

VOICE of the WILD OLYMPICS

Olympic Park Associates

Founded in 1948



Volume 22

Number I

Winter 2013-2014

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Ancient Temperate Rainforest in the South Quinault Ridge Proposed Wilderness, Olympic National Forest. Photo from Wild Olympics Campaign

Olympics Bill Introduced in Congress Senator Murray and Representative Kilmer Team Up to Protect Olympic Wildlands & Rivers

In January OPA joined conservationists across the Northwest celebrating the introduction of the Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 2014. The bill, similar to the one introduced by Senator Murray and Representative Dicks in 2012, would permanently protect more than 126,000 acres of new wilderness in Olympic National Forest. In addition, it would also protect 19 Wild and Scenic Rivers in the national forest and the national park, the first ever designated in the Olympics.

Popular roadless areas that would receive wilderness protection in the legislation include: Deer Ridge, Lower Graywolf, Upper Dungeness, Mount Townsend North, Dosewallips and Jupiter Ridges, Mounts Ellinore and Washington, South Fork Skokomish River, Moonlight Dome, South Quinault Ridge, Rugged Ridge, and Gates of the Elwha. OPA and our sister conservation organizations have been working to protect most of these areas for decades.

Continued on P. 3, Olympics Bill

OPA Meetings:

Next: 6:00 PM, Tuesday, March 25, 2014

Place: Kingston Community Center

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

Regular Meetings: The regular OPA Board meetings are at 6 pm in the Kingston Community Center on the 4th Tuesday of odd-numbered months, except the 3rd Tuesday in November to avoid Thanksgiving, and no meeting in July.

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Olympics Bill Introduced *(Continued from P, 1)*

"Senator Murray and Representative Kilmer deserve tremendous thanks for working to ensure that our beloved Olympic Peninsula will be here for our grandchildren," said Connie Gallant, chair of the Wild Olympics Coalition. "This landmark legislation will protect the Olympic Peninsula's ancient forests, free-flowing rivers and stunning scenery for all time. It will safeguard critical salmon habitat and sources of clean drinking water for our local communities, protecting our unmatched quality of life on the Peninsula."

Also included in the bill as "Potential Wilderness" are 5,346 acres of previously roaded and logged lands. They will become Wilderness if the Forest Service completes restoration under current management plans.

Representative Kilmer and Senator Murray and their staffs conducted extensive conversations with a wide spectrum of interests on the Peninsula. And they went to great lengths to insure that lands included in the bill would have minimal effect on the Peninsula's timber sector. Nearly all these lands are off-limits to logging and road building under existing forest rules. Wilderness designation would give these areas permanent, lasting protection.

"I reject the proposition that we must choose between economic growth and environmental protection," said Representative Kilmer upon introducing the bill. "After conversations with the Forest Service and timber industry, I'm convinced that nearly all Forest Service land proposed for wilderness would never be commercially harvested and that these designations won't harm the timber industry... [The bill] will protect the Peninsula's most sensitive lands and waters for future generations while protecting access to outdoor recreation and private landowners' rights."

"The Olympic Peninsula's wild spaces are among Washington State's crown jewels, and the Wild Olympics proposal supports the foundation of conservation developed over

generations," said Senator Patty Murray. "This plan is the result of several years of negotiation and compromise... [It] is a step in the right direction to protect our most treasured places for our kids and grandkids, and I look forward to working with Representative Kilmer to pass this bill into law."

The bill comes at the peak of Wild Olympics' popularity. The proposal is endorsed by 38 conservation and civic organizations and more than 3,470 local supporters including businesses, farms, faith leaders, local elected officials, hunting, fishing and recreation groups. In addition, more than 50 current and past elected officials on the Peninsula have endorsed the proposal – along with over ten thousand individuals statewide.

The work is far from done, however. As OPA vice president Tim McNulty stated when the bill was introduced, "Today is a day to celebrate, but now we must work to get this important legislation passed by Congress and signed into law. Future generations deserve no less."

Look to future issues of the *Voice*, OPA's website <www.olympicparkassociates.org>, and the Wild Olympics website <www.wildolympics.org> to keep abreast of this important legislation.

To read the bill, go to Congress.gov and look for Senate Bill 1949 or House Bill 3922, or click on <http://beta.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1949>.

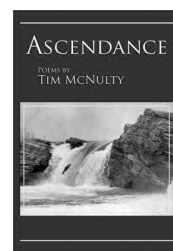


Kayakers and Waterfall on East Fork Humptulips Proposed Wild & Scenic River, Olympic National Forest. Photo by Tom O'Keefe.

Book Review: Ascendance

by Tim McNulty, Vice President, Olympic Park Associates
Pleasure Boat Studio, 10/2013 ISBN-13: 9781929355938 \$16.00

Tim McNulty's third poetry collection explores themes of family, friendship, work, and solitude—all within the larger context of the natural world. McNulty's clear voice and attentive eye bring the people, landscapes, and creatures that inhabit these poems vividly to life.



With the Passing of Pat Goldsworthy and Phil Zalesky, OPA and the Northwest Say Farewell to Two Conservation Giants



Patrick Goldsworthy

Pat Goldsworthy (d. October 7, 2013) was a founder of the modern conservation movement in the Northwest. Along with Polly Dyer, Harvey Manning, David Brower and others, he helped establish the first Sierra Club chapter in the Northwest. Pat worked to establish Glacier Peak Wilderness, and was a “founding father” of North Cascades National Park. Once the park was established in 1968, Pat worked to halt Seattle City Light’s Plans to raise Ross Lake (and flood matchless cedar groves of Big Beaver Valley), and Kennecott Copper’s plans for an open-pit mine in the heart of Glacier Peak Wilderness Area.

Pat’s involvement in the Olympics preceded his North Cascades efforts and continued through 2011. He was active with Olympic Park Associates in the mid-1950s and was instrumental in the effort to halt the notorious salvage logging of Olympic National Park. He worked for successful passage of the 1984 Washington Wilderness Act, which designated Wilderness in the Olympics as well as the rest of the state, and he worked for passage of the 1988 Washington Parks Wilderness Act, which designated Wilderness in Olympic, North Cascades, and Mount Rainier National Parks.

Throughout his many years with OPA, Pat was a passionate advocate for conservation, adding political insight and historical perspective to every issue that came before the board. Lessons hard-learned from earlier campaigns were always on Pat’s mind and feely shared as OPA worked its way from one issue to the next. With the passing of Pat and Phil, the Northwest conservation community has lost valuable links with its illustrious past. Luckily, we have benefited richly from their experience and guidance. And we continue our journey into new territory with their well-annotated maps in our backpacks.

Philip Zalesky (d. October 18, 2013) was a lifelong conservationist, wilderness backpacker and mountaineer, educator, naturalist, writer, and inspirational presence on the Olympic Park Associates board since the 1950s. Phil served as president of OPA during some critical years and held every office in the organization but treasurer. Phil and Laura, his wife and partner of 68 years, were a dynamic team who brought their passion for wilderness and wild country to a growing number of conservation organizations, which included the Mountaineers,



*Phil Zalesky ca 1960.
Photo by David Cameron.*

North Cascades Conservation Council, OPA, Pilchuck Audubon, and others.

Based on his experience with OPA, Phil became the founding president of the North Cascades Conservation Council.

In the Olympics, Phil was just as effective. In the 1950s, along with Pat, Carsten Lien, and other conservationists, he worked to expose the “salvage logging” of Olympic National Park and brought that illegal practice to a halt.

Joining forces with OPA’s John Osseward and Polly Dyer, Phil was instrumental in defeating a congressional measure that would have removed the west-side rain forest valleys from ONP. Phil remained ever-vigilant of threats against Olympic. Working closely with Polly and OPA, he helped beat back a governor’s proposal to remove the north shore of Lake Quinalt from the park, and he helped guide OPA through expansion of Olympic Park to include the northern coastal area and the east shore of Lake Ozette. He worked to stop the supersizing of the Sol Duc Road, and helped gain Wilderness protection for National Forest wildlands surrounding Olympic Park

Outside of OPA, Phil and Laura were active in Pilchuck Audubon and local environmental issues in Snohomish County. They helped establish the Snohomish County Land Trust, taught popular classes in natural history, and Phil wrote the birding guide for Snohomish County.

Phil and Laura were honored as “Legacies of the Wilderness” by the Washington Trails Association, and a “Phil and Laura Zalesky Lifetime Achievement Award” is now given annually by the Cascade Land Conservancy. Phil’s example continues to inspire OPA’s trustees and conservationists throughout the Northwest.

Honoring Phil’s 60-year contribution to OPA, President Donna Osseward expressed what is in all of our ears.

“Thank you Phil for a life well lived.”

Wild Olympics Campaign Update: Support Continues to Grow

Ben Greuel, OPA Board Member & Wild Olympics Volunteer

As the fall season crept onto the Olympic Peninsula, the shimmering glow of the Olympic Mountains' snow wrapped hill-sides drifted ever lower into the surrounding valleys, shorelines and prairies. Vibrant shades of green, yellow, red and orange adorned the riparian valleys and river ways and were accentuated by the freshly white-washed background. Though the autumn weekend crowds were fewer, late arriving winter Steelhead made their way up into the Peninsula's rivers, creeks and streams. As a sportsman, hiker and lover of all things wild, fall is my favorite season on the Olympic Peninsula. It is also a time I remember how fragile and threatened is this four county region in the Northwest corner of mainland America.

The Olympic Park Associates are one of the four Peninsula based founding members of the Wild Olympics Campaign, an effort to permanently protect Olympic National Forest's last remaining old-growth forests as "Wilderness" and designate over nineteen of the Olympic Peninsula's magnificent river stretches as "Wild and Scenic". The campaign is a multi-year effort led by local volunteers anchored by a diverse array of supporters on the Olympic Peninsula and beyond. From rural "west-end" fishing guides to shellfish farmers in the south Sound, the Wild Olympics has continued to see a continued swell of support for these critical protections.

The effort could not be timelier. Today, the House of Representatives continues to move forward with legislative efforts intended to remove protections to our National Forests' roadless areas – including the last remaining unprotected old growth forests on the Olympic Peninsula. Further, parts of Washington State are seeing a renewed interest in hydropower; despite the successful efforts to tear down the Peninsula's two Elwha dams and the subsequent return of salmon and Steelhead in the newly freed watershed. Both are real life examples of why we must act now to ensure these ancient forests and wild rivers are here for future generations to enjoy, whether as part of a backyard water source or as a destination for relaxation, sport or outdoor enjoyment.



The Campaign recently announced that more than 100 additional Olympic Peninsula and South Puget Sound CEOs and local businesses have signed on in support for the Wild Olympics. Among those signing the letter were: the heads of HOPE Roofing & Construction of Port Townsend; The Holiday Inn Express and Conference Center of Sequim; Paladin Data Systems and Grounds for Change of Poulsbo; Rice Fergus Miller Inc. of Bremerton; SAGE Fly Rods and Taylor Shellfish of Shelton, among others. The enthusiastic support of these business leaders is greatly appreciated and an essential piece to our continued success.

Fly fisherman on the Hoh Proposed Wild & Scenic River. Photo by Lateral Line Media.

Yet, despite these accomplishments, we must continue to press forward. If you have not done so already, please:

- Sign the petition for the Wild Olympics (found at WildOlympics.org) or...
- Volunteer to represent the Campaign at a local Peninsula community event or festival.
- Engage neighbors, friends and family and ask them to sign the petition.

The effort has come a long way and the parade of support has continued to grow, but as the fall season highlights this remarkable region, let us all do our part to make sure decision makers continue to hear a bellowing chorus for the protection of our Wild Olympic heritage.

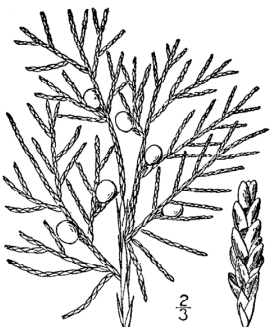
For more information and to volunteer, please go to WildOlympics.org

Wilderness Gifts: Clean Water

by Donna Osseward, President, OPA

Mitigation is not a viable excuse for destroying one wilderness area because there is another. No two areas are alike biologically. One place cannot replace another. What is destroyed is lost.

A recently identified compound found in Eastern red cedar fights MRSA, a dangerous antibiotic-resistant flesh-eating bacteria.



Juniperus virginiana,
Britton & Brown

Wilderness, as it is, as the Earth's creator made it, is valuable to us all. We instinctively enjoy its beauty. We are drawn into its splendor. The areas of our earth remaining as wilderness are incredible in their many gifts. These lands make our earth livable.

One person, one pine, or one panda is not enough for life. In wilderness we find nature's storehouse of genes. When a wilderness area is large enough it contains the species of plants and animals that make up the natural, sustainable ecosystem of an area. Each area is special because of its mix of climate, plants, and animals that collaborate in that ecosystem.

In the unique biology of complete ecosystems we have found the majority of our medicines and the plant species that help solve agricultural problems. We have learned from natural processes to synthesize new products and to better understand the importance of natural process in sustaining natural products currently valuable to us.

Consider how much we learn from wilderness ecosystems. The burrs of burdock inspired the inventor of Velcro. Birds inspired flight and we still learn from them on how to improve flight. The natural complexity of plant, animal, and fungi molecules provides compounds that are unlikely to be developed in laboratories. The native people of a place learned over the centuries that plants provided medicinal cures for many conditions. Their knowledge and faith in natural medicines has been exploited by pharmaceutical companies to develop medicines to diminish pain, fight cancer, reduce mental illness, and help organ transplants succeed. The Pacific Yew was considered a weed tree until we discovered a compound in its bark was a cure for some forms of cancer. With this knowledge, yew became one of the most valuable trees in the forest. The properties of Aspirin were recognized in Medieval times in willow tree bark. *Over half of our medicines have their source as plants or animals found in the natural world.*

We are learning that our monoculture method of planting trees and many agricultural crops increases the opportunity for disease. From studying processes in wilderness we learn that the Douglas fir is dependent on the fungi at its roots for its

strength as lumber. We have discovered that the current clear cut method of taking trees harms the fungi by drying out the soil, killing it, and thereby reducing the quality of the next generation of trees. Biodiversity slows insect movement and allows symbiotic relationships to develop for healthier living. Wilderness is naturally bio-diverse.

From wilderness we learn what is critical to sustain healthy salmon runs and keep them available as food.

Wilderness preserves gene pools, which gives us a chance to find genes useful in preserving our crops and forests. Monoculture in agriculture reduces variety and increases the chances for disease infections in these crops. We must save plants and animals that will provide genes for agricultural use to reduce disease, provide better fruit or seed, or to confer on a species the ability to grow in different conditions.

Patenting of species, as is now allowed, can result in the loss of gene species because of market controls. This is currently happening to soy beans and other agricultural species in the United States. While soybeans are not found in American wilderness, other legumes occur there, with more to learn that will be beneficial to our continued ability to live comfortably on this earth for many generations.

The best insurance for saving the earth's gene pool is in wilderness. We do not know what will be needed or when it will be needed to solve current or future problems. We need to preserve the diversity of genes remaining so they are there when we need them.

Because we are such a dominating force on what happens on the earth, we must be aware of our potential to destroy this valuable interspecies complexity. With power must come responsibility. We must reduce our carbon footprint and preserve remaining wilderness to maintain this diversity of life on earth.

The forces of storms, asteroids, earthquakes, and volcanoes remind us that nature has the power to overcome us unless we learn and listen to what it has to tell us. However, global warming and other less violent adversities to our comfortable life on earth will require our effort and cooperation to maintain that comfortable life for us and future generations.

Vanishing Glaciers in the Olympics

by Tim McNulty

In October Dr. Jon Riedel, geologist and principle investigator for North Cascades National Park's glacier monitoring program, gave a presentation at Peninsula College on the state of glaciers in the Olympic Mountains.

Riedel has been studying glaciers at North Cascades since the mid-1980s. He and his team recently completed a study of Olympic National Park glaciers. Olympic glaciers are critical in providing cold, fresh water for domestic and agricultural uses as well as aquatic habitat for salmon and trout, especially in late summer and fall, times of little rain. But due to cyclical weather patterns and pronounced human-caused warming, Olympic glaciers are shrinking and thinning at an accelerating rate.

Olympic National Park glaciers were last studied in 1982. From then until 2006, the glacier-covered area was reduced by 34 percent in Olympic National Park, 20 percent on Vancouver Island, 10 percent in B.C. Coast Mountains, and 9 percent in the North Cascades.

In the last century alone, the Olympics have lost more than half of their glacier-covered area.

The relative low elevation of Olympic glaciers makes them hypersensitive to climate change. In warming periods, low-elevation glaciers melt more quickly and more moisture falls on them as rain rather than snow. During the past 50 years, winter temperatures at Blue Glacier on Mt. Olympus rose 3 degrees Celsius. In the last 30 years, the Blue has lost nearly 20 percent of its mass.

During that time Ferry Glacier in the Bailey Range has disappeared; Lillian nearly so. Cameron and Humes glaciers are shrinking markedly. Of the eight glaciers surveyed in 1982, only four remain as valley glaciers; the others have retreated to their upper basins.

If a glacier faces south, the loss is compounded: Jeffers Glacier on Mt. Olympus lost 61 percent of its area in the past 30 years; Anderson Glacier on Mt. Anderson lost 77 percent.

During the Little Ice Age, from 1350 to 1900 A.D., glaciers expanded throughout the northern hemisphere. Olympic glaciers

reached their maximum Little Ice Age expansion around 1700. Since then, the Olympics have lost about 55 percent of their glacier-covered area. Studies showed that Blue Glacier and others thickened and built again in the 1970s, but have been mostly thinning and receding since 1976.

Riedel's surveys indicate that 184 glaciers remain in the Olympic Mountains, but east of the Bailey Range where precipitation is markedly less, most glaciers are at the "tipping point" and could disappear in mere decades. Riedel would like to re-start intensive mass-balance studies for the Blue and Anderson glaciers to provide solid data for west- and east-side glacier response to climate change. OPA strongly endorses this measure.

Glacier loss in the Olympics has serious implications for human communities as well as for critical aquatic habitats that will reverberate throughout the Olympic ecosystem. Asked what could be done, Riedel said "In the long term we need to address human impacts to climate."



Anderson Glacier, 1936



Anderson Glacier, 2004

For more information on Dr. Riedel's glacier monitoring program, see:
<http://www.nps.gov/noca/naturescience/glacial-mass-balance1.htm>

Citizen Science: Olympic Marmot Survey

by John Bridge, Secretary, Olympic Park Associates



Olympic National Park started a program in 2010 to survey selected Olympic Marmot populations using citizen scientists. In 2013, the fourth summer of this program, over a hundred people surveyed the wilderness of Olympic National Park to bring back data that will tell us more about population changes and marmot movements.

Surveying marmots rather than counting marmots is an important distinction. Counting is very difficult because they have multiple burrows with multiple entrances and exits, they spend time in their burrows, and they can be difficult to see in tall vegetation or rough terrain. The park selected 406 survey units, based on known populations and suitable habitats for marmots, which prefer steep alpine meadows. A unit could be one side of a mountain. A place like Royal Basin might have five or six units. The volunteers enter a unit and look around to see if marmots are present, absent, or whether there are abandoned burrows, indicating that marmots have been there in the past. Active, abandoned or absent are the only choices to describe each unit.

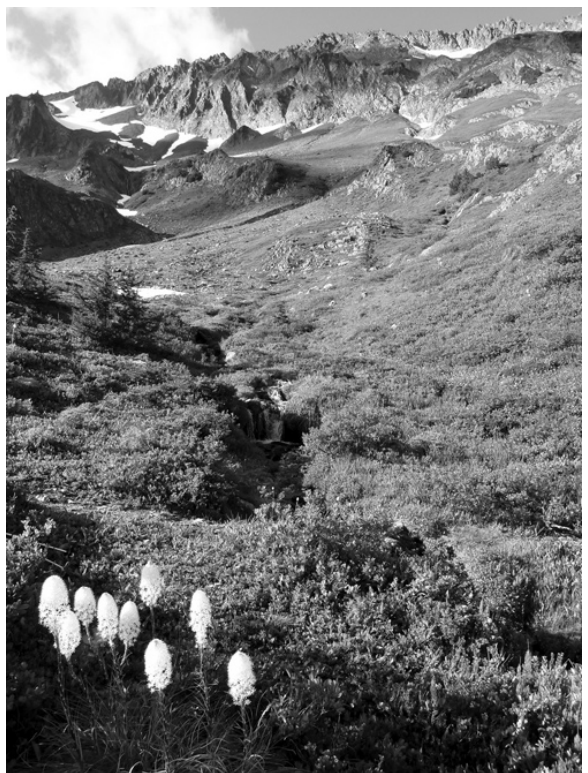


Photos by John Bridge.



The data gathered from this study should be useful to show changes in marmot populations which could be impacted by climate change or increased predation. Coyotes are becoming more of a major predator. Some people think that the coyote population has increased in the alpine area because of the wolves being extirpated from the Park.

I participated in the first three years of the program and went to 10,000 Acre Meadow, LaCross Basin and the Bailey Range. At our trainings I saw people ranging in age from 6 to 75. Some of the units could be surveyed by day hikes and others took a week. Many people have returned to help out in successive years, becoming an experienced group of citizen scientists who may be able to make a difference in the Park.



An Update on the Spotted Owl Decline in Olympic National Park

by Bruce Moorhead, Board of Trustees, Olympic Park Associates

For over 20 years now Olympic National Park (ONP) and Olympic National Forest crews have monitored Northern Spotted Owl breeding territories and demographic changes every year on the Olympic Peninsula. This is one of eight long-term study areas established across the range of this threatened, endemic species to assess vital changes in the population and the effectiveness of the Northwest Forest Plan.

Northern Spotted Owl breeding pairs in the Olympic Study Area and in ONP have been found over time to breed every other year and mainly in even-numbered years. Nearly all of the paired females confirmed to be nesting in these breeding years do breed; e.g., about 84%, on average, between 1992 and 2012. And nesting success with confirmed offspring is 91% over the same period.

Despite this apparent success, in the last 20 years or more a very significant decline has occurred in this population due to an overall loss of territorial Northern Spotted Owl pairs, from a high of 35 at 51 sites monitored in 1996, to just 10 pairs at 52 sites in 2012. And, in 2013, a nonbreeding year, only three (nonbreeding) pairs were found at 52 sites. In 2013, moreover, for the third consecutive year, more single birds than pairs were found. And most of these remaining breeding pairs now occur at higher elevations on steeper slopes in less suitable habitat. The likely trend is toward lower prospects for successfully reproducing.

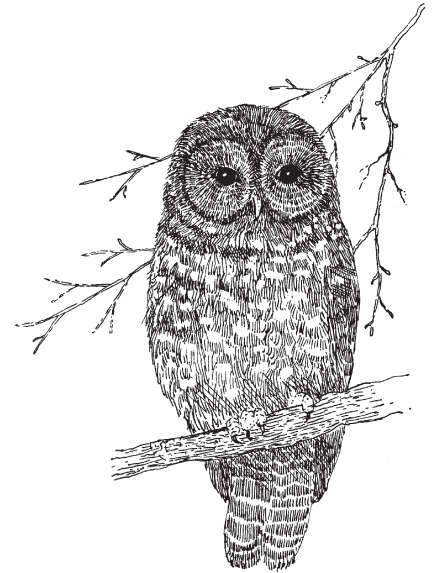
The Barred Owl, a larger, more aggressive, and invading cousin-species of the Northern Spotted Owl, was first confirmed in ONP in 1985 in the upper Hoh River watershed. In the nearly 30 years since then, it has spread across the entire PNW range of the northern Northern Spotted Owl. During the 20-year Northern Spotted Owl monitoring period in ONP, Barred Owls have been

detected at least one year in 47 of the 52 (91%) Northern Spotted Owl territories monitored each year. Over the last several years they've been found at 42 of these sites (81%), and in 2013 at 32 sites.

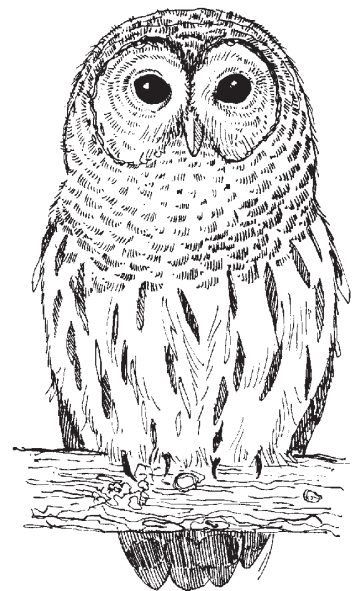
Dominance of Barred Owls over Northern Spotted Owls in competitive interactions is well-documented elsewhere in the PNW region. In ONP, Barred Owl biology and behavior has not yet been studied in much detail, beyond presence and absence and activity patterns in relation to Northern Spotted Owl monitoring. But enough has been obtained about them in 20 years of extensively monitoring Northern Spotted Owls to know that wherever Barred Owls appear, Northern Spotted Owl pairs soon thereafter move farther away or to higher elevations. And, overall, wherever Barred Owls have been found in the past in ONP they are still present...whereas Northern Spotted Owls are either entirely gone or barely around.

[T]he formerly "large and intact" Northern Spotted Owl population in ONP has drastically declined at a rather alarming rate over the last 20-30 years as an invading, nonnative owl species has largely displaced them...

So, the formerly "large and intact" Northern Spotted Owl population in ONP has drastically declined at a rather alarming rate over the last 20-30 years as an invading, nonnative owl species has largely displaced them from most of their preferred breeding habitat to marginal, higher elevation areas with lower prospects of reproductive success. Moreover, an increasingly difficult monitoring effort is required every year now to search for ever fewer birds across a vast, roadless wilderness of steep, densely forested terrain and severe weather, where until recently this quiet, seldom-seen bird was still fairly common throughout ONP as one of the more iconic and important native inhabitants of this majestic rainforest biome and World Heritage Site.



Spotted Owl



Barred Owl

OPA Welcomes Two New Trustees

Olympic Park Associates welcomes two new trustees, both from the southern end of the Olympic Peninsula.

Shelley Spalding

Shelley is a retired USFWS fisheries biologist whose work focused on bull trout of the Olympic Peninsula as well as on regional issues such as water quality and forest practices that affect the habitat of these magnificent fish. She has lived for the past 20 years on her small farm adjacent to Decker Creek, tributary to the Satsop River. Other work included teaching in a one-room school and curating a small traveling natural history museum. Shelley is Capitol Land Trust Steward for the Decker Creek Wetlands Complex near her home, Board member of the Olympic Forest Coalition, and Circuit Rider and Broadband co-leader for the local chapter of Great Old Broads for Wilderness, the Polly Dyer Cascadia Broadband, which she founded in 2009.

Llyn De Danaan

Llyn hails from Oyster Bay in Totten Inlet, Mason County, which she has called home for more than 40 years. She is a cultural anthropologist and emerita faculty from The Evergreen State College. She writes fiction and non-fiction, and her most recent publication is *Katie Gale: A Coast Salish Woman's Life on Oyster Bay* (University of Nebraska Press: 2013. Review on P. 11.) Llyn is also a talented musician, and contributes to several music blogs as well as her own blog. She has acted as a research consultant for Washington Indian tribes since 1991. Llyn was a recipient of the Washington State Historical Society's Peace and Friendship award in recognition of her role in fostering an understanding of Washington's cultural diversity. She has done extensive ethnographic work ranging from farm laborers in Yakima Valley to Romania and the Far East. Llyn is co-leader of the Polly Dyer Cascadia Broadband.

Great Old Broads for Wilderness Plan for Wilderness Act 50th Anniversary

by Shelley Spalding, OPA Board and Broadband co-leader for the Polly Dyer Cascadia Broadband (local chapter of Great Old Broads for Wilderness)

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the passage of the 1964 Wilderness Act, the Great Old Broads are committed to engaging the public, young and old, in understanding and appreciating wilderness. The Polly Dyer Cascadia Broadband is planning several local events.

The weekend of September 13-14, 2014, we will host writer Canny Green for a workshop about writing in the wilderness - about walking, hiking, imagining, being in the wilderness. Canny's beautifully illustrated book entitled *Trail Writers Guide* inspires and encourages writing about experiences in the wild. We are planning to couple this with local Girl Scouts making journals, coming to the workshop, and concluding the next day with a hike in wilderness, journals in hand and Canny as guide. The workshop will be for all ages but we are very excited about getting youth involved in this event.

A second event is entitled Poets for the Wild. It will be held September 20, 2014, at the Womens Club of Olympia. This event will include a reading of sections from the

Wilderness Act, a choral event by "Kids in Concert" with songs about critters and wild places, and a poetry reading featuring four area poets reading about wild places. Tim McNulty will be moderator as well as poetry reader. Other poets include Robert Michael Pyle, Barbara Gibson and Lucia Perillo.

A third event during September will involve local bookstores and the Timberland Library System to highlight books about wilderness. We are collaborating with other Broadband and conservation leaders to put together a list of books that inspire and motivate a love of wild places.

The Polly Dyer Cascadia Broadband has raised some funds for these events and is seeking additional funding. We invite other wilderness lovers to join the planning committee, to help with funding, to plan on attending the events, and even to help put them on.

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The Impact of Federal Closures Hits Home: Olympic National Park and Peninsula Can Benefit from Wild Olympics

by Peter Guerrero, North Olympic Group, Sierra Club

The recent federal government closure, resulting from Congress's inability to bridge sharp partisan differences on federal budget priorities, has hit communities surrounding our national parks particularly hard. It comes on top of years of deferred spending at our national parks and cuts that have forced park officials to focus on their "core" mission. Often that means resources that might have been used for the restoration of popular, heavily used areas are directed, instead, to law enforcement and park administration.

Communities that are gateways to our parks, like Sequim, Port Townsend, Port Angeles, and Forks, have been particularly hard hit. The Peninsula Daily News reported that: "The closure has cost [Olympic National Park] an estimated 77,808 visitors and an estimated \$2.9 million in lost visitor dollars in the first 10 days [alone] ..." The New York

Times reported: "It has gotten so bad [at other parks] that four counties in Utah have declared a state of emergency. The closing of Zion has cost about \$3.5 million in visitor spending ..."

But the loss of visitor spending at restaurants, hotels, and stores is just part of the impact. Olympic National Park furloughed over 100 employees who buy gas at local gas stations, shop in local supermarkets, bank at local banks, and support neighborhood businesses. The income from these federal jobs, in turn, supports still more local jobs and businesses and the tax base of our communities.

In fact, the economic consulting firm Headwater Economics estimated that fully

24% of Jefferson County's total per capita income is attributable to the presence of protected public lands like Olympic

National Park and the Olympic Wilderness. In Clallam County, it is 14%. These numbers demonstrate that the economy of the Olympic Peninsula has changed dramatically from one that was dominated by the timber industry in the last century. Headwater Economics went on to find that additional wilderness protections could "provide significant economic benefits by building on the Peninsula's current competitive strengths centered on its spectacular public lands that give it an edge over other rural counties in attracting the new residents, entrepreneurs and skilled workers driving [the] economy today."

Although the federal government has reopened, we're not out of the woods yet (no pun intended). Recently, Park Superintendent Sarah Creachbaum told OPA trustees that she expected an 8% cut in the Park's 2014 budget. Reducing visitor center hours and the continued deferral of park maintenance and repairs to heavily used areas are possible consequences. Unfortunately these are also the types of cuts that discourage visitors.

We need to tell our elected officials—from the local level to Congress—that these budget priorities are heading in the wrong direction. The economic well-being of our communities and our quality of life depend on a well-funded Olympic National Park and Olympic Wilderness.

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Book Review: Katie Gale: A Salish Woman's Life on Oyster Bay

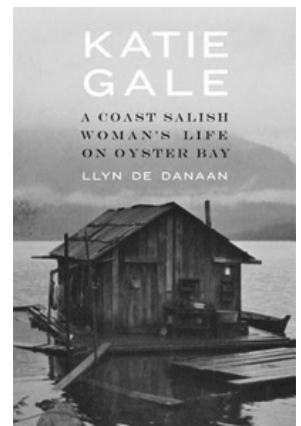
by Llyn De Dannan, OPA Board

U. of Nebraska Press, 2013. 336 pp., 13 photographs, 1 map, 1 chronology. ISBN 978-0-8032-3787-2 \$29.95

Katie Kettle Gale was born into a Salish community in Puget Sound in the 1850s, just as settlers were migrating into what would become Washington State. With her people forced out of their accustomed hunting and fishing grounds into ill-provisioned island camps and reservations, Katie Gale sought

her fortune in Oyster Bay, where Native Americans and immigrants from the eastern United States, Europe, and Asia vied for economic, social, political, and legal power.

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Voice of the Wild Olympics

Sally W. Soest, Editor

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*The value of an organization endeavoring to promote
the protection and integrity of a World Heritage Site
and its wilderness is infinite.*

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Plunging into the Wild

The tracks led up a snowfield
from Queets Basin to the windy gap
of Dodwell-Rixon Pass,
then stretched out
as the bear
loped down the Elwha Snowfinger
-- claws like crampons in the frozen crust—
and launched
a steep, hell-bent, belly-sliding
glissade,
a joyous plunge into the wild
headwaters of the Elwha.

Not one to question the protocols
of a mountain god,
I let loose a whoop
and plunge after.

--Tim McNulty

From *Ascendance*, (c) Tim McNulty, Pleasure Boat Studio,
New York, 2013