

VOICE of the WILD OLYMPICS

Olympic Park Associates

Founded in 1948

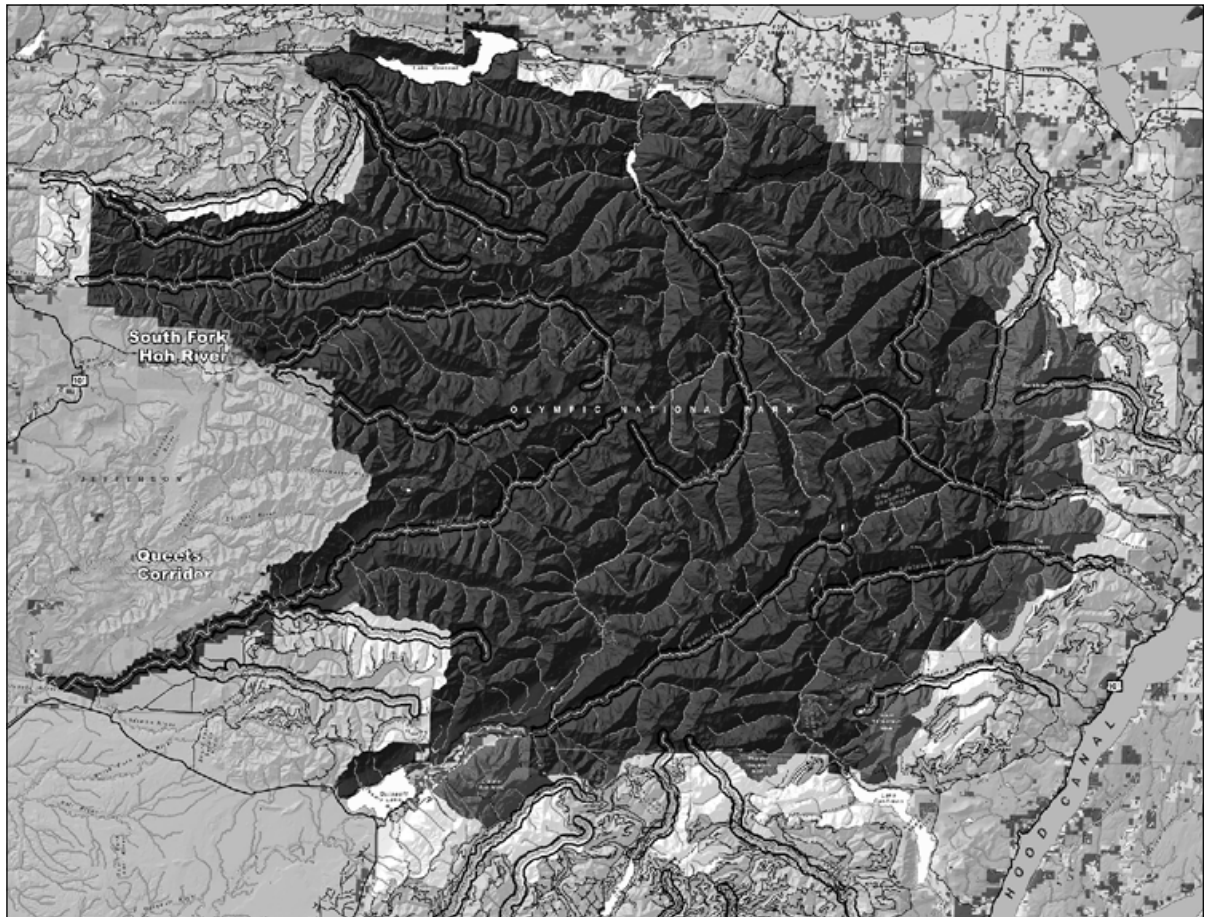
Vol. 19, Number 1
Spring
2011

New Wilderness for Olympic National Forest



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Lightest areas are proposed wilderness additions in Olympic National Forest. See Page 4.

by Tim McNulty

In 1984, Congress passed the landmark Washington Wilderness Act. OPA and its supporters spearheaded a successful multi-year campaign that resulted in five new wilderness areas in Olympic National Forest. The Buckhorn, Brothers, Mount Skokomish, Wonder Mountain, and Colonel Bob Wilderness Areas protected some 89,000 of the most spectacular high country, upper watersheds, and scenic hiking destinations in the Olympic National Forest.

Today, hikers take in sweeping views from

Marmot Pass, explore the wild Duckabush Valley, camp beside Mildred Lakes, or pause beneath the breathtaking forests of Colonel Bob, knowing these areas are forever protected from logging, road building, or the invasion of dirt bikes and quads.

Back in 1984, clearcutting of old-growth forests and roadbuilding into steep, roadless country were at their peak in Olympic National Forest. Protection of low-elevation river valleys — and

Continued on P. 5, Olympic NF Wilderness

OPA Board Meetings:

Next: May 25

Time: 6:00 p.m..

Place: Kingston Community Center

Please join us. OPA members are always welcome at Board meetings.

The regular OPA Board meetings are in the Kingston Community Center on the 4th Wednesday of odd-numbered months, except the 3rd Weds in November to avoid Thanksgiving, and no meeting in July.

How to Reach Your Members of Congress

U.S. Congress Switchboard: (202) 224-3121

From this number you can reach any member of the US Senate or House of Representatives.

US Senate, Washington DC 20510 www.senate.gov

Senator Patty Murray

Phone (DC): 202-224-2621

Fax: 202-224-0238

Seattle: 206-553-5545

E-mail: Senator_Murray@murray.senate.gov

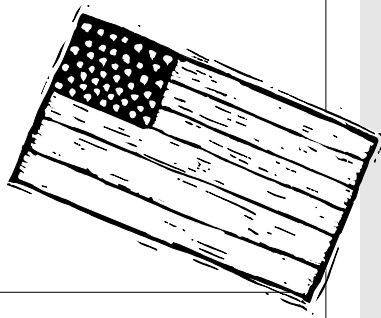
Senator Maria Cantwell

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E-Mail: maria_cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov



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Representative Norm Dicks, Dist. 6

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Dosewallips Road Final Plan: A \$4 Million Road to Nowhere

by Tim McNulty

In November Olympic National Forest Supervisor Dale Hom announced the release of the Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Dosewallips Road. It can be viewed at www.fs.fed.us/r6/olympic (Projects and Plans).

Unfortunately, the Forest Service did not budge from its position to construct a one-mile bypass road across an excessively steep, unstable slope and through a spectacular grove of old-growth trees. (See *Dosewallips Road Washout Update* in the Summer, 2010, *Voice*.) The EIS refused to even consider an alternative, recommended by OPA and other conservations groups, which would relocate the trailhead to the existing washout and convert the remaining five miles of road to a hiking, biking and equestrian trail.

At a time when accessible, low-elevation hiking trails are growing in popularity, the Forest Service remains stuck in its destructive, road-building past.

The Final EIS announcement came with an unexpected twist. Because the preferred, road-building alternative (C) will cost an estimated \$3.96 million, Supervisor Hom will not file a “record of decision” on the project until the necessary constructions funds are in hand. This part seems a sound decision. Federal money for “road-to-nowhere” projects is in short supply these days. OPA, Olympic Forest Coalition, Sierra Club, Conservation Northwest and other organizations have promised to appeal the final decision, and intend to take the government to court if necessary. The plan violates the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), Northwest Forest Plan, and Endangered Species Act, among others.

The pity is that good sense and sound management are washed down the river as well. The road-to-trail conversion, a new trailhead and parking area, visitor facilities, and

a fresh look at recreational needs throughout the Dosewallips valley — as requested by OPA — are put on indefinite hold. Instead, the Forest Service (and Park Service) management strategy is a “Road Closed” sign at the highway.

It has been nine years since a portion of the Dosewallips Road was carried away by the river five miles from its end in Olympic National Park. No studies of impacts to federally threatened marbled murrelets or spotted owls by logging the old-growth forest for road building were conducted. But during that time, thousands of hikers, bicyclists, and horseback riders have taken advantage of the de-facto trail along the old Dosewallips River Road. Families with small children and beginning backpackers make the one-mile hike to Elkhorn campground and enjoy a comfortable and accessible a riverside camp. Backpackers to Olympic National Park pause at thundering Dosewallips Falls and savor the quiet of Dosewallips campground beneath tall riverside cedars and firs. With the upper road serving quite adequately as a multi-use trail, the Dosewallips offers something rare in the Puget Sound area: a nearby wilderness, free of the noise of cars, RVs and generators, and accessible to all ages.

OPA will continue to work with our fellow environmental organizations to urge the Forest Service to do the right thing on the Dosewallips.

What You Can Do

Write Congressman Norm Dicks and US Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell.

Urge them to intercede with the Forest Service and **block any funding to log ancient forests in the Dosewallips** for a destructive and unnecessary road-to-nowhere.

Contact information on opposite page.

OPA Is Now Tax Deductible!!!

OPA is happy to announced our new 501(c)3 status!

You may now deduct 100% of your OPA membership dues and contributions from your federal income tax.

We encourage you to take full advantage of this opportunity!

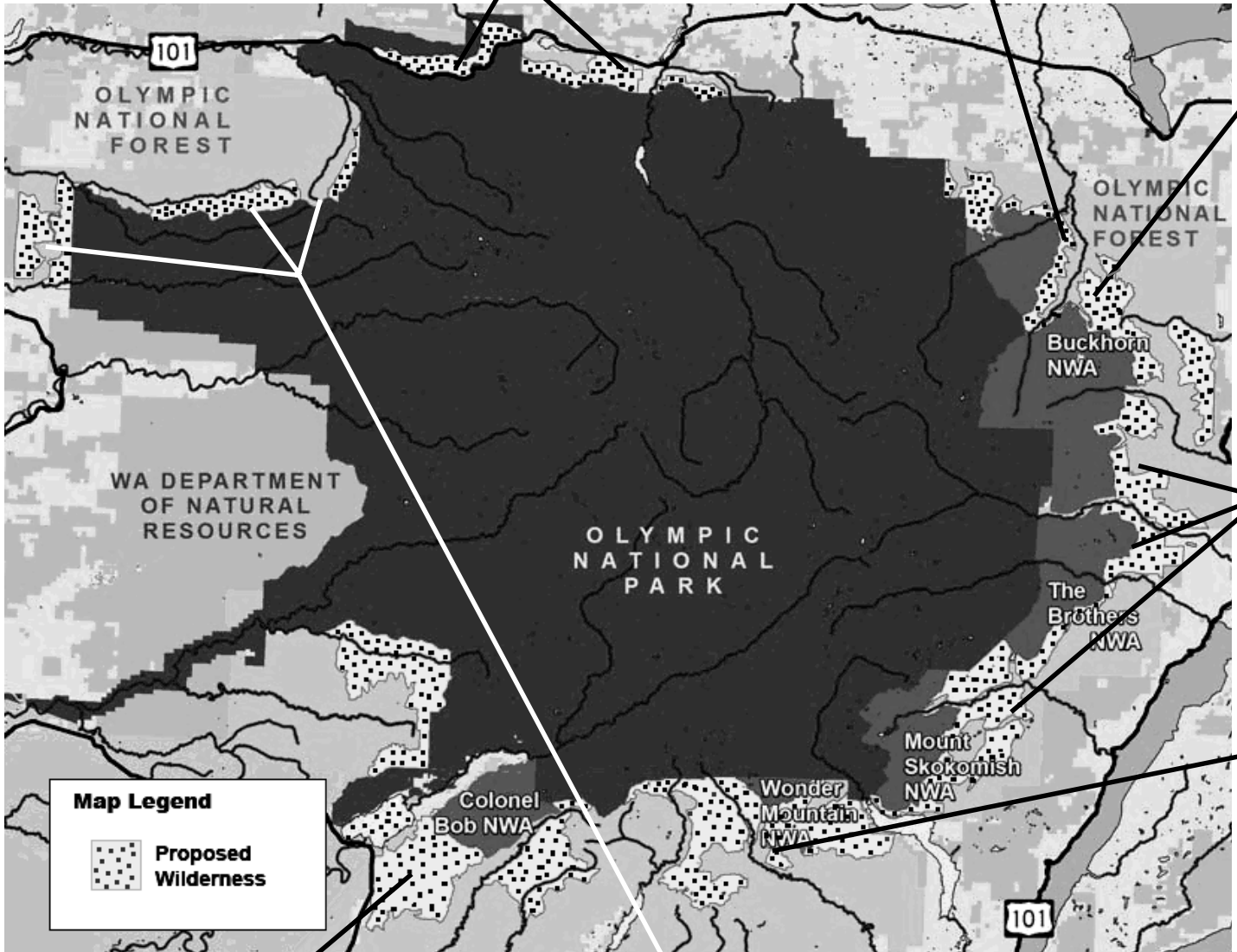
Olympic National Forest Wilderness Additions

1 Elwha Foothills

The **Mount Baldy** and **Madison Creek** areas protect habitat for elk, blacktail deer and fisher. Both areas increase protections for the largest salmon restoration project in the U.S.

2 Dungeness Rainshadow

The popular **Deer Ridge** area will complete wilderness protection for the middle Gray Wolf watershed, including the lower Deer Ridge trail and recent Slab Camp road restoration. **The Lower Gray Wolf** includes the first two miles of the ever-popular trail. **Three O’Clock Ridge** and **Upper Dungeness** protect the middle Dungeness slopes and stunning old-growth forest along the upper Dungeness trail leading to the Buckhorn Wilderness.



6 Quinault Rain Forest

The Quinault valley is a last lowland stronghold for elk, salmon, and the quiet grandeur of the lowland Olympic rain forest. **South Quinault Ridge** forms the backdrop to Lake Quinault, and popular nature trails take visitors of all ages through groves magnificent trees. **Moonlight Dome** protects a more remote, bit equally stunning forest. And **Sams River**, once roaded and logged, is now a recovering forest and important tributary to ONP’s Queets River.

7 Quillayute Watershed

No wilderness has been designated in the heavily logged Northwest corner of Olympic National Forest, but salmon still depend upon the many streams of the vast Quillayute watershed. **Elk Reade** protects the lower Bogachiel River just west of Olympic Park; **Rugged Ridge** connects the park to the remote Sitkum River to the north, and **Alkee Creek** is an important tributary to the salmon-rich Sol Duc River.

Olympic National Forest Wilderness Additions

Continued from Page 1.

restoration of previously logged lands — were pitted against saving our most popular hiking areas. We gained important victories in the Gray Wolf and Duckabush valleys, but many vital areas were sacrificed. This was painfully true in the heavily logged western Olympics. No wilderness areas were designated between the Buckhorn Wilderness in the Dungeness watershed and Colonel Bob in the Quinault.

Now, more than a quarter-century later, it's time to correct that oversight. OPA in partnership with the Wild Olympics Campaign is working to preserve those areas in Olympic National Forest that remain to be protected and restore key habitat lands that have suffered earlier abuse.

Critical middle- and low-elevation forests that are important habitats for a suite of wildlife from redback voles to Roosevelt elk are recommended for wilderness. So are key streams and tributaries that provide important habitats for salmon and other aquatic species.

Heavily used recreation areas and popular trails are included, as are several decommissioned roads — or roads scheduled for removal — and reforested cuts. Our vision is to enhance existing protected wilderness as well as complement ongoing salmon restoration efforts by preserving key forests and watersheds that will protect rivers, streams, salmon and wildlife.

As increasing resource and recreation demands are placed on Olympic National Forest, new wilderness areas will protect what is most important.

A complete map of the Wild Olympics Campaign proposal showing wilderness, park additions, and wild and scenic river recommendations is available on the campaign's website, www.wildolympics.org.

In Olympic National Forest, proposed wilderness areas are included in the Elwha, Dungeness, Gray Wolf, Big Quilcene, Dosewallips, Duckabush, Hama Hama, Skokomish, Humptulips, Quinault, Queets, and Quillayute watersheds. As of this writing, some 136,000 acres of Olympic National Forest are proposed for wilderness. On these two pages are some of the highlights.

With these additions, the future ecological health and integrity of Olympic Park, Forest, and the Olympic ecosystem will be a huge step closer to reality. Please lend your support to the Wild Olympics effort. Contact your elected officials today.

3 Mount Townsend North

The northern ridges and trails of popular Mount Townsend are long overdue for wilderness protection. **Dirty Face Ridge**, **Sleepy Hollow**, **Little Quilcene**, and **Silver Lake** way trails offer rugged day hiking, summer wildflowers, and sweeping views — all within easy access from Puget Sound.

4 East Slope and Hood Canal

Hamilton Mountain and **North Dosewallips Ridge** are prominent features from Puget Sound. **Jupiter Ridge** offers a splendid ridgetop hike to Mount Jupiter in the Brothers Wilderness. The alpine summits of **Mounts Ellinor** and **Washington** anchor the wall of canal-front peaks. **Lena Lake**, tucked beneath rugged peaks, remains the most popular backpack destination in the Olympic Forest.

5 Skokomish Wilderness

Lightning Peak looms over Lake Cushman. Beyond it the **South Fork Skokomish** River harbors elk, salmon, and a scenic, year-round trail through one of the most splendid, but unprotected old-growth forests in the Olympics.

What You Can Do:

Contact your Congressmen and Senators (see contact information on page 2) and urge them to support:

- ◆ Additional Wilderness Areas in Olympic National Forest,
- ◆ Willing-seller additions to Olympic National Park,
- ◆ Wild and Scenic River designations for Olympic rivers.

To learn more about the Wild Olympics Campaign, visit www.wildolympics.org.

For updates on this and other OPA efforts, visit OPA's web site at www.olympicparkassociates.org.

Olympic National Park - Quileute Land Transfer Bills Introduced in Congress

In March, Congressman Dicks and Senator Cantwell introduced identical bills, H.R. 1162 and S. 636, "To provide the Quileute Tribe Tsunami and Flood Protection and for Other Purposes."

The legislation would transfer 785 acres of Olympic National Park lands to the tribe, including 275 acres of uplands south of the reservation for relocating homes and essential services out of the tsunami hazard area, and 510 acres north of the reservation along the Quileute River. Two hundred and twenty acres of the southern area is designated Wilderness.

The bills would also designate 4,100 acres of potential wilderness south of Lake Crescent as Wilderness while allowing for expansion of the Spruce Railroad trail into the Olympic Discovery trail.

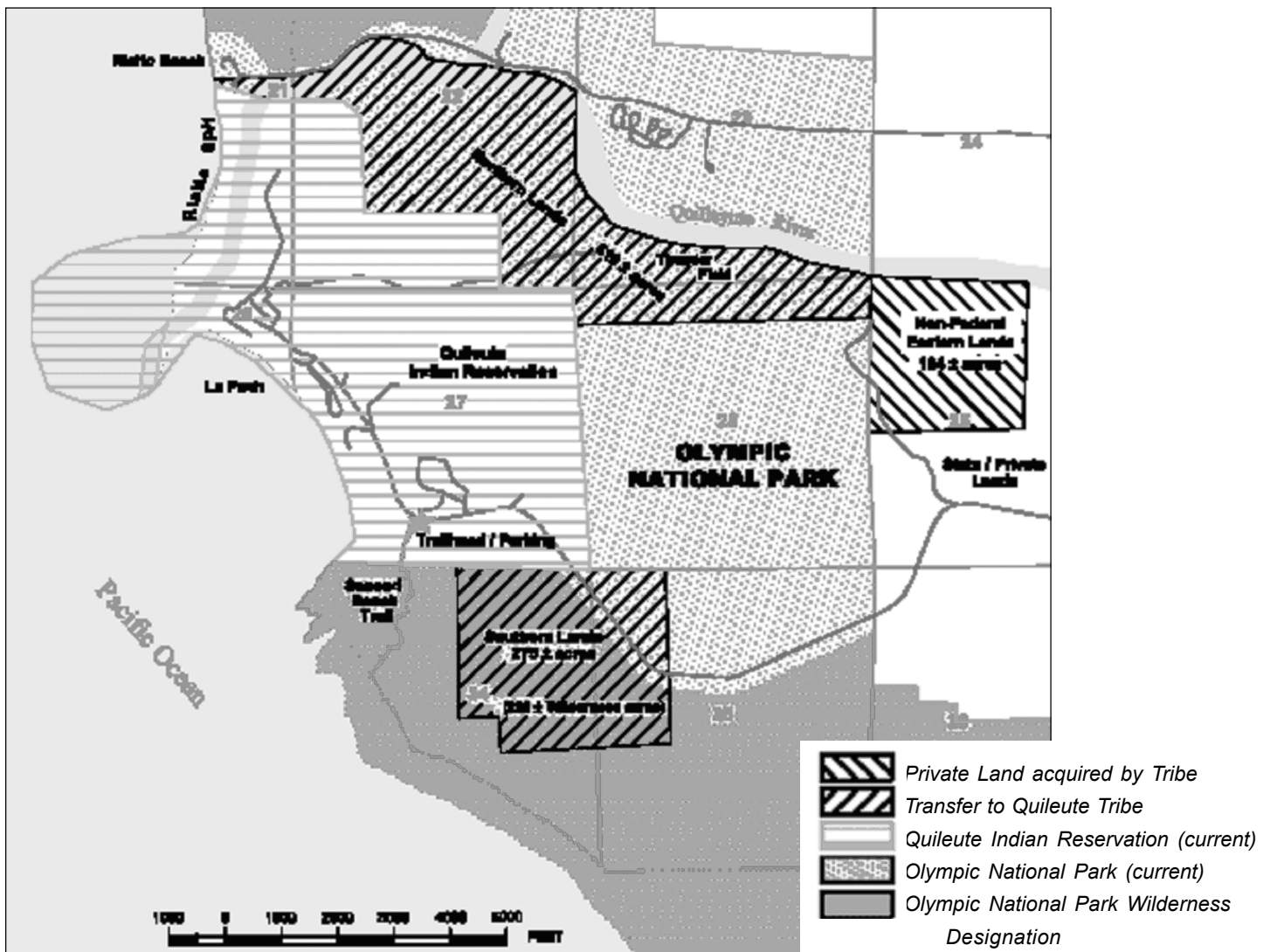
OPA fully supports the tribe in their need for safe lands to relocate homes, schools, and services. The heartrending

tragedy in Japan dramatizes the need for the tribe to be able to relocate to higher ground. But we have questions and concerns regarding the bills as presently written.

OPA has been in touch with both congressional offices regarding the bills. We expressed concern over potential impacts to Olympic National Park and on the quality of visitors' experience as transferred lands are developed adjacent to Second Beach and the Second Beach trail. We would like to insure that adequate mitigation is made for lands being removed from the park. And we requested that the legislation resolve future tribal claims to Olympic National Park lands.

As of this writing, these concerns have not been addressed.

The full text of the proposed legislation can be seen at: <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/billtext.xpd?bill=h112-1162>



OPA Board Opposes Burning Wood For Energy On the Olympic Peninsula

By Bob Lynette, Co-Chair, North Olympic Group of the Sierra Club

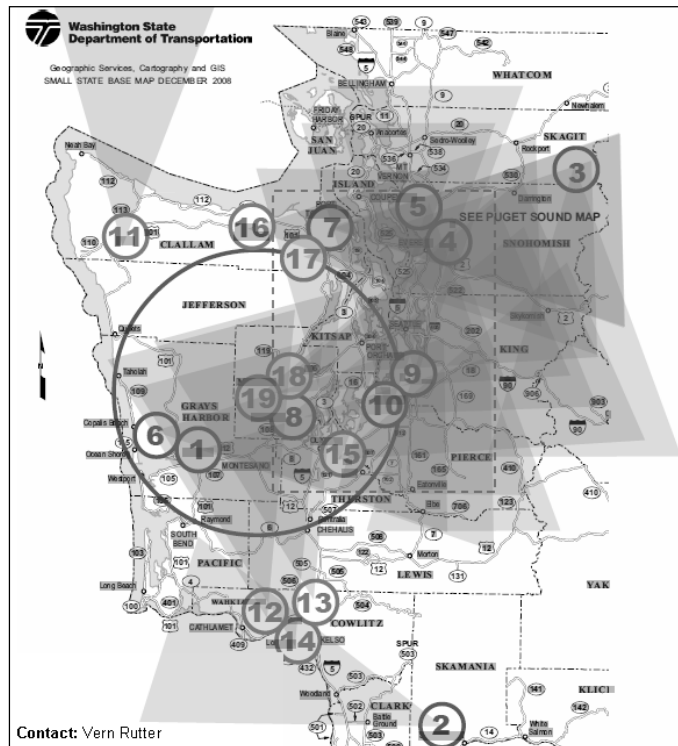
Large financial incentives and the current high price for renewable energy have resulted in a rush of applications to burn wood in large industrial boilers to produce electricity. The proposed plants intend to use slash wood left from timber harvesting operations. Nine new or expanded plants have been proposed, most of them on the Olympic Peninsula. This would create a demand for an additional 2 million tons of wood biomass per year. The proposed projects raise major issues of forest health, air pollution, and other environmental impacts:

- ◆ Removing the wood required to fuel these plants can harm overall forest health. Sufficient slash wood needs to remain on the forest floor to sustain the forest ecosystem and ensure future generations of healthy trees. It is not at all clear that this can be achieved if slash is removed for burning. Further, if biomass plants can't obtain enough slash, there may be pressure to turn to live trees, with the political appeal of saving jobs.
- ◆ Burning wood releases very fine particles (nanoparticles) that are not filtered out at the generation plants. Recent research has revealed that these fine particles, which can travel for hundreds of miles, may cause serious health problems. Although nanoparticulates are being studied, they are not yet regulated by federal or state air pollution control agencies. There is also a

question of the cumulative impacts of the proposed plants on Class I air sheds.

- ◆ Plants that burn biomass require large quantities of water for cooling. For instance, the proposed Nippon plant would use up to 3.2 million of gallons a day from the Elwha River, raising questions of the impact on salmon habitat during the low-flow season.

Because of these and other unanswered questions, the OPA Board has passed a resolution opposing the proposed plants.



Locations and emissions impact of existing and proposed biomass burning plants in western Washington. WSDOT

The Northern Spotted Owl Controversy

by Hannah McNabb, Student, North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center, Natural Resources <www.nopsc.org/naturalresources>

The threatened Northern spotted owl only lives in old growth forests of the Pacific Northwest and is in the way of the logging industry. Between loggers wanting more jobs and the Barred owl invading its territory and creating hybrids, the Spotted owl has a lot going against it.



Read more about the Northern spotted owl vs logging controversy at: www.scu.edu/ethics/publications/iie/v4n1/homepage.html

Read more about the Barred owl vs. Northern spotted owl controversy at:

<http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20110213/NEWS/302139981/20-plus-years-of-the-northern-spotted-owl-rules-last-chance-effort>

by Hannah McNabb

Book Review

Rosalie Edge, Hawk of Mercy: the Activist Who Saved Nature from the Conservationists

By Dyana Z. Furmansky, University of Georgia Press, Athens and London, 2009. Hardbound \$28.95, paper \$19.95.

Reviewed by Raelene Gold.



Rosalie Edge (1877-1962) is called “the mother of the Olympic National Park” by Carsten Lien, local author of *Olympic Battleground: the Power Politics of Timber Preservation* (1991). Now Dyana Z. Furmansky’s in depth biography, detailing her life and remarkable accomplishments, honors Rosalie Edge as our nation’s first true environmental activist and the founder of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Pennsylvania.

From 1929 to 1962, as Chairman of the Emergency Conservation Committee, Mrs. Charles N. Edge published a series of pamphlets that exposed the failures of national conservation organizations and governmental agencies to protect birds and wildlife from extinction and national forests from destruction. The ECC would become the national conservation conscience and would set the action agenda for the age.

The newly married Mrs. Charles N. Edge had been born into Manhattan’s social aristocracy and lived a life of idle luxury and world travel. But once awakened by the woman’s suffrage movement, she became a leader in the New York State campaign. It was here Rosalie found new talents in making rousing speeches, writing provocative slogans and pamphlets, and lobbying legislators.

A passionate birder in Central Park and at her Long Island estate, she would be transformed into a conservationist after reading *Crisis in Conservation*, an attack on the Audubon Society for its failure to prevent bird extinctions from hunting. The author was Willard Van Name, a scientist and curator at the American Museum of Natural History. Edge and Van Name joined forces to form the Emergency Conservation Committee. She became the public face of ECC, shielding Van Name and other contributing scientists whose jobs might be at risk.

Irving Brant, a journalist and conservation advisor to President Franklin Roosevelt, also joined the ECC, providing their powerful link to President Roosevelt and Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes. ECC pamphlets would include natural history, scenic photographs, cartoons, exposes and calls to action. The ECC mailing list included influential people who would write letters to heads of organizations, agencies and elected officials.

The ECC’s 1934 pamphlet, *The Proposed Olympic National Park*, written by Van Name, was the first of a series of pamphlets and updates on the Olympics that continued until 1947. The first pamphlet exposed the fact that Mount Olympus National Monument, created in 1909, was now only half its original size, excluding the south and west side primeval forests and the winter range of the Roosevelt elk. The pamphlet demanded that the original boundaries be restored and a National Park be established under the management of the National Park Service. The ECC worked with local Mountaineer member, Irving Clark. In 1935 Rosalie visited the Olympic Peninsula giving speeches and organizing people to testify in Washington DC for the ONP bill. The ECC continued to fight for inclusion of all the primeval forests, the Hoh and Bogachiel River Valleys, and river corridors to the ocean in the Olympic National Park, working along with Irving Clark and John Osseward, the founders of the Olympic Park Associates.

Author Dyana Furmansky To Speak at Mountaineers

Rosalie Edge: Hawk of Mercy: the Activist Who Saved Nature from the Conservationists

THURSDAY MAY 12, 7-9 PM

Hear Dyana's story of the woman who saved Olympic National Park and revolutionized conservation.

The Mountaineers
7700 Sand Pt Way
Northeast
Seattle, Washington
www.mountaineers.org

Dyana will sign books after her talk.



Remembrance: Bob Boardman

by Tom Bihn

My friend Bob Boardman was killed by a mountain goat on Klahhane Ridge on October 16, 2010. Bob was attempting to keep an aggressive male goat away from his wife Susan Chadd and their friend Pat Willits.

Bob was an avid hiker and had logged many miles on the trails of ONP. Born in Illinois and raised in Wisconsin, Bob first came to the Pacific Northwest thirty years ago, settling first in Port Townsend and finally ten years ago in Port Angeles.

Bob's avocations of playing music and woodworking, and his vocation as a nurse specializing in diabetes education, allowed him to touch the lives of many people on the Peninsula. He was one of the main organizers of the contra dance in Port Angeles and a key member of the Black Diamond Fiddle Club, and he played guitar in many other bands as well. He encouraged other musicians, young and old, to join with him making music. His and Susan's home in the hills above town was a showcase of his woodworking talents, and was an inspiration to fellow woodworkers. In his diabetes

education work for the tribes he earned both the respect of elders and the admiration of youth.

Bob found a deep groove on the Olympic Peninsula: his love of the mountains found the perfect place here, and the deep love he shared with Susan made that place a home.

I spent some wonderful time playing music with Bob, and we climbed Mt. Angeles many times as well. Bob and I spent five days in the backcountry of ONP in October 2009 climbing Grand, Cameron, Lost, and Grey Wolf passes. Bob was always a bright spot, especially as the weather changed from bad to worse.

Bob was a big part of many lives here and he will be sorely missed.

Rosie Sharpe and Bob Boardman get a summer afternoon brainstorm. "Lets go play tunes in the high country!"
Photo by an obliging hiker.





VOICE of the WILD OLYMPICS

Sally W. Soest, Editor

Olympic Park Associates

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Author of New Biography to Speak (see Pages 8 & 9)



Rosalie Edge, Hawk of Mercy: the Activist Who Saved Nature from the Conservationists

Find out why Rosalie Edge has been called "the mother of Olympic National Park."

Author Dyana Furmansky

Thursday, May 12, 7 - 9 PM, at The Mountaineers

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