



# VOICE

## of the Wild Olympics

Newsletter of Olympic Park Associates

New Series, Volume 1, Number 1

October, 1992

## Congress Passes Elwha Legislation

by Richard Rutz and Shawn Cantrell

The destruction of the ecosystem for short-term gain, with subsequent harm to the human communities that depend on it, is a familiar story. But for the Olympic Peninsula's Elwha River, a new chapter is being written, as the long tragedy of the Elwha River Basin comes to a close.

H.R. 4844, the "Elwha River Ecosystem and Fisheries Restoration Act," passed both houses of Congress in

### Inholdings: Purchases are Progressing

by Phil Zalesky

Establishing a new national park is not easy. Nor is the aftermath all sweetness and light. Such is the case with Olympic National Park because of the many inholdings that can exist within the established boundaries of a national park. Some are government lands, some owned by timber mills, and some by private parties.

In recent years, however, great progress has been made to acquire many of these inholdings. Most of what remains is ownership by private individuals, some of whom reside on their lands.

Richard Wagner, principal land negotiator of the National Park Service, recently gave Olympic Park Associates a summary of what has been accomplished and what remains. Here are some of the success stories. Approximately \$36 million of inholdings have been acquired: \$18.6 million before 1983 and \$17.3 million thereafter. This totals 7,744 acres of acquired private ownerships in 593 tracts. Remaining to be acquired are 687 acres in 416 tracts. Virtually no condemnation has occurred. Olympic National Park acquires properties only when they are freely offered by the owners.

(See **Inholdings**, p. 2)

the first week of October. While there has been no official word from the administration, the bill has bipartisan support and it is expected that the President will sign it.

### Elements of the Legislation

Like most legislation, this bill is not perfect, even after going through more than four major rewrites. Most importantly, the bill does not mandate the removal of the dams. However, the legislation directs the Secretary of the Interior to prepare by

(See **Elwha**, p. 11)

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***The President's Corner***

*Voice of the Wild Olympics* is back!  
The last issue you received was in 1988, celebrating the Fortieth Anniversary of Olympic Park Associates and the Fiftieth Anniversary of Olympic National Park.

Editors are valuable and precious people. We are grateful for the many years of superb editorship contributed by Sandy Marvinney. Unfortunately for us, other responsibilities (including being President of the Chongqing, China/Seattle Sister City Association) prevented her from continuing to edit the *Voice*. Thank you, Sandy, for the many excellent *Voices* published under your editorship.

Welcome to Sally Soest, also a professional editor, who is the new editor of the *Voice of the Wild Olympics*. Three regular issues a year are planned, with the possibility of four. This first of the new series includes the status of the effort to restore the ecosystem of the Elwha River, the non-native mountain goat problem on the Peninsula, and the Olympic National Park/Tacoma City Light situation at Lake Cushman.

During the four-year absence of the *Voice*, we have made a few special mailings to you encouraging your letters of support for some of these issues. We appreciate your continuing interest and membership in Olympic Park Associates during this period without a regular publication. The new *Voice of the Wild Olympics* will again be OPA's primary communication with you. Your comments and suggestions are welcome.

*Polly Dyer, President*

**(Inholdings, continued from p. 1)**

Most of the purchase money has come through the Land and Water Conservation Fund, established by the efforts of the late Senator Henry Jackson. The federal government's profits from offshore drilling are designated for purchases of conservation properties. However, Congress and the administration seldom spend the total profits for this purpose.

In 1983, during James Watt's tenure at the Department of Interior, new restrictions were put on acquisitions. No property worth more than \$150,000 could be acquired unless there was a land protection plan in place. (Olympic National Park had a land protection plan in 1984.) Also, condemnation of lands could not be used unless there was an imminent threat or a health problem. However, these rules made it only slightly more difficult to acquire inholdings.

A recent purchase negotiated by Wagner involves one of the largest properties in the Quinault valley. The beautiful 70-year-old-and-more forest on the hill above the Quinault Ranger Station was acquired for \$550,000. Other Quinault properties have also been acquired at a more active pace than earlier predicted.

## Non-Native Goats in the Olympics: Let's Do Something Even If It's Right

by Tim McNulty

The Interagency Goat Management Team, made up of Olympic National Park, Olympic National Forest, and the Washington Department of Wildlife, is about to release its Draft Environmental Impact Statement on non-native mountain goats on the Olympic Peninsula. The statement, and the decision it represents, could resolve this long-standing, controversial issue once and for all. What's at stake is no less than the ecological integrity of one of the world's most outstanding natural areas. But controversy has plagued the debate, and the future is likely to promise more of the same.

In 1923, before the creation of Olympic National Park, sport-hunting interests introduced 12 non-native mountain goats into the Olympic Mountains. The goats multiplied in the relatively mild maritime climate of the Olympics, reaching as many as 1200 animals in the early 1980's. Areas that had evolved for millions of years in the absence of mountain goats had to contend with intensive cropping, trampling, and wallowing. The face of the Olympic high country was altered significantly.

A 1988 Park Service plan called for removal of goats from the core of the park while maintaining a breeding population along the park's eastern boundary. The purpose of this rather inverted approach was to maintain a limited sport hunt that the Washington Department of Wildlife manages on adjoining Olympic National Forest lands. Olympic Park Associates, Washington Native Plant Society and other conservation organizations decried this approach as sacrificing the park's ecological integrity for the sole benefit of a small number of trophy hunters (an average of only eight to ten goats are taken from the east

Olympics each year). The plan called for three years of live capture and transport to be followed by two years of removal by other means, including aerial shooting by park personnel. But in 1991, amidst declining capture rates, increasing goat mortality, and serious safety concerns, live capture was halted.

When officials announced the creation of the interagency Goat Management Team, conservationists' hopes were raised. At last all the agencies involved could address the problem in a true ecosystem approach -- the first time, by the way, this was attempted in the Olympics. Though management

### To be placed on the mailing list for the Draft EIS, write:

Interagency Goat Management Team  
c/o Olympic National Park  
600 E. Park Avenue  
Port Angeles, WA 98362

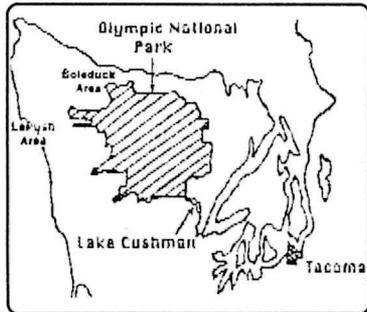
mandates differed among the agencies, the overall destruction to the Olympic ecosystem on both national park and national forest lands was clear and amply demonstrated. As lead agency,

the Park Service mandate regarding exotic species was also clear. The 1916 Organic Act calls for the conservation of park resources "by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." The 1963 Leopold Report and other policy directives have reinforced this mission. And since most of the adjoining national forest lands have been designated by Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System, management directives for these lands also mandate minimizing impacts. Olympic Park Associates, the Washington Native Plant Society, Seattle Audubon, and other conservation organizations believe that a timely and complete elimination of non-native goats from the peninsula is the only feasible solution to this problem. This recommendation is based on the simple fact that mountain goats are not a threatened species in Washington State, while the alpine plant

(See *Goats*, p.11)

## Lake Cushman/Tacoma City Light -- Land Swap Reduction of Eastside Elk Habitat

by Polly Dyer



In its application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Tacoma City Light (TCL) has proposed that its hydroelectric project on the Lake Cushman Reservoir

"needs" to inundate additional areas now within Olympic National Park's southeast corner near Staircase. Plans are to increase the flooding of park lands from the current approximately eleven acres to approximately thirty acres.

TCL and ONP have been discussing a land exchange, and Congress just enacted legislation to accomplish this, as introduced by Senator Slade Gorton and Congressman Norm Dicks. ONP proposes that the exchange be for Washington Dept. of Natural Resources lands inside the park: forty acres along the Soleduck Road and another 5 acres just inside the Ocean Strip. TCL would pay DNR for its ONP in-holdings.

Olympic Park Associates is concerned that the potential additional flooding by the Lake Cushman Reservoir further reduces winter habitat for the east side elk herd that migrates from the park to lower elevations during the winter.

OPA opposed any exchange unless it provided a guaranteed sanctuary for winter elk habitat.

Such protection does not appear to be planned, although OPA has recommended that Lilliwaup Swamp north of Lake Cushman be acquired for such a sanctuary.

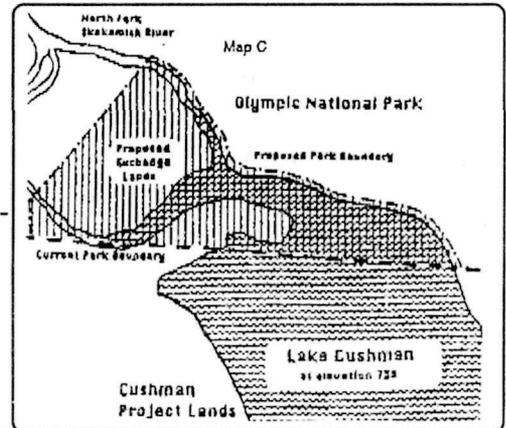
TCL, during the June scoping meetings, commented that it had satisfied the elk "problem" by providing some elk habitat for a

resident herd south of Lake Cushman. Such elk habitat protection is desirable, but it does not assure winter habitat for the park's herd which will be impacted by an enlarged reservoir.

Olympic Park Associates contends that TCL and ONP should guarantee protection of winter habitat for Olympic National Park's East Olympic elk herd.

Olympic National Park and Tacoma City Light have been preparing an Environmental

Assessment (EA) for the land exchange. Although ONP's representative stated that the EA will be encompassed within the overall Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) being prepared by TCL for the FERC hydroelectric licensing process, it is not clear just how this will be addressed now that Congress has legislatively authorized the Secretary of Interior to make a change in the boundaries of ONP to accommodate the reservoir.



## Olympic National Park Wilderness

by Polly Dyer

### Update:

#### Wilderness Status, 1988 to Present

Wilderness for most of Olympic National Park was finally designated by Congress in 1988. Although the 1964 Wilderness Act had directed that studies be conducted and proposals made by the Park Service for wilderness in the national parks (Olympic and Rainier included), and although the 1968 act establishing the North Cascades National Park Complex required that wilderness be proposed within two years, bills had never been introduced in Congress for Washington State's national parks. Before retiring from the U. S. Senate, Senator Dan Evans introduced and spearheaded legislation through Congress to designate wilderness in all three parks.

An additional provision for Olympic National Park was the inclusion of the intertidal zone, out as far as extreme low tide, within the boundaries of the park contiguous to the Ocean Strip. Previously the boundary had extended only as far as mean high tide. Fee title for the intertidal zone was transferred from the owner, Washington State, to Olympic National Park in exchange for Keystone Spit in Puget Sound, which had been acquired by the National Park Service for transfer to Washington State.

Congress also incorporated as a part of Olympic National Park the rocks and islands immediately offshore and within the Flattery Rocks and Quillayute National Wildlife Refuge, designated as the Washington Islands Wilderness some years earlier. In essence, this gives these rocks and islands dual protection. The just-passed Olympic National Marine Sanctuary (1992) adds a third level of protection. (More about the Sanctuary in the next *Voice*.) The 1988 legislation also added Destruction Island to Olympic National Park; it had not been within the National Wildlife Refuge nor afforded any other protective category.

### Long Overdue:

#### A Study of Impacts Upon the Park from Activities Outside the Park

In connection with the Washington Parks Wilderness Act of 1988, a Congressional Task Directive was outlined in the Report of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to accompany S. 2156. The Directive stated: "*....Concerns were raised as to the impacts on ecosystems and natural resources within the national parks from land use activities outside of the national park boundaries. The Committee intends that the National Park Service shall prepare a task directive....This written document should specifically define the ecological, economic, and recreational issues to be addressed in a park study encompassing Olympic National Park (also Mt. Rainier N.P. and North Cascades N.P. Complex)....The task directive shall be transmitted to the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources within one year of the date of enactment of this Act....*"

As of 1992, the National Park Service has not complied with this task directive.

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P. 6: by Jeanne R. Janish, from C. Leo Hitchcock *et al*, *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest*, U. of W. Press, 1969. By permission.

## Alien Weed Threatens Olympic National Park

by Ed Tisch

As we struggle with the issue of mountain goats in the Olympics, a

more pervasive alien has quietly invaded Olympic National Park. The new "exotic" is an innocent-looking geranium, commonly referred to as "herb Robert".

Early reports, in *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest* (Hitchcock *et al.* 1969), described *Geranium robertianum* as "a transient escape...well established and rapidly spreading" near Bingen and Issaquah, Washington. As of 1992 it has become established in numerous places west of the Cascades, including portions of suburban Seattle, and several areas in and near Olympic National Park. This weed is fern-like in appearance and produces colorful pink flowers resembling those of cultivated geraniums. The delicate beauty is deceiving, however, and sometimes induces gardeners to spare the weed -- often until it's too late!

Herb Robert was first noticed at Heart O' the Hills, the main gateway to Hurricane Ridge, in the mid-1970's. It spread rapidly through the adjacent Lake Dawn community, then hopped the park boundary and extended its range a mile or so up Hurricane Ridge road, gradually invading nearby forests. More recently it appeared on river terraces in the Elwha Valley, and is probably established elsewhere in the park.

This alien weed is a threat because it is hardy and tenacious. Unlike most weedy geraniums, herb Robert can survive under widely diverse environmental conditions, ranging from shady-wet to sunny-dry. It does best on bare mineral soil, but has been found thriving on rock piles, rotten logs, stumps, and the mossy roofs of buildings. It will germinate beneath and eventually top dense thickets of salal. Being preadapted to Northwest environments, it appears to out-compete many of our native herbs. While these tend to die back in winter, herb Robert usually remains green, even under snow, and is thus prepared to resume growth quite early in the spring.

Herb Robert propagates entirely by seeds, these

being catapulted in all directions when the dry fruits spring open in mid to late sum-

mer. Employing this dispersal method, a few pioneering individuals have been known to cover several acres in less than 10 years!

Once established in an area, herb Robert is nearly impossible to eliminate. Most eradication efforts require the hand pulling of mature plants before they

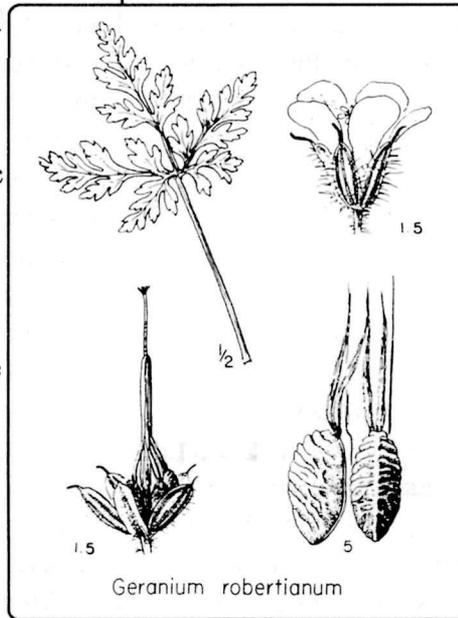
release seed in July and August. Unfortunately, hand pulling also scarifies the soil and thus improves seedbeds for the next year's crop. The seeds do not germinate simultaneously, so weeding must be repeated several times during a given growing season.

Even then, attempts at eradication tend to be incomplete, and the few survivors quickly repopulate areas occupied by their predecessors.

Because of its ability to reproduce in deep shade, herb Robert has the potential to invade many forest habitats below 4,000 feet -- possibly higher. Once established, it quickly approaches 50-100% cover, thereby competing significantly with indigenous understory plants.

It is too early to predict the ultimate impact of this weed; however, it seems likely that by the year 2020 it may dominate ground cover over much of ONP. Here in the Pacific Northwest it seems to have no natural enemies. In fact, its pungent odor, which triggers asthma attacks in some people, may well be a defense against predatory insects and larger herbivores.

We can only hope that somewhere on our planet there exists a biological control capable of slowing the spread of this aggressive weed -- before it becomes the *kudzu* of Olympic National Park!



1992 has been a good year for Olympic National Park. We have made some major progress on internal, as well as external issues. On the internal side, we have strengthened our resource management capability with the hiring of a new Chief Ranger, Bill Pierce, who has an extensive background in this area, and filled a Geographical Information Specialist (GIS) position with Roger Hoffman, a wildlife biologist. GIS is an automated system for creating, managing, analyzing, and displaying spatially referenced (e.g. mapped or mappable) data about a park's resources and facilities. The cultural resource branch was strengthened with the addition of an archaeologist, and a full-time ethnographer. The targeted parks proposal, which would have significantly strengthened the park's resource management and research capabilities, unfortunately, was not funded for FY '93. Another attempt will be made next fiscal year.

The park also engaged in a more proactive public relations program. Most editorial boards on the Peninsula were visited, major issues discussed, and factual information disseminated. Additionally, good staff contact was initi-

## Superintendent's Report

by Maureen Finnerty, Superintendent, Olympic National Park



### Profile: Superintendent Maureen Finnerty

Maureen Finnerty has a B.A. in government from Marymount College, and an M.A. in history and education from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Before joining the N.P.S., she taught history and government at the high school and college levels, and spent two years on Capitol Hill as staff aide to a senator and to the Senate Interior (now Energy) Committee, working on public land legislation.

Maureen came to Olympic National Park in 1990. During the previous 16 years with the N.P.S. she served in supervisory positions at Everglades N.P., Fort Jefferson N.M. in the Dry Tortugas, and as Associate Regional Director, Middle Atlantic Region. Ed.

ated with the media in Seattle and Tacoma.

Advancement on both the Elwha Dams and Cushman Relicensing issues was a major thrust this year. At this writing, legislation to effect a land exchange and boundary adjustment, to resolve the trespass issue at Lake

Cushman, has passed both houses and is on the way to the President for signature. An environmental assessment on the proposed exchange will be available for public review shortly. Legislation to restore the Elwha River and set the stage for the potential removal of the two dams has also passed the House and the Senate. If enacted, this will be landmark legislation marked by wonderful cooperation amongst numerous agencies and special interest groups. If dam removal is ultimately achieved, it will be the first time that dams have been removed to restore the ecosystem.

An agreement with the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Wildlife was signed late last year to jointly prepare a plan for goat management on the Olympic Peninsula. Scoping meetings were held in January, and a draft EIS is due out early next year. Relationships with our two cooperators has been excellent throughout this process.

The first year of a planned three year program to inventory and monitor spotted owls within the park was successfully completed. Knowledge of population density in Olympic National Park is critical to any recovery

plan and future actions relative to the northern spotted owls.

All in all, much was accomplished, but much more remains to be done.

## Book Review:

*Olympic Battleground: The Power Politics of Timber Preservation*, by Carsten Lien,  
Sierra Club Books, 1991.

Reviewed by Phil Zalesky

Carsten Lien tells the story of how in 1937 President Franklin Roosevelt toured the scene of the future Olympic National Park in order to promote its acceptance. While riding south of Lake Quinault, Roosevelt viewed a large clearcut that was "a sea of burned stumps without a seedling in sight" and was heard to exclaim, "I hope the son-of-a-bitch who logged that is resting in hell!"

The accursed one, the U.S. Forest Service, had their regional forester riding in the president's automobile. Most of the observed clearcuts had been sales made and supervised by the Forest Service. Unbeknownst to the president and his party, the U.S.F.S. was playing tactical "games" with Roosevelt. To manipulate his visit for their anti-park purposes, they had moved the boundary sign of Olympic National Forest. This made the logged over and devastated clearcut, sworn at by the president, appear to be outside the national forest.



John Boettinger, the president's son-in-law and editor of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, wrote in the paper the next day, "Soon the limits of the national forest were reached and with dramatic suddenness the scenery changed. Instead of the road [Highway 101] being a narrow ribbon cleaving the tall trees, there was barren desolation on both sides of the road for miles. Here a ruthless job of logging had been done,

the land having been stripped away of big trees, and then abandoned to fires which left it just a hill after hill of charred stocks and stumps."

Apparently, the falseness of the action and the resulting article were too much for a seasonal ranger. He wrote to President Roosevelt anonymously, citing the article and the scam. This and other chicanery by the Forest Service created doubt in the president's mind. Roosevelt personally called Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace and had Regional Forester Clarence Buck removed from his position.

If, in those days, they considered the forest devastated, they should see it now. Today, driving into the national park to the Hoh Museum, they would see no "narrow ribbon cleaving the tall trees", but rather one clearcut after another until reaching the park boundary. In our time, that devastation has become the greatest argument available to convince people to preserve the remaining ancient forest.

Carsten Lien, a member of the board of directors of Olympic Park Associates and himself a former National Park Service seasonal ranger, has written a riveting account of the fight to save the old growth forests on the Olympic Peninsula. The creation and preservation of Olympic National Park becomes central to his story. And a curious story it is. It is mind-boggling to realize that not only was the U.S.F.S. fighting the national park concept and boundaries with all the tricks it could muster; but the National Park Service, itself, was actually colluding surreptitiously to prevent the inclusion of the Hoh, Bogachiel, Quinault, and Queets corridors within the park.

The idealism and rhetoric of the National Park Act appear to be for tourists only; National Park Service administrators talk a different story when dealing

(See **Review**, p. 9)

(Review, continued from p. 8)

with commercial interests. Lien quotes Glenn O. Robinson, author of *The Forest Service: A Study in Public Land Management*, as saying, "...it seems to be endemic to our bureaucracy that administrators more easily identify with private industry interests than with the public interest." After finishing this book, you wonder if the National Park Service has changed even now. You look at the present leadership in the Pacific Northwest Regional office and doubts turn to concerns. You come away with the feeling that there is a definite need for watchdog organizations such as Olympic Park Associates for the Olympics, a North Cascades Conservation Council for the North Cascades Complex, and a Mt. Rainier National Park Associates for Mount Rainier National Park.

Carsten Lien documents how a small group of adept conservationists led the way for the creation of a "large" Olympic National Park. The primary organization turned out to be the Emergency Conservation Committee of New York. Three key players were integral within this organization - Rosalee Edge, a New York socialite and aggressive conservationist; Willard Van Names, a scientist in the American Museum of Natural History and a charitable and partisan pamphleteer; Irving Brant, a St. Louis editorial writer, biographer of James Madison, and a power broker whose friendships included President Roosevelt, Secretary of Interior Ickes, Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace, and numerous members of Congress. Most notable among local national park advocates was Irving Clark, an influential Seattle lawyer and a conservation leader in the Mountaineers.

The obstacles to the creation of the park enumerated by Lien were plentiful. Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes wanted a large national park, but his own National Park Service consistently and clandestinely opposed it and yielded to commercial in-

terests behind his back. Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace agreed with the president on a large national park, but his own bureaucrats in the United States Forest Service fought him, too. In the end both cabinet members learned to distrust their own bureaucrats and acted without consultation with members of their agencies.

Other major obstacles included the timber syndicates such as the West Coast Lumbermen and the



James J. Hill and Weyerhaeuser political monolith. The governors of the state were consistently against a park, having been co-opted by this political monolith. The University of Washington School of Forestry and the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, heeding the same clarion call, also contested the efforts. The attitude of the Chamber was reflected earlier when Thomas Burke, one of the social and political icons of early Seattle, spoke on behalf of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce and said, "The people of today have a right to share in the blessings of nature [timber from the forests] ...there is a determined purpose not to let a band of well meaning sentimentalists rob the present on the plea that it is necessary to hoard the na-

tion's riches for unborn generations."

If you have the feeling that the story you are reading is just a rehash of the present old growth controversy, you are probably right. From the beginning, when pressed on the issue of sustained yield forestry, the timber syndicates on the Olympic Peninsula showed no interest in good forestry or reforestation.

"We cannot grow trees until they are

(See **Review**, p. 10)

**Book Review:** *The Olympic Rainforest, An Ecological Web*, by Ruth Kirk with Jerry Franklin, University of Washington Press, 128 pages, \$35.00 cloth, \$17.50 paper.

Reviewed by Tim McNulty

In 1966, naturalist and writer Ruth Kirk collaborated with photographer Josel Namkung to produce *The Olympic Rain Forest*. Published by the University of Washington Press, it was the first popular presentation of Olympic National Park's magnificent temperate rain forests, and it set a standard for interpreting both the beauty and the ecological integrity of our western forest resources.

A lot has happened in the world of forest ecology in the past quarter century. Our scientific understanding of the richness and complexity of old growth forest systems has increased dramatically, while at the same time more than 80% of our remaining unprotected old growth forests have been destroyed.

Much of what we now know about old growth forest ecosystems comes either directly or indirectly from the dean of old growth ecologists in the Northwest, Jerry Franklin. During his years as chief plant ecologist for the U.S. Forest Service, and later, while serving as Bloedel Professor of Ecosystems Analysis at the University of Washington, Dr. Franklin initiated or oversaw much of the groundbreaking research into old growth ecosystems. Some of that research took place in the western rainforest valleys of Olympic National Park.

So it comes as no surprise that when Ruth Kirk undertook the considerable task of updating her original book on the Olympic rain forest, she would choose Franklin as her collaborator. The result, *The Olympic Rainforest, An Ecological Web*, is the most accessible and informed exploration of this unique forest. Kirk's talent for presenting complex scientific ideas in a compelling and easily understandable way makes the book a pleasure to read. Her discussion of the world's temperate and tropical rain forest places Olympic in its global context, and her explanation of various animal species' roles in the ecology of the forest is a celebration of diversity. Kirk's text weaves historical background as well as the human

stories of interesting scientific discoveries into her narrative; Nalini Nadkarni's airy exploration of the forest canopy and Mark Harmon's "long term" -- read "two century" -- study of the decomposition of fallen logs are two examples that come immediately to mind. And in Kirk's hands, the story of the rain forest unfolds as a continuing drama. Native cultures and the early homesteaders are also given their rightful place in the forest's story, as are the geologic and climatic forces that shaped the land itself.

Though this current edition of *The Olympic Rainforest* lacks the stunning artistry of Josel Namkung's photographs, it is nonetheless richly illustrated. What emerges, then, is a superb story of evolution, climatic change, and the continued adaptation and refinement of one of the richest, most diverse, and utterly beautiful natural ecosystems found anywhere in the world.

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(Review, continued from p. 9.)

worth the cost of growing them." When pressed to improve public relations, the industry began to talk about "tree farms" and "timber is a crop." Irving Clark of the Wilderness Society and the Mountaineers responded, "Another way to express sustained yield is progressive destruction."

This is a story that needed to be told. Carsten Lien spent more than 25 years documenting his story. He has delved deeply into the national archives, newspapers, and local conservationists' papers. Not much the agencies have done on the Olympic Peninsula has escaped him. He has interviewed the people of the Emergency Conservation Committee, all of whom are now deceased. Although he has glossed over some of the more recent events (see accompanying article on the Quinault valley), this is an incredible and astonishing history that needs to be read by all would-be conservation and environmental activists. Lessons are here to be learned.

(Goats, continued from p. 3.)

communities of the Olympics are irreplaceable. The world scientific community has twice acknowledged the ecological importance of the Olympics by designating the park an International Biosphere Reserve and a World Heritage site. To further sacrifice this area's ecological integrity in order to supply fodder for trophy hunters is unthinkable, yet that is precisely what a vocal constituency seems to be advocating.

Opponents of goat management, an unlikely alliance of sport-hunters and well-organized animal rights groups, have seen fit to challenge some of the most exhaustive scientific research ever conducted in the Olympics. They insist that no action be taken and "further studies" mounted. The Fund for Animals has attempted to build a case for the startling notion that mountain goats *are* native to the Olympics. While such allegations are easy to dismiss, the politi-



cal controversy that surrounds this issue is not. Substantial pressure is being brought to bear on the Park Service, the Forest Service, and the Department of Wildlife to let this situation go unchecked.

The Park Service is in a unique position to fulfill its mandate by pressing for total removal of all non-native goats from the Olympic ecosystem. Considering the Park Service's nearly two decades of exhaustive study and testing the public waters on this issue, OPA expects strong, uncompromising leadership from the agency charged with protecting the Olympics' rich natural heritage. Anything short of this would amount to an enormous, fifteen-year-long waste of everyone's time.

If we are to keep this and all of our other wilderness parks ecologically intact, we must make tough decisions now, when they are needed. The Draft EIS on Non-Native Goats in the Olympics will be released early in 1993. All agencies involved -- Olympic National Forest and Washington Department of Wildlife, as well as Olympic National Park -- need to hear your thoughts on this issue and they need to hear them strong and clear.

To keep informed, ask to be placed on the mailing list for the Draft EIS. (See p. 3 for address.)

(Elwha, continued from p. 1)

January, 1994, a report on his plan for achieving the full restoration of the anadromous fisheries and the ecosystem of the Elwha River and Olympic National Park. The report must include *a definite plan for dam removal*, complete with a timetable for "deconstruction" and salmon restoration measures.

If the plan finds dam removal necessary to restore the ecosystem and fisheries, the Secretary must then acquire the two dams from the owners for \$29.5 million and implement the removal plan. If the Secretary concludes against dam removal, the matter then reverts back to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the courts for resolution.

Other important provisions of the bill address in

part damages suffered by the tribe as a result of the dams, protect existing water quality for the local Port Angeles water supply, provide for replacement power for the Daishowa paper mill (at the same market rate as other local industries), and provide for the upper dam site to be fully integrated into the park and for the management of the lower dam site as a refuge.

Olympic Park Associates and the conservatio community will need to continue to aggressively press for dam removal during the preparation of the study mandated by this bill, and to help secure the necessary appropriations from Congress to accomplish the removal.

(See **Elwha**, p. 12)

(Elwha, continued from p. 11.)

### **History and Impacts of the Dams**

The Elwha River flows north from the heart of the Olympic Mountains and Olympic National Park, through forests and canyons to the Strait of Juan de Fuca. All five Pacific salmon species -- plus steelhead trout, sea-run cutthroat trout, sea-run Dolly Varden, and sturgeon -- spawned in the Elwha River. Hundreds of thousands of pink salmon once returned to the river, and the spring chinook reached 100 pounds in size. But nearly 80 years ago, the Elwha Dam was constructed across the river about five miles from the Strait, blocking the access of ocean-migrating fish to 70 miles of habitat in the upper river and tributaries. This blockage was in violation of Washington State law which required the installation of fish passage facilities for food fish. In the late 1920's a second dam, Glines Canyon, was constructed, also without fish passage facilities.

Blockage of gravel transport downstream also impacted shellfish beds. These multiple losses in turn destroyed a large part of the livelihood and cultural base for the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. The dams and their reservoirs obliterated sacred sites and other tribal use areas. The absence of salmon carcasses upstream robbed the ecosystem of a significant protein source and resulted in a major reduction in the area's ability to support wildlife.

### **Efforts to Remove Dams, Restore the Ecosystem**

The license for the Glines Canyon Dam under the Federal Power Act expired in 1976, and at about the same time federal courts determined that the Elwha Dam also needed to be licensed. The two dams are now before the FERC, the federal licensing agency.

The present legislation is the product of more than five years' work by a varied group of organizations: government agencies (National Marine Fisheries Service, National Park Service, Washington Department of Wildlife, U.W. Fish and Wildlife Service), native Americans (the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe), peninsula residents (Friends of the Elwha), and conservation and wildlife organizations (Olympic Park Associates, Seattle Audubon Society, Friends of the Earth, Sierra Club, Trout Unlimited).

The conservation groups petitioned for the removal of the two dams, and for the restoration of the fish runs and ecosystem of the Elwha River and Olympic National Park. They also argued that the relicensing of the Glines Canyon Dam in the Olympic National Park would be unlawful, and with the assistance of attorneys from the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund and the Seattle firm of Keller Rohrback began to take steps to support their position.

The government agencies and Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe have also publicly called for the removal of the dams. Scientific work by biologists and fisheries managers from the agencies and tribes have shown that the restoration prospects under a dam removal scenario for sockeye and spring chinook native runs are fair, and good for all other runs. For a trap and haul scheme with dams in place, restoration chances for coho and sea-run trout would be fair, poor for chinook, and nonexistent for pink, chum and sockeye. Park Service studies have also confirmed the probable adverse impacts of blocked salmon runs upon wildlife populations in the Elwha River Basin.

### **Power Supply Concerns**

The entire output of the dams supplies a single pulp mill in Port Angeles, and from the beginning of the battle the power supply to the pulp mill has been a major concern. James River II Corp., the current dam owners, and Daishowa America, the mill owners, maintained that the mill would close if deprived of the artificially low-cost power from the dams.

Conservationists responded to this challenge by developing an alternative power supply plan. Under their "Creative Solution", energy conservation and efficiency measures plus industrial energy conservation assistance through the on-line programs at the Bonneville Power Administration would completely remove the need for the power of the dams. Jim Baker, Friends of the Earth, and the Northwest Conservation Act Coalition took the lead in developing this landmark proposal.

### **Events in the Past Two Years**

Since late 1990, legal skirmish between the FERC versus the conservation groups and their allies has

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attempted to determine whether FERC had the authority to relicense the Glines Canyon Dam within the park, despite two opinions from the General Accounting Office that th relicensing was *not* permitted. Conservation groups preferred a negotiated settlement, but filed motions in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in order to protect their legal rights. The case has been on hold pending legislation.

Meanwhile, in March, 1991, FERC released a draft EIS which, whilenot choosing a perferred alternative, clearly undercut the cause of retaining the Elwha

River dams.

As information developed by the agencies and FERC indicated that dam removal was both necessary and feasible, and that replacement power and funding could be found, public sentiment proved to be overwhelming in support of restoring the ecosystem. Elected representatives responded favorably to that public support. Senator Brock Adams and Congressman Al Swift introduced legislation this year. They and thei staff have worked tirelessly with conservationisis, local leaders, and government agencies to resolve differences and pass the legislation.

### Removing the Elwha Dams: What Can You Do?

**1. Thank Senator Adams and Representative Swift** for their leadership and persistence in fighting for legislation to restore the Elwha ecosystem. Write to:

Representative Al Swift, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515

Senator Brock Adams, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510

**2. Prepare to educate your new members of Congress (Jan. 1993) about the Elwha.** Progress continues to depend on your support. The Secretary's report will be released in January, 1994. Between now and then, continue to urge your elected officials to make removal of the Elwha dams a top priority.

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*Voice of the Wild Olympics*

Sally W. Soest, Editor

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