



# CLEARWATER DEFENDER

## NEWS OF THE BIG WILD

A PUBLICATION OF  
FRIENDS OF THE CLEARWATER

ISSUED QUARTERLY  
FALL 2014, NO.2

## 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act

“... it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.”



Looking east from Graves Peak, Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, FOC File Photo



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The Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness was established when the United States Congress passed the Wilderness Act in 1964. Acreage was added to the area in 1980 when the Central Idaho Wilderness Act (which also designated the \*River of No Return Wilderness) was passed. The area has a total of 1,340,502-acres. Idaho contains approximately 1,089,059-acres. Montana contains approximately 251,443 acres.

\* In 1984 the name was changed to the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness.



The Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Turns 50  
 FOC File Photo

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## FRIENDS OF THE CLEARWATER

THE CLEARWATER DEFENDER  
 IS A PUBLICATION OF:

**Friends of the Clearwater**  
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Friends of the Clearwater, a recognized nonprofit organization since 1987, defends the Clearwater Bioregion's wildlands and biodiversity through a Forest Watch program, litigation, grassroots public involvement, outreach, and education. The Wild Clearwater Country, the northern half of central Idaho's Big Wild, contains many unprotected roadless areas and wild rivers and provides crucial habitat for countless, rare, plant and animal species. Friends of the Clearwater strives to protect these areas, restore degraded habitats, preserve viable populations of native species, recognize national and international wildlife corridors, and bring an end to commodity extraction and industrialization on public lands.

Friends of the Clearwater is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All contributions to Friends of the Clearwater are tax-deductible.

The Clearwater Defender welcomes artwork and articles pertaining to the protection of the Big Wild. Articles in the Clearwater Defender do not necessarily reflect the views of Friends of the Clearwater.

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## Wilderness: Antidote for Civilization

Guest Opinion  
George Wuerthner

A recent editorial in the *New York Times* by Christopher Solomon (7-5-14) suggested that America's Wilderness System on its 50th birthday was facing a "midlife crisis," as he called it. Solomon suggested that the basic premise of the 1964 Wilderness Act—that we can maintain and protect wild country by leaving it alone—is questionable in an era of climate change and other human-caused intrusions. What Solomon and others collectively argue is that humans have no choice but to manage the wilderness and by extension the entire planet.

But what Solomon's perspective demonstrates is a midlife crisis for human society. In an era of global climate change, species extinction, rapid biodiversity losses, and the conversion of more and more of the Earth's surface to human ends, wilderness preservation is the antidote to our hubris. It can remind us of where we have come from, and it may hold the secrets to where we will be.

The spirit of the 1964 Wilderness Act, and the goal of wilderness preservation, are to allow natural processes to operate to the greatest degree possible without human interference. It is a statement of self-restraint. It is an act of both love and self-discipline. A willingness to accept that we do not know all the mysteries of the universe and that some places should remain primarily under natural influences is central to the philosophical values incorporated by the Wilderness Act.

The Wilderness Act is an insurance policy for humanity as well as nature. The Act specifically says that its goal is: "to assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the United States and its possessions, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition." Wilderness designation is an act of humility and self-restraint—an acknowledgement that we need to maintain and protect natural processes and landscapes. This is not about protecting "pristine" lands as some critics of wilderness and wildlands protection sometimes pose as a strawman. Given the global influence of humanity, it is difficult to argue that any place on the Earth is entirely untouched by the human footprint.

However, lack of the pristine does not necessarily mean these wildlands are under human control. There are degrees of human influence. The wilds of Alaska's Arctic Wildlife Refuge are decidedly under less human manipulation than the city streets of New York or Los Angeles.

Ultimately, what we are saving by leaving wild places alone and self-willed is a piece of our national patri-

mony. These wildlands are part of our Nation's heritage, and ultimately part of a global heritage that we are entrusted to preserve.

What we are trying to preserve with Wilderness designation is more than a landscape. We are ultimately preserving a sense of humility and awe in the face of the natural world. Wilderness preservation means accepting the idea that human cleverness has limits.

Given the temptation to tamper with, and "improve" upon nature, we need the Wilderness Act more than ever. By accepting and preserving lands (seas) where we purposefully and respectfully minimize our collective footprint on at least a portion of the Earth, thus preserve the spiritual and ethical foundation for global conservation. We cannot improve upon Nature; we can only recognize its integrity.

**Editor's Note:** Use this link if you wish to read Christopher Solomon's article in the *New York Times*, [http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/06/opinion/sunday/the-wilderness-act-is-facing-a-midlife-crisis.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/06/opinion/sunday/the-wilderness-act-is-facing-a-midlife-crisis.html?_r=0).



George Wuerthner is a member of FOC and frequent contributor to *The Wildlife News* [thewildlifeneedsblog.com](http://thewildlifeneedsblog.com)



## The Struggle to Pass the Wilderness Act

### Guest Opinion

Jerome Walker, Wilderness Watch Board Member

When the Wilderness Act passed Congress in 1964 there were 34 “yes” votes for every “no” vote. As a result, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Wilderness Act on Sept. 3rd, 1964, setting aside 9 million acres in our National Forests. In these days of Congressional dysfunction and narrowly split partisan votes, a vote for or against motherhood or apple pie wouldn’t have been this one-sided. How did it happen?

When Europeans first came to these shores, they feared wild lands as the abode of both dangerous animals and savages, and viewed them as areas to be conquered, civilized, and tamed. With the closure of the western frontier in 1891, though, attitudes started to change. Under the influence of strong leaders, including John Muir, who founded the Sierra Club, President Teddy Roosevelt, and others, people began for the first time to see wilderness as having esthetic, spiritual, and other values. Many Americans viewed wilderness as the place where national values of self-reliance, independence, and courage were nurtured. This shift in thinking was accelerated by the establishment of Yellowstone and Yosemite National Parks, and by a fierce national debate over whether Hetch Hetchy, a valley in Yosemite, could be dammed as a reservoir for San Francisco.

Some of the shift in thinking was probably due to the action of the law of supply and demand. As Aldo Leopold put it, only “when the end of the supply is in sight do we ‘discover’ that the thing is valuable.” Thanks to his influence, the young Forest Service set aside some 574,000 acres in New Mexico’s Gila National Forest in 1924 as a “permanent wilderness reserve.” This was the world’s first official wilderness on public land, a uniquely American invention.

In 1956, Howard Zahniser of the Wilderness Society, David Brower of the Sierra Club and others were able to join forces and block construction of Echo Park Dam in Dinosaur National Monument, reversing the earlier Hetch Hetchy defeat and giving the preservation movement a huge boost. An emboldened Zahniser wrote up a plan for a national system of wilderness preservation and persuaded Senator Hubert Humphrey, a Democrat, and Representative John Saylor, a Republican, to introduce bills in Congress to implement his idea.

Between 1957 and 1964 there were 18 separate hearings on the proposal, and the wilderness bill was re-written or resubmitted to Congress 66 different times. During the legislative process a number of compromises were made. These included making every new wilderness des-

ignation dependent on an Act of Congress, allowing new mining claims and new leases in wilderness to be staked or issued until 1984, and also allowing grazing to continue in areas where it existed prior to wilderness designation. There was, and continues to be, opposition to the idea of wilderness from the timber, mining, and oil industries, from grazing interests, and proponents of mass recreation with motorized access to public lands.

Since 1964, the National Wilderness Preservation System has grown to over 758 wilderness areas and 110 million acres, ten times the size of the original system and roughly 5% of our country. Approximately half of the acreage is in Alaska. Almost 15 million acres in the lower 48 were added in the 1980s; under 10 million in the 1990s; and less than 5 million in the 2000s. Since 2010, only 32,000 acres have made it in. Though there’s still some room for growth of the system, clearly wilderness enthusiasts need to focus primarily on making sure existing wilderness is managed to keep these very special places wild and beautiful for our children and grandchildren.



Fred Burr High Lake, Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness  
Jerome Walker Photo

**Wilderness Watch is America’s only organization dedicated to defending and keeping wild the nation’s 110-million acre National Wilderness Preservation System. Their work is guided by the visionary 1964 Wilderness Act. To become a member of this great organization, please visit [wildernesswatch.org](http://wildernesswatch.org).**



**The Gospel-Hump was designated  
Wilderness in 1978  
Palouse-Great Old Broads for  
Wilderness Photo Credit**

### **National Wilderness Preservation System Facts** Brett Haverstick

The passing of the Wilderness Act in 1964 established the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS). Fifty-four areas in thirteen states, a total of 9.1 million acres, initiated the system. Fast-forward fifty years and the NWPS includes seven-hundred-fifty-eight areas in forty-four different states, plus Puerto Rico, for a total of roughly 110-million acres. Lands managed by the US Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management and US Fish & Wildlife Service are included.

Unbeknownst to many, less than 5% of the United States is designated Wilderness. Minus Alaska, less than 3% of the country is included in the NWPS. Connecticut, Delaware, Rhode Island, Maryland, Iowa and Kansas do not have any designated Wilderness within their boundaries. California, Arizona, Nevada, Oregon and Alaska contain the most Wilderness areas. The Frank Church-River of No Return and Gospel-Hump Wildernesses in Idaho form the largest contiguous block of Wilderness in the lower 48.

Idaho has twelve areas designated as Wilderness, a total of roughly 4.5 million acres. The Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, at approximately 1.3 million acres (250,000-acres are in Montana), was the first designated Wilderness in the state. With roughly 33 million acres of federal land in the "Gem State," less than 8% is included in the NWPS.

### **The Big Wild Photo Exhibit** Brett Haverstick

Friends of the Clearwater is excited to work with the Moscow Food Co-Op in the organizing of the *Wilderness 50: Big Wild Photo Exhibit* beginning on Thursday September 11. The month-long exhibit will feature photography from the Selway-Bitterroot, Gospel-Hump, Frank Church-River of No Return and Hell's Canyon Wilderness areas. Photos will showcase landscapes, local flora, fauna and people. Food Co-op staff are graciously providing appetizers for the grand opening, which is from 5:45 - 7:00pm. FOC staff and board members will be present at the opening, too! The store is located at 121 E. 5th Street.



### **National Wilderness Conference** Brett Haverstick

FOC and Wilderness Watch staff are attending the *National Wilderness Conference* October 15-19 in Albuquerque, NM. The conference will offer presentations, panels, exhibits, field learning and skill development workshops. There will also be a *Get Wild Festival* and the *People's Wilderness Film Gala*. To learn more go to <http://www.wilderness50th.org/conference.php>.

**If you would like to order a copy of *Wilderness: Reclaiming the Legacy* go to [http://www.wildernesswatch.org/resources/Wilderness\\_Reclaiming\\_Legacy.html](http://www.wildernesswatch.org/resources/Wilderness_Reclaiming_Legacy.html). The booklet contains a collection of essays and articles about maintaining and enhancing wilderness character.**



**One of the greatest threats to Wilderness today is legislation that weakens the protections of the Wilderness Act. Quid pro quo wilderness legislation, often the result of so-called collaboration, is a major problem. The following is an edited summary from a Friends of the Clearwater report titled, *An Analysis of the Clearwater Basin Collaborative Focusing on the Proposed Wilderness, Special Management Areas and Wild and Scenic Rivers*.**

The Clearwater Basin Collaborative (CBC) is a group that formally convened in 2008, their stated purpose being an attempt to resolve resource management conflicts in the Clearwater Basin, with a focus on the national forests. The group includes representatives of the logging industry, motorized vehicle interests, outfitting groups, hunting groups, and mainstream environmental groups. In 2013, the CBC issued an "Agreement and Work Plan" for management and use of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, much of which the CBC proposes to be implemented through federal legislation. The proposed legislation would designate some lands as Wilderness and some rivers as Wild and Scenic Rivers, while possibly "releasing" other lands for increased logging.

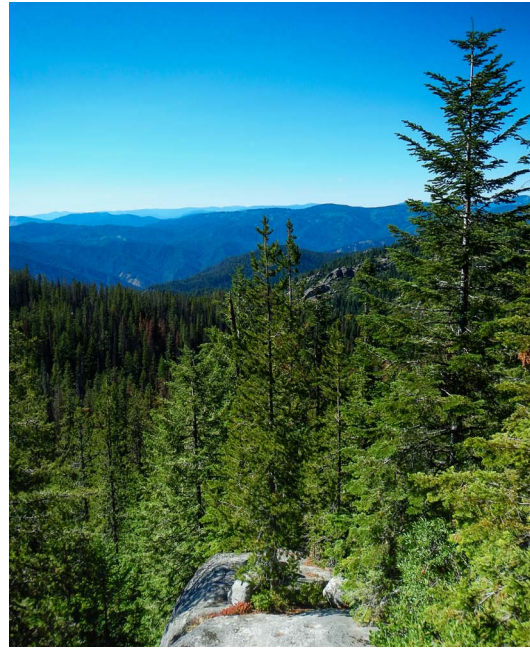
While the CBC has received positive press and praise from Idaho's elected officials and some conservationists, there is serious concern that the group and its proposals will set negative precedent regarding the Wilderness Act and provide inadequate protection for this wild area. It also may serve to circumvent the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which guarantees all American citizens, not just a select group, to participate in national forest analysis and subsequent decision-making processes.

A close look at the proposal reveals that wildlands and wild rivers would be less protected than under current management plans in certain crucial respects. First, the deal includes provisions that are inconsistent with wilderness, as defined by the Wilderness Act. These harmful precedents threaten wilderness everywhere by allowing nonconforming uses, thereby weakening the entire National Wilderness Preservation System, and by putting pressure on agencies to allow these uses in designated Wilderness elsewhere.

Second, by any measure, the acreage proposed for protection as wilderness is paltry, with only 20% of the qualifying roadless lands recommended for wilderness designation, while fifteen inventoried roadless areas comprising hundreds of thousands of acres are omitted entirely. Such designations could serve to weaken protection on up to one million acres of roadless wildlands.

Third, the river protections proposed under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act are similarly paltry, with the Forest Service recommending far more rivers for protection than the CBC. The CBC proposal would dramatically

increase logging in large areas of the Clearwater Basin, in a trade-off that will harm water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.



**Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act  
would designate Pot Mountain as Wilderness  
FOC File Photo**

## **I. A Summary of Clearwater Basin Wildlands and Wild Rivers**

The Clearwater Basin has about 1.5 million acres of roadless land that qualify for wilderness. As part of the largest assemblage of roadless country in the lower 48 States, the wildlands in the Clearwater region are unmatched, and form the most important habitat in the entire Rockies for large , in part because of the amazing low-elevation biological diversity.

## **II. The Proposed Land Protections are Flawed and Inadequate**

The CBC proposal only recommends 20% of the qualifying roadless lands for wilderness. Crucial areas like the quarter-million acre Weitas Creek Roadless Area and the remote Pot Mountain Roadless Area were omitted. Even worse, the deal includes provisions in the proposed wilderness that are completely inconsistent with preservation of wilderness. In contrast, the *Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act* provides protection for virtually of the roadless lands in the Clearwater Basin and contains no provisions that weaken wilderness.

### **A. Giving Commercial Services (Outfitters) Special Rights**

To avoid commercializing wilderness, the Wilderness Act states “there shall be no commercial enterprise” within any wilderness. At the same time, Congress also recognized that some people may need the services of outfitters in order to experience wilderness. Thus, Congress also made a very narrow exception where “Commercial services” like outfitting “may be performed” but only “to the extent necessary for activities which are proper” to achieve wilderness purposes.

The CBC proposal grants special rights to outfitters that would negatively affect the ability of agencies to administer wilderness and protect it in perpetuity. For example, the proposal would make Forest Service decisions, such as moving outfitter camps, even in the face of severe resource damage, subject to veto by the outfitters themselves.

### **B. Making Wilderness Game Farms?**

The CBC proposal would further allow state game managers unfettered motorized access in designated wilderness. It could also allow illegal manipulation of habitat inside wilderness. Such compromised land is not wilderness. In wilderness, natural processes should determine the relative diversity and abundance of wildlife. The level of human influence, including management actions and decisions, should be minimized in wilderness. Citizens and managers must move wildlife management programs in a direction that leaves wilderness as an area “untrammeled by man...retaining its primeval character and influence...protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions....” The Wilderness Act does not specifically grant special exceptions for state fish and game agencies to use motorized equipment to eliminate carnivores like wolves or manipulate habitat to increase certain game species.

### **C. Inadequate Protections for Specific Areas**

Current management direction provides far better ecological protection than the CBC proposal. The CBC proposal would only protect about 300,000 roadless acres (203,000 acres on the Clearwater National Forest) as (compromised) wilderness and about 163,000 acres as “special management areas.” But current management direction (i.e., the 1987 Clearwater Forest Plan, as modified by a 1993 lawsuit settlement agreement) offers management as recommended wilderness for a total of 532,000 roadless acres (an additional 26,000 acres if one counts the Idaho Panhandle National Forests 1987 recommendation in the Clearwater Basin) and a total of 261,000 roadless acres pro-

tested for the enhancement of fisheries and wildlife habitat (an additional 11,000 acres if one includes the Idaho Panhandle National Forests in the Clearwater Basin). Thus the agreement does not address the real issue of roadless development on the national forests in the Clearwater Basin and as proposed could actually weaken protection on anywhere from 340,000 acres to much more, depending on provisions in any legislation.

### **III. The Proposed River Protections are Inadequate**

In terms of river protection, the Forest Service recommends more streams for protection than are proposed in the CBC proposal, with nine eligible and recommended river segments being omitted.

### **IV. A Summary of Other Issues and Concerns with the Clearwater Basin Collaborative and the Agreement**

The CBC’s proposals, in effect, could circumvent the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which guarantees all American citizens, not just a select group, participate in national forest analysis and subsequent decision-making processes. The CBC also proposes to significantly increase logging in the Clearwater and Nez Perce National Forests. This is unacceptable, in important fisheries habitat and where streams currently do not meet water quality standards. Significantly increased logging will have negative impacts upon water quality and wildlife habitat.

### **Conclusion**

This year is the 50th anniversary of the 1964 Wilderness Act. The CBC deal denigrates Wilderness by proposing incompatible provisions, which would, if enacted, designate “wilderness” in name only. This threatens the entire National Wilderness Preservation System that generations have worked to build over the past almost 50 years. Wilderness, as we’ve known it, as a wild place and as a concept in America is in danger of disappearing both from our culture and the landscape. Increasing logging in crucial watersheds, potentially weakening protection on nearly one million acres of existing roadless areas and compromising the Wilderness Act, wilderness values and qualities is too high a price to pay for designation of about 300,000 acres of new “in-name-only” wilderness and 163,000 acres of special management.

**Editor’s Note: A full copy of the report and executive summary are available at the Friends of the Clearwater website [www.friendsoftheclearwater.org](http://www.friendsoftheclearwater.org) or by requesting a paper copy from Friends of the Clearwater, PO Box 9241, Moscow, ID 83843.**

**Wilderness Considered:  
A Reading and Conversation Series  
Marking the 50th Anniversary of the  
1964 Wilderness Act  
Charlotte Mohan, Palouse-Great Old Broads  
for Wilderness**

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Come celebrate wilderness by joining in lively discussions based on stimulating readings and led by knowledgeable scholars on five Thursday evenings in October and November. Explore our connection to wilderness, how and if it has changed over the past fifty years, and what it offers our to our sense of national identity. Authors, such as Peter Fromm and John Muir, may be familiar to you, while others will provide new insights.

In conjunction with the series, there will be an art exhibit at Moscow City Hall that celebrates many aspects of the wilderness experience through various forms of media. A bonus evening will be devoted to "Women in Wilderness," a panel discussion by local women who have lived and worked in the rugged backcountry, with a reception that evening to officially open the exhibit.

All programs are free of charge, and the reading materials are currently available from the Latah County Library to the first twenty-five people who register. Everyone, however, is welcome to any and all of the discussions. All programs are set to take place in the council chambers of Moscow City Hall. The series is jointly sponsored by the Moscow Arts Commission, the Idaho Humanities Council, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, and the Latah County Library District. Please join the conversation!

### Schedule:

- *Art Celebrates Wilderness: Exhibit Dates*  
October 23 - November 20
- *Women in Wilderness Panel:*  
October 24th 6:00 - 7:30pm
- *Wilderness Considered Speaker Series:*  
Thursdays 6:00 - 7:30pm  
October 23, 30 and November 6, 13 and 20

If you wish to get involved with the local chapter of the Great Old Broads for Wilderness please contact Cindy Magnuson at [cmcindyidaho@gmail.com](mailto:cmcindyidaho@gmail.com) or Ashley Lipscomb at [ashley.lipscomb@gmail.com](mailto:ashley.lipscomb@gmail.com).

### Around the Clearwater Gary Macfarlane

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The Forest Plan revision for the Clearwater and Nez Perce National Forests is currently the big issue affecting the wild lands in the Clearwater. As has been reported earlier, the two national forests have been administratively combined into one, now named the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests. Two separate plans are being merged into one. There are many problems with the preliminary proposal released by the Forest Service. They include:

- 1- Almost no viable and enforceable "standards." Standards are required sidebars that the agency must abide by. The current forest plans for both national forests have these standards, though they are not as strong as they could be. The preliminary proposal is a step backward. Water quality and wildlife habitat protection are two major areas where the preliminary proposal fails.
- 2- Limited protection for roadless areas and paltry wilderness recommendations. Crucial areas left out of the wilderness recommendation include: Weitas Creek (and Cayuse Creek), Pot Mountain, the upper North Fork Clearwater, Fish and Hungry Creek, and important additions to the Selway-Bitterroot, Gospel-Hump and Frank Church-River of No Return Wildernesses.
- 3- Inadequate protection for existing and proposed wild and scenic rivers. Only wild rivers prohibit logging along the river corridors.
- 4- Wilderness administration maintains the inadequate status quo. The preliminary plan does not give any guidance on updating direction for administration of Wilderness. Unfortunately, the Forest Service's commitment to proper wilderness administration has been diminishing for several years. On the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, that is unacceptable.

The public will have one more opportunity to weigh in after this initial public comment period, called scoping, which expires on September 15. If you have not written already, please do so, if possible. FOC sent out a summary of the Forest Service's preliminary proposal a few weeks ago. If you don't have a copy, please contact us at 208-882-9755 and we will send you one. We are hoping that citizen comments will help convince the Forest Service to make important changes in their initial proposal.

Sometime next year, a draft environmental impact statement is expected. That will be the second and final opportunity to send in comments on the proposed plan.



Speaking of consolidating the two national forests, one has to ask how that effort is going? As a cost savings measure, it seems a bust, as the Forest Service now has three supervisor's offices--Grangeville, Orofino and Kamiah. While Kamiah is intended to become the supervisor's office eventually, the fire program, out of necessity, will stay in Grangeville and Orofino will continue to be the office of the North Fork Ranger District. One has to ask if the Forest Service really saved money by choosing Kamiah as the supervisor's office location.

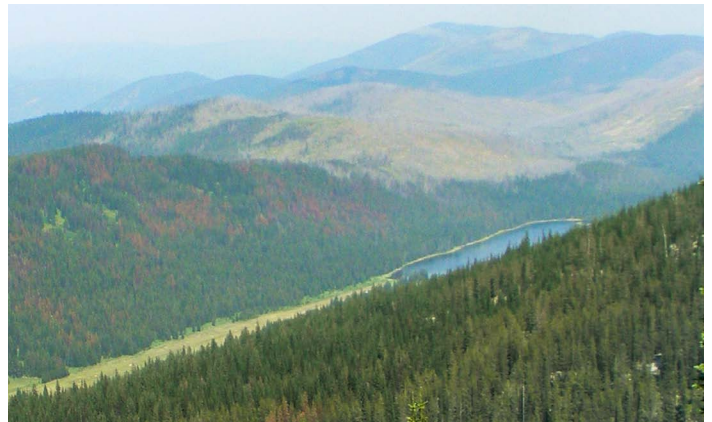
Furthermore, the consolidation has placed much more stress on employees, whose workload is increasing. Given the budget situation, maybe the Forest Service needs to think about a form of custodial management rather than a production-oriented style and/or redistribute resources from the top to the ground. Currently, the Forest Service is very top-heavy.

In terms of wilderness administration, there are two issues that show the good and bad of proposals. The Fish Lake airstrip on the Clearwater National Forest in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness is an example of the latter. Landing meadows that existed at the time of designation "may" continue (not must continue) in Wilderness. In this case, the Forest Service wants to increase the length of the runway meadow from about 2765 feet to some 3100 feet. The current length is over a half-mile long. According to the Forest Service, the strip has currently been like it is for "decades." Thus, it is not a maintenance project as the agency alleges, but an expansion. As such, it would violate the direction in the existing forest plan.

The required monitoring and real airstrip maintenance has not taken place. Apparently, this has not been a priority for the agency. While safety is also an alleged reason for this work, the strip has been that way for years. An expansion may make the strip available to larger planes than the single-engine backcountry planes that use the area now.

Lastly, the strip is next to Fish Lake, which contains one of the only lake populations of threatened bull trout in the U.S.. The Fish and Wildlife Service has stated there are "potentially significant threats" to the bull trout population from "habitat degradation from the Fish Lake airstrip." Further, "Increased access into Fish Lake afforded by the airstrip has increased fishing pressure and likely has resulted in increased catch and release of bull trout and associated hooking mortality." Less than 50 of these rare fish remain. Wilderness Watch and Friends of the Clearwater sent a 60-day Notice of Intent to the two federal agencies about the critical bull trout issue. The Forest Service wants to get away with categorically excluding this expansion work from normal environmental analysis.

On the other hand, Bitterroot National Forest officials are recognizing that wilderness is supposed to be



**Expansion of the Fish Lake airstrip is unwarranted**  
**FOC File Photo**

wild. Due to budgets and the concern over wildness, the Forest Service has decided the current use in upper White Cap Creek in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness is such that a new bridge to replace the old one is not needed. Instead, the agency will take out the old bridge and users will ford the creek at a shallow spot, a genuine wilderness experience!

We have joined with Center for Biological Diversity, Conservation Northwest, Defenders of Wildlife, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Idaho Conservation League, Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance, Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, and Rocky Mountain Wild to protect the wolverine by issuing a 60-day notice to sue on the decision not to list the wolverine. In spite of scientific evidence that supports listing of the wolverine, the Fish and Wildlife Service decided to make a political decision and not list the species. Earlier, the agency said it planned on listing the wolverine under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) because of threats to the species. EarthJustice ably represents us.

We are also working with Center for Biological Diversity, Western Watersheds Project, WildEarth Guardians, and Western Environmental Law Center on a lawsuit to protect lynx from incidental or accidental trapping. Lynx have been trapped in the past few years in Idaho despite being listed under the ESA. The State of Idaho and the US Fish and Wildlife Service have not taken appropriate precautions to ensure that lynx are not accidentally trapped and killed, as required by law.

Finally, the Forest Service continues to crank out proposed timber sales. French Larch (encroaching on the Weitas Roadless area boundary) and Barnyard Sheep are two from the North Fork Clearwater. Strychnine Pine is from the Palouse District. These are all quite large sales and FOC is following them. None of them are the size, however, of the massive sales proposed for Lolo Creek, Clear Creek and the Middle Fork Clearwater.

**Jon Marvel's West**  
**Travis Bruner, Executive Director**  
**Western Watersheds Project**

Jon Marvel retired on March 1, 2014, but his two decades of work as a founder and the director of Western Watersheds Project are the stuff of legend. His efforts leave a West that has been unquestionably improved by his tenacity.

Though the issue is largely ignored by most environmental organizations, public lands livestock grazing is the most pervasive land use in the west and causes a myriad of ecological problems from predator killing to impaired water quality. Since 1993, Jon Marvel has fearlessly faced livestock industry apologists within the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, state governments, and political offices, demanding that the government stop ignoring the impact of cattle and sheep grazing on public lands.

As a direct result of Jon's work, federal agencies across the West know that their decisions to allow cattle and sheep to trample, feed upon, and pollute our public lands will not go unnoticed. His vision for a restored and livestock-free landscape translated into hundreds of actions forcing the land management agencies to reconsider their low-cost leases and land abuses. There isn't a BLM Supervisor in the West who isn't worried that WWP will start working in their region!

Jon continues to work as a Board member on the Sagebrush Habitat Conservation Fund, funding the retirement of grazing permits throughout the West. He stays active in monitoring livestock policy and offering advice and insight into the issue for those of us still working in the field.

And fortunately, even though Jon has stepped down from a leadership role, the WWP team is made up of individuals intimately familiar with western landscapes and passionate about protecting and restoring public lands. Together with our allies, and even in the face of formidable opposition, we will not stop fighting to protect our lands from livestock grazing. Jon's work has inspired and benefitted all of us, and he deserves our thanks for all he has done.



**Happy retirement wishes to Jon Marvel**  
**Western Watersheds Project Photo Credit**

**Editor's Note: To learn more about the great work that Western Watersheds Project does please visit [www.westernwatersheds.org](http://www.westernwatersheds.org)**



*The following is a small tribute to members that have recently passed. We offer our condolences.*



**Lisa Hall Kearsley Photo Credit**

**Bill Hall**

We want to honor the life of Bill Hall (1925 - 2014). Together with his wife, Liz (1930 - 2008), he lived a full life, enriched by family, work as a geologist, outdoor adventures, travel, and deep friendships with kindred souls found on their various adventures.

Bill and Liz moved west from Cincinnati, OH, and found their way to Moscow and the University of Idaho in 1965. At UI, Bill was a professor of geology, geomorphology (the study of landforms), and aerial photography (he developed a method for taking Color Oblique Stereo Aerial photos shot in pairs from a small airplane). His field work was in the Gallatin Valley and Madison Range between Bozeman, MT and Yellowstone National Park, where he worked with the renowned Wyoming geologist J. David Love, who is featured in some of John McPhee's books.

In 1965, Bill floated and filmed the Grand Canyon for footage for a Sierra Club movie. Bill also floated Glen Canyon with David Brower just before the dam closed. Later, he enjoyed boating with his family on "Lake" Powell – the reservoir that Glen Canyon dam formed – but he disliked that it had been created. The family spent a month there many summers, motor boating and kayaking and hiking. They also enjoyed times at the north rim of the Grand Canyon, where Bill's brother Joe studied Kaibab squirrels (and both families got together for great fun). When Liz and friends started an all-women backpacking group, Bill joined them on several trips as an honorary member.



Bill's and Liz's love of travel took them to Australia, the Galapagos, Costa Rica, the Alaska/BC Inside Passage by ferry, Denali National Park, South Africa, and Hawaii. After Bill retired, they spent many winters in New Zealand visiting friends and traveling about in the camper-van they bought there. Bill and Liz are greatly missed. Their spirits, enthusiasm for life, and memories live on in their family and friends.

-- David Hall & Romney Boehm



**Paul McPoland**

While I didn't know Paul particularly well, I grew to respect him over the years as an activist in the Moscow community. I met Paul around 2011, as the megaload campaign began to heat up. To his credit, Paul was a consistent visitor to our office, always inquiring about the current situation, from both a legal and strategic standpoint. His inquisitive, and yet, calm demeanor, always made me feel comfortable whenever I would see him. Paul was involved in both, the US 12 and US 95, megaload issues.

Paul was particularly active as a citizen-journalist for KRFP Radio Free Moscow ([www.krfp.org](http://www.krfp.org)), many times spending long hours with protestors, asking them questions and interviewing them for the station. His voice and his interviews became regular additions to the morning or evening news reports.

That's how I will remember Paul. Someone who was very concerned about our planetary health, and equally concerned about community and place. Paul was selfless and his actions spoke louder than his words. He will be missed.

-- Brett Haverstick, FOC Staff



Nick Beymer Photo Credit

**John Crock**

Recently, Clearwater Country lost an advocate and true friend when well-respected Moscow community member John Crock lost his battle with melanoma. Many people know John as the owner of *Hyperspud Sports*, Moscow's downtown one-stop-shop for everything outdoors, whether it be spring, summer, fall or winter recreational pursuits. John owned Hyperspud Sports the past twenty-five years, with the shop being an integral part of Moscow's charming downtown community.

Besides being customers of the store, our staff knew John as a long-time FOC member, an extremely generous local business supporter, and a lover of all things wild, particularly the Clearwater. Folks may recall the article that John wrote for our *2010 Winter Defender*, "Bumping Down the Selway at Low Flow," which documented his paddling (and portaging) adventure with another FOC member down the Wild & Scenic Selway River in September of that same year.

While John was passionate about adventure and exploring wild places, he was equally passionate about supporting the Moscow community, constantly devoting time, energy and money to help various causes, including donating items every year to the Friends of the Clearwater *Annual Meeting & Gathering*. If you were the highest bidder on a tent, a backpack, trekking poles or even some hiking socks at one of our end-of-the-year celebrations, chances are it was graciously donated by John Crock.

All of us at FOC would like to offer our condolences to his family and wife, Laurene Sorensen, and the staff at Hyperspud Sports. Hyperspud Sports is located at 402 S. Main Street in downtown Moscow.

-- Brett Haverstick, FOC Staff



1964 WILDERNESS ACT 2014  
CELEBRATING AMERICA'S WILDERNESS LEGACY

Order your copy of the official 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act poster today! Just go to [www.friendsoftheclearwater.org](http://www.friendsoftheclearwater.org). The fanatastic artwork is done by Monte Dolack. In his own words, "This painting for the 50th anniversary of the American Wildernerss Act is about the interconnectedness of life and richness of landscape." We want to thank Mr. Dolack for his gracious contribution.

## FRIENDS OF THE CLEARWATER CALENDAR OF EVENTS FALL 2014

50 YEARS: A CELEBRATION OF WILDERNESS

**Friday September 12 - Sunday September 14, 2014**

WILDERNESS GATEWAY CAMPGROUND, HIGHWAY 12

NEZ PERCE-CLEARWATER NATIONAL FORESTS

SPEAKERS, TRADITIONAL SKILLS, FOOD/DRINK

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES, MUSIC BY DANA LYONS

2014 ANNUAL MEETING & GATHERING

**Saturday November 1, 2014 6-10 pm**

GREAT ROOM 1912 CENTER, 412 E. THIRD STREET MOSCOW

POTLUCK, DRINK, MUSIC, AWARDS CEREMONY, SILENT AUCTION

Friends of the Clearwater

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