest proposed this sale in early 2005 on the western slopes of Mt. McLaughlin. Thanks to public input, the Forest chose to implement a modified Alternative 3 in Big Butte Springs that thins second growth white fir in previously logged stands, decommissions 32 miles of roads, and drops all of the proposed old-growth logging.



A tremendous old-growth unit that was dropped from the final project thanks to people like you!

KS WILD BENEFIT

David Jacobs-Strain Trio

A modern troubador of roots & blues

April 16, 8pm - Williams Grange, Williams OR

Experience blues singer-guitarist phenom David Jacobs-Strain and support the work of KS Wild.

"David Jacobs-Strain is arguably one of the finest blues musicians of his generation. Barely into his twenties, his guitar virtuosity, his voice and his song-writing would be the envy of most musicians twice his age." - Mark Drnek, WSRK, New York, April 2005

KS Wild's Mission:

The Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center works to protect and restore the outstanding biological diversity of the Klamath-Siskiyou and south Cascadian Ecoregions of southwest Oregon and northwest California. We use environmental law, science, education and collaboration to defend healthy ecosystems and help build sustainable communities.

KS WILD NEWS is produced by the KS Wild staff.

Many thanks to all our supporters:

Volunteers, Collaborators, Artists and Musicians:

Brenna Bell, Ralph Bloemers, Kate Brandy, Susan Jane Brown, Grady Boyd, David Calahan, Cascadia Wildlands Project, Regina Castellon, Regina Chichizola, Sharon Duggan, Francis Eatherington, Elkovich & Heglie family, Forrest English, EPIC, Chris Fowler, Scott Greacen, Noah Greenwald, Kyle Haines, Scott Harding, Tracy Harding & family, Rob Harriman, Spencer Lennard, Tim Lewis, Jay Lininger, Ivan Maluski, Crystal McMahon, Jasmine Minbashian, Michael Moss, Joanne Navickas, Jamie O'Donnell, ONRC, Oregon Sierra Club, Oxygen Collective, PEAC, Stephanie Parent, Boyd Peters, Tim Ream, Red Buttes Wilderness Council, Lauren Regan, Melissa Schweisguth, Siskiyou Project, Rolf Skar, Liza Tran, Ben Waterman, Amaroq Weiss & many others.

Please support these businesses because they support us:

Ashland Food Co-op, Blue Fox Farm, Boone's Farm, Claudia Beausoleil Mediation and Detox International, Dagoba Chocolate, Dan the Backhoe Man Excavation, Greensprings Inn, Herb Pharm, Inc., Kalb Chiropractic, Momentum River Expeditions, MyCommunityMatters.net, Naturals of Ashland, Patagonia, Sandy Bar Nursery, Trillium Natural Foods, Williams General Store.

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KS Wild Board of Directors:

Jim Bowne, Susan Jane Brown, Shannon Clery, Liz Crosson, Jay Lininger, Stuart O'Neill, Keith Quick and Laurel Sutherlin.

Got Time This Summer?

KS Wild is busy field-checking timber sales, public land sales and Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) routes, and we could use your help! If you have some free time this summer, consider volunteering with us to field-check public land projects. Help protect the world-class Klamath-Siskiyou, and spend quality time outdoors!

Call 488-5789 or email lesley@kswild.org for more information.

Focus on our KS Wild Family

Susan Menanno

KS Wild is lucky to have Susan in our midst. She is an energetic wildlands advocate with decades of outdoor experience. Starting in 1974, Susan was a tree-planter for 11 years and was involved in the early analyses of the remaining roadless areas in the Klamath-Siskiyou Mountains. In 1985 she became a Wilderness Ranger and worked in Sky Lakes, Mt. Lakes, Rogue-Umpqua Divide, Kalmiopsis, Siskiyou and Red Buttes Wilderness Areas.

When Susan retired as a Wilderness Ranger, she founded the Red Buttes Wilderness Council (RBWC) to preserve the remaining 100,000 acres of roadless land adjacent to the Red Buttes. The RBWC is sponsored by KS Wild and we are proud to work with Susan to advocate for additional Wilderness along the spectacular Siskiyou Crest. Additionally, Susan is on the Board of Directors of the Soda Mountain Wilderness Council and continues to work for Wilderness protection in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. To learn more about the RBWC, visit www.RedButtesWilderness.org



Susan hiking through the Kangaroo Roadless Area adjacent to the Red Buttes Wilderness.



Townsend's Big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*)

Bats have always caught the imagination of people. While sanguivory (blood-eating) is often attributed to bats, less than 1% of bats subsist from eating blood. These largely night-time creatures are flying mammals that eat all kinds of things, including insects, fruit, nectar and fish. Bats make up 20% of the recognized mammals worldwide. While commonly utilized for vampire mythology, bats are rarely recognized for their contributions to insect control. Bat populations in North America have been declining since the 1940s.

Townsend's Big-eared bat resides in caves throughout western North America, from British Columbia to the Isthmus of Tehuantepec in Mexico, from sea level to 10,000 feet elevation.

These bats are generally in decline in most areas, and are listed as an Endangered species in Washington, a Sensitive species in Oregon, and a Species of Special Concern in Texas, Montana and California.

Bush Invades Siskiyou Roadless Areas Forest Service Proposes Roadless Logging at Biscuit

The Bush Administration intends to log the largest unprotected roadless forest in Oregon as part of the controversial Biscuit logging project. The Forest Service is pushing this destructive proposal despite the fact that roadless wildlands are supposed to be shielded from logging while state Governors and the administration negotiate state specific roadless conservation policies.



Photo by Rólf Skar

The greater Kalmiopsis Roadless Area is the largest unprotected roadless area in Oregon.

The North and South Kalmiopsis Roadless Areas surround the Kalmiopsis Wilderness in the Siskiyou National Forest. At 88,000 acres and 105,000 acres respectively, they are the largest unprotected roadless areas in Oregon. With the Kalmiopsis Wilderness at the core, they form a botanically diverse 370,000-acre wild, rugged landscape along the Pacific Coast that is home to some of the most valuable salmon and steelhead habitat in America.

"I again ask the Forest Service to defer logging in the Biscuit roadless areas while I pursue my objective of permanently protecting the 1.9 million acres of roadless areas in Oregon. "

- Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski to U.S. Forest Service, March 9, 2006

The Mike's Gulch logging sale, in the South Kalmiopsis, is above the National Wild & Scenic Illinois River. The Blackberry logging sale, in the North Kalmiopsis, is in the Indigo Creek Watershed, a major tributary of the National Wild & Scenic Rogue River.

The Roadless Area Conservation Rule was finalized in 2001 after years of study and 2.5 million comments in favor of protections. The rule shielded 58.5 million acres nationwide from logging and road building. In 2005, the Bush administration repealed the Roadless Rule. The proposed roadless logging sales at Biscuit would be the first of their kind, implementing the Bush decision to reopen roadless forests to unfettered logging. KS Wild is part of a national lawsuit challenging the repeal of this popular rule. Meanwhile, Governors are petitioning for protections in their state, in addition to a lawsuit filed on behalf of Oregon, California and New Mexico challenging the federal roadless repeal.

Please call Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth and tell him to: 1) Withdraw all roadless logging proposals in the Siskiyou National Forest; and 2) Restore a moratorium on national roadless area logging while protection issues remain unresolved.

Forest Service Chief Bosworth, USDA Forest Service
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0003
Phone: 202/205-1661; Fax: 202/205-1765; Email: dbosworth@fs.fed.us

For Sale: Your National Forests

Bush Budget Proposes to Sell Off Thousands of Acres of Forest Service Lands in the Klamath-Siskiyou For Development

by George Sexton



"We have fallen heirs to the most glorious heritage a people ever received, and each one must do his part if we wish to show that the nation is worthy of its good fortune."
 - Theodore Roosevelt

Republican President Theodore Roosevelt is widely credited as having given Americans the legacy of a National Forest System that belongs to each and every one of us. This legacy is the envy of the world. Not only do we have the right to visit, use and enjoy our public lands, we are literally co-owners of them, and as co-owners this heritage cannot be divested from us; it is every American's birthright.

Until now.

The most recent federal budget submitted by President Bush to Congress calls for selling off 300,000 acres of our National Forest lands across the country. Over 70,000 acres of Forest Service land in California is targeted for sale, while 10,000 acres in Oregon would be sold. Even more shocking is the Bush Administration's recent command to the BLM to identify an additional 500,000 acres of public lands for "disposal."

Starving Restoration and Feeding Exploitation

Senator Dianne Feinstein calls the Bush plan "crazy," saying: *"Here the administration wants to pass more tax cuts for the rich, and to pay the bill, they want to sell off public land - our nation's natural heritage."* Knight Ridder, 2/9/06

Beyond Big Timber

The Future of BLM Forests in Western Oregon

May 20th, 2006

Main 1 Center for the Arts - 821 North Riverside - Medford
 Various field trips will be offered on Sunday, May 21st.

As the Bureau of Land Management prepares to weaken environmental protections for nearly 2.5 million acres of public land, scientists, business owners, restoration foresters and community members will discuss the ecological, economic and social importance of BLM land.

Lunch Keynote: Writer, historian and radio commentator Russell Sadler

For more info and a schedule of events, visit www.kswild.org
 This event is free and open to the public

Sponsored by KS Wild, Siskiyou Project, Umpqua Watersheds, Friends of Deer Creek Valley, Legacy Lands Project, Oxygen Collective and Threatened and Endangered Little Applegate Valley

Photo by Francis Eatherington

Please Join KS Wild Today!

✓ Yes, I want to support KS Wild's efforts to protect the remaining wild forests of the Klamath-Siskiyou Ecoregion with a tax-deductible membership donation of:

\$20 \$50 \$100 Other \$

Name Date

Address

City State Zip

Email Phone (.....).....

Mail this form along with your membership donation to: KS WILD, P.O. Box 332, Williams, OR 97544

Featured Hike: Pluto's Cave

by Joseph Vaile

Pluto's Cave Recreational Area in northern California's Klamath National Forest is a wonderful day trip. An easy, half-mile hike through juniper and sage, with superb views of Mount Shasta, leads to the cavernous entrance. From here you can spelunk to your heart's content.

Pluto's Cave and over 30,000-acres on the Klamath National Forest could be sold to developers or timber companies; they are included in President Bush's plan to sell off public land to pay for his budget (see p. 3-4). Visit this land while you can!



View of Mt. Shasta near Pluto's Cave.

Formed from lava flows over 200,000 years ago, Pluto's Cave is a "lava tube". When the outer perimeter of a lava flow cools faster than the interior, a lava tube is formed. Settlers in present day eastern Siskiyou County discovered the cave when local rancher Nelson Cash stumbled upon it while searching for stray cattle in 1836. The cave is named after the Roman god of the underworld.



Pluto's Cave on the Klamath National Forest.

a camera so you can catch views of Mount Shasta and its unique lenticular clouds.

Getting There:

Directions to Pluto's Cave from Weed/I-5: Travel north on US Hwy. 97 about 7 miles to County Rd A12. Turn left (west) on A12. Pluto's Cave is about 3.3 miles west of 97 at the end of a short dirt road.

Former timber industry lobbyist and current Undersecretary of Agriculture (and boss of the Forest Service) Mark Rey is defending the proposed forest sell-off by contending that the money generated from the land sales will be plowed back into rural counties to fund the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self-Determination Act (County Payments). What Rey hasn't told the public is that the counties will be left high and dry once the money from selling off our public lands has been spent.

At the same time the Bush Administration says that rural schools should be funded (for the next 5 years) by selling off our National Forests, they are also proposing to drastically increase the timber sale budget for the Forest Service and the BLM. The 2007 Bush budget calls for increasing public subsidies for the federal timber sale program by \$31.3 million while cutting the overall Forest Service budget by \$140.8 million.

The upshot is that the Bush Administration wants to sell off the National Forests to pay for 5 years of assistance to rural Counties at the same time that they are increasing the Forest Service's timber sale budget and decreasing the restoration budget. The Bush Budget has Big Timber popping the champagne while rural school kids are left crying in their milk.

Local Forests to Get Hit Hard

Local Forest Service personnel were cut out of the planning process for the public lands sell-off; the list of public lands to be sold was developed by D.C.-based political appointees who in many cases have never been to the National Forests that they want to get rid of. Hence employees of the Klamath National Forest were surprised to learn that 30,000 acres of public lands near I-5 had been earmarked by the Bush Administration for sale and that over 3,000 of these acres were located in old-growth reserves. Similarly, local employees in the Rogue/Siskiyou National Forest were surprised to learn that popular public lands in the Upper Applegate Watershed, Big Butte Springs Watershed (Medford's source of drinking water) and Upper Rogue Watershed could be sold out of public ownership.

Rural Schools Deserve Better

By issuing the first directive in the history of the Forest Service to sell off public lands to the highest bidder, the Bush Administration is hoping to exploit the plight of rural communities in order to achieve developers' dreams of putting condos and second homes where our forests once stood.

Perhaps the most disturbing part of this scheme is that once the land sale money is spent, impoverished rural counties will be left with private stump-fields and housing developments that will do nothing to improve the economic stability of their communities.

What You Can Do To Help

The comment period on the public land sale ends May 1, 2006. Please send comments to: Email: SRS_Land_Sales@fs.fed.us; Fax: (202) 205-1604, or by mail: USDA Forest Service, SRS Comments, Lands 4S, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Mailstop 1124, Washington, DC 20250-0003. Please copy your comments to your Congresspeople.

For more information, please visit: www.kswild.org/KSNews/landsale

Operation Academic Freedom

by Joseph Vaile

Not all that often does Oregon State University research grab national headlines. The most recent case was earlier this year. This time the attention had less to do with unlocking hidden scientific secrets and more to do with the treatment graduate student Dan Donato received from OSU faculty, the Bush administration and pro-logging politicians.



Engineering Nature

Published in the prestigious journal *Science*, Donato's study was descriptively titled "Post-Wildfire Logging Hinders Regeneration and Increases Fire Risks." A mere one page in length, the findings were no surprise to those of us that visit National Forests freshly destroyed by aggressive logging.

To certain OSU faculty who would rather see engineered tree farms instead of nature taking its course, however, the research was a serious blow to their agenda. With no data or research, they tout the idea that logging and planting a tree farm after natural disturbance is "forest recovery". Of course, these professors and their programs are heavily dependent on money from logging companies.

Sessions Strikes Again

Some professors at OSU were so upset by the research they attempted to censor Donato by contacting editors of *Science* and requesting they not print the study. This effort was led by none other than Dr. John Sessions. You may remember him from the Biscuit timber sale; the Bush administration used his research to make Biscuit one of the largest logging plans in history.

Sessions claimed Donato reached false conclusions, even though independent peer reviewers evaluated the study (unlike Sessions' research). *Science* was undeterred by this politically-motivated move and ran the article in spite of the protests.

Operation Academic Freedom

Days after the study was published, the Bush administration pulled federal funding from the OSU researchers, citing contractual problems. This sent shock waves through the halls of academia. Part of a continuing and disturbing trend, scientific research that runs counter to the Bush administration's agenda is silenced. The message is, "if we don't like your results, we'll pull your funding." Thankfully, after an outcry from members of Congress and press reports around the country, the funding was restored.

Court Protects Old-Growth Species

by Erin Madden

In the fall 2005 issue of *KS Wild News* we told you about an important court challenge to the Bush administration's attempts to gut the protective measures of the Northwest Forest Plan. The Survey and Manage program requires land managers to look before they log by conducting surveys for rare species that inhabit old growth forests and buffer the species' habitat from development.



Photo by John Game

Clustered Lady Slipper

In 2004, the BLM and Forest Service did away with this program under a sweetheart settlement with the timber industry. *KS Wild* and friends sued, and in January a federal judge reinstated the program, holding that the agencies violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in their attempt to gut the program.

Dozens of timber sales, including several in the Klamath-Siskiyou region, are on hold until the BLM and Forest Service document compliance with Survey and Manage. This means that logging may not go forward until the agencies perform required surveys, institute buffers around protected species, and document compliance with the program. Depending on the size and location of buffers, hundreds of acres of old-growth forest may be taken off the chopping block. Thanks go to Stephanie Parent of the Pacific Environmental Advocacy Center and Pete Frost of the Western Environmental Law Center for your stellar representation of *KS Wild* in this litigation.

Threats Remain for One Survey and Manage Species

The red tree vole, a mammal that lives in the canopy of old growth forests, is one species listed under the Survey and Manage program that remains at risk. In 2001, the BLM and Forest Service amended the Survey and Manage program to include an annual review of species to decide whether to maintain or remove protections.

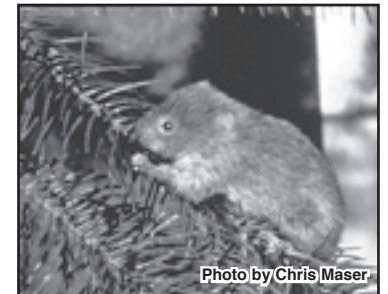


Photo by Chris Maser

Red Tree Vole

In 2003, the BLM and Forest Service decided to remove protections for the red tree vole in part of its range. This decision was made without any public input or NEPA review even though loss of protection would increase logging of old growth forests, impacting the vole and other wildlife species, as well as water quality and salmon runs. *KS Wild* and others challenged this decision and Judge Hogan recently ruled that the BLM did not violate NEPA. *KS Wild* appealed this ruling to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Stay tuned for future updates on our work to protect the red tree vole.

KS Wild Fights for Rare Salamander

State of California targets new species for extinction

by Stephanie Tidwell

Less than a year after a new species, the Scott Bar salamander, was discovered in the Klamath-Siskiyou, the California Department of Forestry (CDF) approved logging in approximately half of its known habitat. Although the Scott Bar salamander has one of the smallest ranges of any salamander, the agency removed protections nonetheless. The rationale: since it is a newly discovered species, it has no protections.



The Scott Bar and Siskiyou Mountains Salamanders (above) are some of the rarest salamanders in the nation.

In conjunction with this decision, CDF approved amendments to at least four timber harvest plans (THPs) allowing logging of Scott Bar salamander habitat. Amendments to the THPs were approved without public notice or comment. At the same time, California Department of Fish and Game is moving to remove the Scott Bar's close relative, the Siskiyou Mountains salamander, from the state Endangered Species Act list, a move sharply criticized by experts on these salamanders.

Does this sound more than just a little shady to you? KS Wild certainly thinks so, so in March, KS Wild filed suit in the California state court.

We hope to ensure additional protections for the Scott Bar salamander, give the public a voice in the management decisions for such a rare species, and hold the agencies accountable for their actions. Last year, we petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list both the Siskiyou Mountains and Scott Bar Salamanders under the federal Endangered Species Act and expect an initial decision on this petition by mid-April.

KS Wild Films and Hikes

April 25 - Film: Strange Days on Planet Earth - The One Degree Factor

May 21 - Hike: Mari Kelsey Timber Sale

May 23 - Film Night: Strange Days on Planet Earth - Predators

June 24 - Wilderness Week: Siskiyou Crest Day Hike

June 29 - Wilderness Week: Siskiyou Crest Evening Hike

July 1 - Wilderness Week: Zane Grey Roadless Area Hike

For details and more events, visit: www.kswild.org or call 488-5789

Star Chamber Inquisition

Back in Washington D.C., Representative Greg Walden (R-OR) continues advocating policies to mandate logging after natural disturbances. Walden's bill, the "Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act" (HR-4200), is likely headed to a committee vote this spring.

Walden, who received hundreds of thousands of dollars from timber interests for his election campaigns, was so enraged by the OSU research that he held a congressional field hearing in Oregon this March. The hearing functioned more like an inquisition of Donato's research than an objective look at the facts. Stacked with several pro-logging witnesses, Walden's hearing was an attempt to salvage his logging bill by discrediting science.



Congressman Jay Inslee asks questions at Greg Walden's hearing, while Walden and others wait to grill OSU graduate student Daniel Donato.

The Future of Science and Our Forests

Fortunately, the idea that forest recovery is accomplished by converting natural forests into engineered tree plantations is losing traction. It's more than a little ironic that the media attention garnered by the censorship attempts on Donato has had the most positive effect on public perception.

And what about John Sessions? He continues to get contracts to promote logging on federal land. Most recently he was granted a contract to come up with a logging model for BLM land in western Oregon. Despite his censorship efforts, he is still teaching at OSU and was not called to defend himself at Walden's field hearing.

TAKE ACTION:

Those who value national forests need to keep the heat on members of Congress. While Walden's bill has slowed down a bit because of the attention surrounding Donato's study, it may get a House vote this year. **Contact your Congressperson** and if you live or have relatives outside of the Northwest, tell them to call their representatives at 202-224-3121. **Ask that they vote against the Walden logging bill because it is anti-science and bad for National Forests.**

Klamath Forest Old-Growth Update

by George Sexton

Some of the Best Wildlife Habitat In the Lower 48 States

The Klamath National Forest in the far northern reaches of California is currently home to well-known at-risk species such as salmon, steelhead, and spotted owls as well as lesser-known old-growth associated species like goshawks, Pacific fishers and martens. The mountain trails, clear streams and old-growth forests of the Klamath are a world-renowned mecca for hikers, kayakers, bikers, bird watchers and nature lovers of all stripes.

Unfortunately, where most people see some of the last, best, unspoiled wildlands in the lower 48, the timber planners in the Klamath National Forest only see “decadent” old-growth that they wish to convert into industrial tree plantations for the benefit of the timber industry.

Three Terrible Timber Sales

Currently the timber planners in the Klamath National Forest are pushing three old-growth timber sales that would remove ancient forests that have stood tall since before our nation was founded.

1. The **Horse Heli Timber Sale** calls for logging 800 acres of mature and old-growth Shasta Red Fir forests along the Pacific Crest Trail on the Siskiyou Crest. The Siskiyou Crest is a rare “land bridge” that connects important wildlife habitat in the Klamath Mountains with other forests in the Cascades and Coastal Mountain Ranges. Such habitat connectivity is critically important in order to keep at-risk species from becoming genetically isolated.

2. The **Meteor Timber Sale** would log 744 acres in the spectacular Salmon River watershed, threatening ancient forests, spotted owl “critical habitat” and popular Wild and Scenic River corridors. It would also increase sediment levels in this important watershed for salmon and steelhead.

3. The **Knob Timber Sale** would log another 578 acres of old-growth forests in the Salmon River watershed. Currently these forests provide astounding recreational, wildlife and watershed benefits to the public. By removing the large fire resistant trees and replanting with young fiber plantations, this timber sale may increase the risk of a stand replacing fire event.



The Horse Heli timber sale targets high elevation forests in the mid-Klamath watershed on the spectacular Siskiyou Crest.

Standing Up For Watersheds and Wildlife

KS Wild, the Environmental Protection and Information Center (EPIC) and the Klamath Forest Alliance (KFA) are working hard to protect these three ancient forests.

1. On February 10, attorney Susan Jane Brown filed a legal complaint challenging the **Meteor old-growth timber sale** in the Sacramento Federal District Court on behalf of KS Wild, EPIC and KFA. Our complaint establishes that the Forest Service illegally authorized strychnine poisoning of native gopher populations as part of the timber sale process, illegally refused to consider reasonable alternatives to old-growth logging, and illegally refused to disclose the impacts of their old-growth logging proposal on water and wildlife. Oral argument in this case is scheduled for May 22nd.

2. On February 13, KS Wild submitted detailed comments on behalf of EPIC and KFA regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the **Horse Heli Siskiyou Crest timber sale** to the Klamath National Forest. While many Forest Service timber planners take the public commenting process very seriously, the Scott/Salmon Ranger District is known for ignoring public input in its rush to log ancient forests. We anticipate needing to file litigation this summer in order to protect the forests and watersheds of the Siskiyou Crest.

3. On February 15, attorney Marianne Dugan represented KS Wild, EPIC and KFA in front of the federal 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco challenging the **Knob timber sale** on the Salmon River. Arguments to the Court focused on the Forest Service’s plan to log forests designated as “critical” to the survival and recovery of the Spotted Owl and on the significant cumulative impacts of old-growth logging throughout the Salmon River watershed on wildlife and water quality. We anticipate a ruling in this case sometime in the next several months.

Get Involved

These are your forests and they need your help. Please contact the Klamath National Forest and let them know that these ancient forests should be protected. You can also help by attending KS Wild hikes to the Klamath and by contributing to our legal defense efforts.

Please visit KSWild/TimberSales/Klamath.org to stay updated on our efforts.

West Coast Fisheries Shut Down Ailed by water diversions, Klamath salmon still struggling

Federal managers announced intentions to shut down fisheries this summer from northern Oregon to Big Sur, south of San Francisco. Early in his term, Bush sided with farmers and continued to over-allocate water in the contentious Klamath basin. The following year, nearly 40,000 salmon died in the river due to a parasite that thrives in low water and high temperatures. Klamath River Fall Chinook numbers are still alarmingly low three years after the massive fish die-off.