



# CLEARWATER DEFENDER

## NEWS OF THE BIG WILD

A PUBLICATION OF  
FRIENDS OF THE CLEARWATER

ISSUED QUARTERLY  
FALL 2013, NO.3

### Nez Perce Tribe Takes A Stand

Guest Opinion

Julian Matthews, FOC Advisory Board Member

The “megaloads” issue began approximately four years ago when many in the area were advised that Exxon Mobil was intending on using Highway 12 to ship oil refinery equipment up through the Nez Perce Tribe’s Treaty Area and Reservation. This area includes most, if not all, of the roadless and designated wilderness of north central Idaho, and other traditional and cultural sites that are important to the Nez Perce as a People and Tribe.

The Nimiipuu (Nez Perce) have lived, hunted, fished and gathered for eons in this area, and more specifically, the Lochsa-Selway area that borders Highway 12. The traditional uses had been in operation for many, many years before the state of Idaho, the United States or any other current government was in place. This concedes the inherent interest we, as Nez Perce, have in this area, which now has Highway 12 crossing through it.

As a matter of record, the Nez Perce Tribe “ceded” all the current 1855 Treaty lands to the US government through the Treaty of 1855. We did not sell it, give it away or accept any other type of agreement. The Treaty ceded the land, with the Nez Perce retaining rights to this area to hunt, fish, gather and perform other traditional and historical activities that we continue to this day.

Having served on the Friends of the Clearwater Board and now being an Advisory Board member, I became aware of the issue of megaload permits in Idaho and then delved deeper into “where” the megaloads were heading and what was their purpose. When I did further research, I discovered how the development of the tar sands by big oil was exploiting the land, water and people in Canada, particularly the First Nations, as they are called in Canada. First Nations are similar to “Tribes” here in the States.

After further investigation into the tar sands, I have seen how bad and destructive this type of oil extraction process is, and how much it affects the environment, not only locally, but globally. I have met members of the Tribes/ First Nations from the area that include Mikisew Cree First Nation, Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Fort McMurray First Nation, Fort McKay Cree Nation, Beaver Lake Cree First Nation, Chipewyan Prairie First Nation, and the Metis.



Nez Perce Tribe defend their Nation from megaloads

Tom Hansen Photo Credit

All are being directly impacted by the emissions, effluent tailing ponds and the general hazards to the environment caused by the tar sands refinery.

The tar sands need to be put out of business and big oil needs to know that we as Tribal members throughout the United States will not go along with the destruction of the environment for oil company profits. We will resist, by whatever means necessary, to protect our homes, lives, land and water from wanton destruction by those who wish to exploit our air, land and water.

We will, and do, stand united with other Tribes and First Nations--who are experiencing similar injustices to their homelands--to protect, particularly the children and elders, from harm generated by the extraction industries. United we stand--whether its oil, natural gas or other types of harm that can be inflicted upon the earth.

The Nimiipuu, including myself, are not the lords of the earth but simply coexist on this planet where the creator placed us to be guardians for those that cannot speak for themselves. Hence our battle continues, and we as Nimiipuu will continue to fight against similar injustices.

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• **On Sept. 13 Federal Judge Winmill issued an injunction against future Omega Morgan megaloads for** •  
• **US 12 until Forest Service completes corridor study** •  
• **and consultation with Nez Perce Tribe. See Page 9.** •  
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## FRIENDS OF THE CLEARWATER

THE CLEARWATER DEFENDER  
IS A PUBLICATION OF:

**Friends of the Clearwater**  
P.O. Box 9241, Moscow, Idaho 83843  
208-882-9755  
foc@friendsoftheclearwater.org  
www.friendsoftheclearwater.org

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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### Publication

Layout and Design: Brett Haverstick  
Editor: Gary Macfarlane  
Copy Editor: Bill Bonney



**Little Lost Lake near the Little N. Fork Clearwater**  
**FOC File Photo**

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## Reaching Out To You

### Brett Haverstick

On September 3, 2014 the Wilderness Act will celebrate its 50th Anniversary. Thanks to champions like Aldo Leopold, Bob Marshall, and Howard Zahniser, we have a big birthday party to plan for and we need your help! Got any ideas?

Please check out the website dedicated to the anniversary <http://www.wilderness50th.org>. There you will find that thousands of like-minded wilderness lovers, including federal officials, are organizing to have local, regional, and national celebrations. Make sure to check out the interactive map on the front page, which shows you where events are being planned.

Along with any ideas you may have, we want to tell you about two things we have in-the-works. First, we are working with the Moscow Food Co-Op to host **Wilderness 50: The Big Wild Photography Exhibit**. The Co-Op has agreed to graciously dedicate their cafe area from **September 12 - October 8, 2014** for local photographers to display their personal photography of the Selway-Bitterroot, Gospel-Hump, Frank Church-River of No Return, and Hells Canyon Wilderness areas. The Palouse-group Sierra Club is co-sponsoring this event.

In conjunction with Wilderness Watch and the US Forest Service, we are planning for a wild weekend celebration at the **Wilderness Gateway Campground** on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests from **September 12 - 14, 2014**. The idea is to have a mix of guest speakers, stewardship workshops, and activities that reflect the meaning(s) of wilderness and the current and future challenges for the National Wilderness Preservation System.

In conclusion, there is a myriad of ways for you to be part of our Wilderness 50 planning team. We are actively pursuing individuals that would like to help us with the Moscow Food Co-Op event and the Wilderness Gateway weekend. Please contact us via phone, email, or in-person if you want to be part of the wildest party in the northern Rockies! The more minds the better!

The Wilderness 50 party isn't the only big event you can help out with. On **Saturday November 9, 2013** we will be having our **Annual Meeting & Gathering** in the Great Room of the 1912 Center from 6-10pm. As per custom, the celebratory evening will feature a delicious community potluck, a silent auction, an awards ceremony, and live music (FOC member Tom Petersen has agreed to play guitar). If you would like to help us with logistics in the coming weeks and months, feel free to contact us!

Many folks realize we do not believe in the collaborative process as a decision making tool for our public lands. By and large, it's an industry-driven process

that seeks to undermine 40 years of public land laws and ramp up the cut for the timber industry. Therefore, we are going to spend the month of October meeting with our membership and the community at-large to share our full analysis of the Clearwater Basin Collaborative (CBC) 2013 Agreement and Work Plan.

First, join us on **Tuesday October 8, 2013** for a **community potluck** and Q&A session about the wildlands proposal recently offered by the collaborative group. The yummy get together will occur between 5-8pm. Bring a supplemental beverage of your choice.

Second, join us **Tuesday October 22, 2013** for a presentation titled, **Wilderness & Collaboration Collide** at the UI Law School, Room 105. The program will focus on the language and meaning of the Wilderness Act, 1964 and how the collaborative proposal clashes with the legal definition of wilderness.

Third, we will have two coffee-chat sessions in downtown Moscow that will aim to offer more opportunities for the public to learn about the collaborative proposal. The first will be held at **One World Cafe** at 8am on **Tuesday October 1, 2013**. The second one will take place at **Cafe Artista** at 8am on **Tuesday October 29, 2013**. Each session lasts one hour.



Gedney Creek is a great place for a hike  
Teresa Baker Photo Credit

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• FRIENDS OF THE CLEARWATER IS  
• THE DIME IN TIME RECIPIENT FOR  
• THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER AT  
• THE MOSCOW FOOD CO-OP. EVERY  
• CUSTOMER THAT SHOPS WITH A  
• REUSABLE BAG OR COFFEE CUP IS  
• GIVEN A TEN-CENT REFUND WITH THE  
• OPTION OF DEDICATING IT TO FOC.  
• SO PLEASE KEEP US IN MIND WHEN  
• SHOPPING AT THE CO-OP THIS MONTH!  
• A BIG THANK YOU TO THE MOSCOW  
• FOOD CO-OP FOR ALLOWING US TO  
• PARTICIPATE IN THEIR COMMUNITY  
• GIVING PROGRAM. KEEP IT WILD.  
• .....  
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**Troubling Trade:  
Proposed Blixseth Land Deal Riles Locals**  
**Guest Opinion**  
**Janine Blaeloch, Executive Director**  
**Western Lands Project**

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When I started monitoring federal land exchanges in 1996, some of the biggest projects involved so-called “checkerboard” lands. Created by the railroad land grants during the 19th century, they made for a confusing array of public land mixed with private land.

Often, the exchanges that the Forest Service proposed to consolidate checkerboard ownership seemed logical and garnered little controversy. But then federal land trades in Washington state with timber giants Weyerhaeuser and Plum Creek exposed the nasty underside of the deals: The public would get rocks, ice and clear-cuts; the timber companies would get the trees. In short, old-growth trees and sensitive lands got privatized while public lands were shortchanged in appraisals. Revelations about those deals inspired reforms that have generally made the Forest Service’s land-trade program more accountable.

Unfortunately, one trade currently proposed in Idaho, the Upper Lochsa Land Exchange, is like a bad flashback: it’s riling locals, has made the agency look clueless and has ushered in a worst-case scenario of congressional intervention.

First, it’s a land deal with would-be “timber baron” Tim Blixseth. He has a long history involving land swaps, failed development deals and bankruptcies. In this instance, Blixseth’s Western Pacific Timber has proposed to trade 39,000 acres of mostly cutover land within the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests for 28,000 acres of public land (and lots of trees) in those forests plus one other in Idaho.

As is often the case, some of what the public would get from Blixseth is worth acquiring, but so is much of the public land worth keeping out of his or other private hands. There is also raw anger that the Forest Service would even consider a trade with Blixseth, and many people living in the Palouse Ranger District of the Nez Perce-Clearwater were incensed to learn that the trade would essentially privatize that ranger district.

Locals questioned the deal, first proposed in 2006, and some considered challenging it. But they dutifully followed the National Environmental Policy Act process and pored through the draft environmental impact statement. To its credit, the agency did consider partial purchase of Blixseth’s lands as one of the alternatives, something that critics had requested.

But then things got weird. The vast preponderance of Blixseth’s land is in Idaho County. The county commis-

sioners there opposed any net loss of private land and proposed an acre-for-acre exchange within their county. Such an exchange would not be legal, because the Forest Service must trade value-for-value, and in this case the disparity in land values makes that impossible.

So what did the agency do? It issued a supplemental EIS analyzing the illegal acre-for-acre exchange.

Members of the Western Lands Project have seen the Forest Service do some foolish things involving land swaps, but this one took the cake. Discussions with the national office yielded little insight, so we can only assume that pressure from the Idaho congressional delegation and the rumored high priority the trade had for Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell led to this gross error.

Only legislation can authorize an acre-for-acre land exchange, and the pitfalls inherent in checkerboard land exchanges are exceeded only by those of congressionally sponsored trades. These trades have no rules and no legal recourse exists to challenge them. The National Environmental Policy Act is usually bypassed and the exchange mandated. Public input is limited to phone calls to Congress or an expensive trip to D.C. for five minutes of hearing testimony. Worse, congressional members who might normally be helpful on public land issues traditionally defer to any member dealing away federal land in his or her state.

Former Idaho Sen. Larry Craig and former Agriculture Undersecretary Mark Rey, now lobbyists, have been pushing for a Lochsa bill for years, and Idaho Sen. Jim Risch is the likely sponsor. Local Forest Service officials confirm they’ve seen a draft bill. Although the Obama administration is generally opposed to legislated land trades, the Forest Service appears ready to wash its hands of the deal and let Congress do the dirty work.

This is a bad deal and needs to be stopped in its tracks. The Lochsa trade has never had support beyond the offices of Chief Tidwell and Western Pacific Timber. Hundreds of Idahoans have worked for seven years to stop this trade, only to find themselves now in limbo, fearing a land exchange bill that they could be powerless to stop.

No land deal—regardless of how much time and money it has consumed—is inevitable, and none more richly deserves to be abandoned than the Upper Lochsa Land Exchange.

**Editor’s Note:** Janine Blaeloch is a contributor to *Writers on the Range*, a service of High Country News. She is founder and director of the Western Lands Project, which monitors land exchanges and sales to prevent privatization of public lands. She is based in Seattle. Thank you to *High Country News* for giving us permission to reprint this article.

## Camping on the N. Fork Clearwater

Guest Opinion, Julie Titone

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The following pictures and captions were provided by Julie Titone, who recently joined us for a relaxing 3-day camping trip on the N. Fork Clearwater River. Thank you to everybody that was able to attend the event, including Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests North Fork District Ranger Kathy Rodriguez, who was kind enough to visit us at the campground.



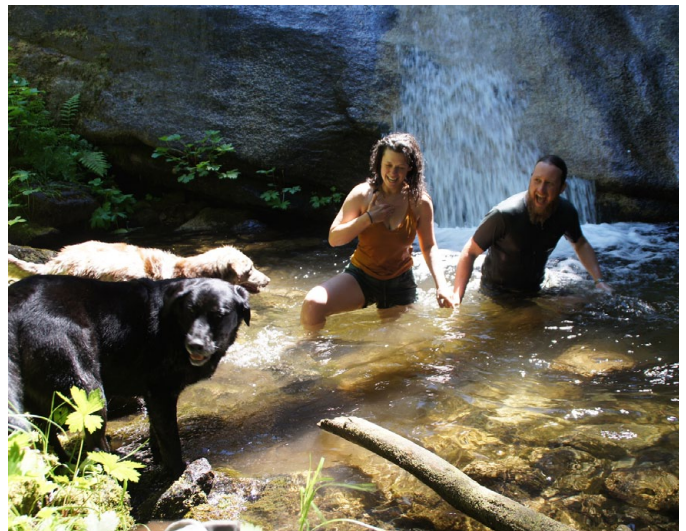
The North Fork of the Clearwater River is what a Western river should be: clear, cold, riffly. A place that makes fish and people happy. It was the centerpiece of our June 28-29 outing to the Washington Creek campground, organized by the Friends of the Clearwater and the Palouse-Great Old Broads for Wilderness.



The Washington Ridge Trail was blissfully shady and punctuated by fern-filled springs—perfect for hiking on a hot day. Recreation and education about forest issues were intertwined all weekend. We sang around the campfire, chatted with the North Fork District Ranger, learned from each other, splashed in the river. The huckleberries, alas, weren't quite ripe for picking.



The North Fork ecosystem is a unique part of Idaho. Rain-trapped by the mountains creates micro-climates that allow “coastal” plants to thrive. This rare phantom orchid is commonly associated with the forests of western Washington and Oregon. The lush Clearwater forest undergrowth makes for slow, stop-and-marvel hiking.



The chance to visit the glorious Cave Creek cascade called Chateau Falls was well worth a dusty hike and a bit of bushwhacking. We were lucky to have Brett and Ashley of FOC and GOB as our leaders. And their dogs obviously felt the same way.



## Wind And Big Blazes

Guest Opinion

George Wuerthner, FOC Member

As the number of large wildfires has increased across the West in recent decades, the usual reason given for this change in fire severity and numbers is fire suppression. According to the story line, before Euro Americans came to the West, the natural fire cycle was one of low intensity, high frequency fires that kept fuel loadings low, and created open, park-like widely spaced large trees.

The solution to this predicament we are told is to reduce fuels increase with “forest management,” which is code for logging.

The problem with the fire suppression story line is that it’s a myth. Like all myths, there is a bit of truth in it, but not nearly as much as proponents would suggest. Some low elevation dry forests in the Southwest, such as those dominated by ponderosa pine, did likely burn in low severity frequent fires as the story suggests, however, even among ponderosa pine larger, mixed to high severity fires may have been more common than previously imagined.

One of the big problems with the fire suppression explanation for current large blazes has to do with the effectiveness of fire fighting activities. Prior to World War II all you had to squelch blazes were some guys with shovels and mules galloping around in what was for the most part a vast largely roadless backcountry trying to fight ignitions—and it is questionable how much such low technology efforts really altered natural fire regimes.

Full scale modern fire fighting did not really begin until after World War II, with the advent of smoke jumpers, air tankers, helicopters, bulldozers, lightning detection, modern weather prediction, and other highly developed fire-fighting technology.

These advanced techniques and equipment, combined with a massive expansion of access created by the forest road system resulting from an unprecedented logging boom, may have decreased the size, spread and severity of some fires in some areas for a few decades, but not long enough to contribute to a significant alternation of natural fire regimes.

However, even with modern fire-fighting efforts, fire suppression likely did not alter the natural fire regimes. Fires cannot burn well no matter how much fuel you may have, without the right climatic/weather conditions. Much of the last century, starting coincidentally around World War II and continuing until around 1988 when Yellowstone and other large fires occurred, the West experienced moister, cooler conditions than have occurred in the past few decades.

Under moist cool conditions, there are fewer igni-



**“Thin The Threat” billboard campaigns are based on fear**  
FOC File Photo

tions to begin with, and those fires that do start don’t burn well or spread rapidly. In other words, fire fighters may have been given credit for extinguishing a lot of fires that were destined to go out on their own—fire suppression or not.

By contrast, in the last few decades, even with the most highly advanced fire suppression equipment in the world, large fire fighting forces, and sophisticated knowledge about fire behavior available, it has been increasingly difficult to stop the larger blazes. The fire suppression proponents, of course, blame fuel accumulations, but others find such a story line too simplistic.

One can’t discount that the climate/weather has changed radically. Due to global climate change, we are seeing a longer fire season, drier conditions (major droughts), hotter temperatures, lower humidity and increases in average wind speeds—all of which contribute to larger fires.

Another problem for the fire suppression story line as the cause of large fires is that it simply doesn’t apply to the vast majority of forest types across the West where the bulk of large fires have occurred.

With the possible exception of ponderosa pine and perhaps a few other species at the dry-end of their habitat type, fires did not burn in frequent low severity blazes. Rather the normal fire-free period for most forest communities lasts for decades, if not hundreds of years between major blazes. Fires in these ecosystem types are episodic and driven largely by variation in weather/climate. During extended dry periods, it is quite normal to have large blazes sweeping across hundreds of thousands of acres.

Consequently, even if fire suppression were really successful as some suggest, it hasn’t been operating long enough to significantly alter these fire regimes. Nor would

we expect it to, since the kinds of climatic/weather conditions that enable large blazes in these plant types are unaffected by fire suppression efforts.

We are not seeing “unnaturally” large fires in these forest types. The vast majority of our forested acreage is perfectly healthy, and ecosystem processes including wild-fire, bug kill and disease are operating exactly as expected, given the current climate/weather conditions.

Fire suppression has had little or no affect on fir, spruce, hemlock, cedar, aspen, lodgepole pine, western white pine, western larch, Douglas fir, juniper, chaparral, sagebrush, to name forest and plant types that burn at longer intervals, but when they do burn, tend to have at least some patches of hot fires that kill the bulk of all trees and plants. Indeed, nearly all the major forest/plant communities in the West do not fit the low severity/high frequency fire regime myth, therefore, fire suppression has not created abnormal fuel accumulations, and logging is not needed to “fix” a non-existent problem.



Climate conditions drive fire severity  
FOC File Photo

Contact us at  
**foc@friendsoftheclearwater.org**  
to receive the Big Wild Bi-Weekly.  
**Issues. Happenings. Updates.**

You can also follow us on  
Facebook and Twitter!

### *Medimont Reflections*

Written by Chris Carlson

Reviewed by Al Espinosa, FOC Board Treasurer

Mr. Carlson has written a very interesting and captivating book on Idaho politics and politicians. Mr. Carlson is a former Press Secretary for Governor Cecil Andrus and Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Public Affairs when Andrus was Interior Secretary under the Carter Administration. Carlson covers the full spectrum of Idaho politicians and their machinations, from the free lunch “bottom feeders”, to those that actually cared about the citizens, like Senator Frank Church and Cecil Andrus.

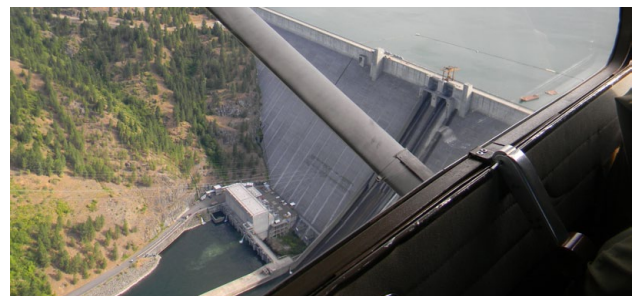
Carlson is a journalist who tells it like he sees it and does not shy away from controversial issues. In Chapter 4, Carlson describes the influence that the Mormon Church has on Idaho politics. Few journalists in Idaho have attempted to address this subject.

Many of the issues he covers are environmental and include the conflicts associated with protecting Hells Canyon, Sawtooth National Recreation Area, Central Idaho Wilderness, Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, and Idaho’s anadromous fish resources. My favorite chapters are: “The Toothless Tiger” and “The Sensible Monkey Wrench”.

The Toothless Tiger is the Northwest Power Planning Council (NWPPC). Carlson, a former member of the NWPPC, calls for its abolition. He presents a convincing argument, highlighted by the fact that the Council spends \$666 million per year on salmon and steelhead recovery, with mediocre results.

The Sensible Monkey Wrench is a powerful polemic and presentation of why the lower four Snake River Dams should be breached. As a removal bonus, Mr. Carlson throws in Dworshak Dam and the Port of Lewiston. I loved this chapter!

FOC members will enjoy Chris Carlson’s Medimont Reflections. Mr. Carlson writes with common sense and a skillful intellect.



Breaching Dworshak makes the bucket list  
FOC File Photo





**Two Omega Morgan megaloads at the Port of Wilma**  
FOC File Photo

## **Federal Judge Issues Injunction For US 12** **Brett Haverstick**

On Friday September 13, 2013 Federal Judge B. Lynn Winmill issued an injunction against future Omega Morgan megaloads on US 12. This was in response to the federal lawsuit that was recently filed on behalf of the Nez Perce Tribe and Idaho Rivers United.

As a result of this ruling, the Forest Service decided to issue a Closure Order for Highway 12 between mile markers 74 - 174 for all megaloads. The order is in place until the agency completes their corridor study, and then consults with the Nez Perce Tribe. The highway Closure Order does not apply to any other highway commerce, of course.

We would like to extend a warm-felt congratulations to the Nez Perce Tribe, Idaho Rivers United, Advocates for the West, Fighting Goliath, and the countless groups and citizens that have been working tirelessly to prevent Highway 12 from becoming a permanent high-wide industrial corridor.

### **The following statement was issued as a news release by the Nez Perce Tribe on September 13, 2013.**

*Statement of Silas Whitman, Chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee, Regarding the Court's Issuance of an Injunction on the Transport of Megaloads.*

The Nez Perce Tribe and its people commend today's federal court decision that affirms that the Forest Service--under its own authorities--must close U.S. Highway 12 to megaload transports by Omega Morgan until the Forest Service has completed a corridor study and then consulted with the Tribe.

The Tribe is pleased the Court's decision recognizes the Tribe's sovereignty, and its rights and interests. As the Court decision states, the Nez Perce Tribe is simply seeking to "preserve its Treaty rights along with its cultural and intrinsic values that have no price tag." This speaks to the truth regarding the heart of the Nez Perce people and our connection to our homeland.

The Tribe will not let U.S. Highway 12--both through the National Forest and Wild and Scenic River corridor and the Nez Perce Reservation--be transformed into an industrial corridor. Many of the values and uses the spectacularly beautiful and wild Clearwater-Lochsa River country hold for our Nez Perce people--fisheries, wildlife, recreation, culture, history, solitude or tourism--are values that the United States shares and protects. In addition to our Treaty with the United States, Congress has spoken to uses and values in this area through the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and the designations of the Nez Perce National Trail, the Lolo Trail, and the Lewis and Clark Trail.

The Tribe will continue to consult with the Forest Service, under the Forest Service's obligation as a trustee, to ensure this unique area of the country and our homeland is not transformed into an industrial corridor.

### **The following statement was issued as a news release by Idaho Rivers United on September 13, 2013.**

A federal judge this morning temporarily blocked additional megaload shipments through the Clearwater National Forest, America's first Wild and Scenic River corridor and the homeland of the Nez Perce people.

Federal Judge B. Lynn Winmill's injunction was issued as part of a lawsuit brought by Idaho Rivers United and the Nez Perce Tribe.

"This is a win for all who cherish the esthetic, spiritual and recreational values of the Lochsa and Clearwater Rivers," said IRU Conservation Director Kevin Lewis. "The judge has provided the time-out needed to complete the environmental reviews, tribal consultation and rule-making necessary to protect this beautiful corridor."

IRU Executive Director Bill Sedivy pointed to the implications this case has for Wild and Scenic Rivers across the country.

"River managers across the United States are watching this decision, which is a clear win for all the Wild and Scenic Rivers of America," Sedivy said. "This ruling shows that the oil industry and the world's largest corporations can't run roughshod over the Tribe, the people of Idaho, or our nation's most precious natural assets."

Judge Winmill granted his 17-page injunction on the basis that IRU and the Tribe are likely to win the case on its merits.

"The plaintiffs are not seeking damages; they are seeking to preserve their Treaty rights along with cultural and intrinsic values that have no price tag," Winmill wrote.



At the hearing in Federal Judge B. Lynn Winmill's courtroom on Sept. 8, Forest Service attorneys sat shoulder-to-shoulder with lawyers for General Electric attempting to explain why they couldn't stop impending loads while building long-term regulations.

General Electric filed Aug. 26 to intervene as a co-defendant alongside the Forest Service in the lawsuit filed by IRU and the Nez Perce Tribe. The suit, filed Aug. 8, sought to protect the Lochsa-Clearwater Wild and Scenic River Corridor and Nez Perce homeland from the transport of enormous industrial megaloads bound for the tar sands on northern Alberta.

The Clearwaer and Lochsa Rivers were singled out for designation as Wild and Scenic Rivers because of their scenic, recreational, cultural and historic values.

"These rivers represent the embodiment of what the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was meant to protect," Sedivy said. "They anchor cathedral-like forests. They are recreational Edens for fishermen, campers, hikers, hunters, bicyclists, history buffs and whitewater boaters. And they form the cultural and spiritual roots of the Nez Perce people. Industrialization doesn't work there."

The megaloads stand two stories tall, take up two lanes of the mostly two-lane highway and are hundreds of feet long. Their movement through the corridor requires rolling roadblocks, which block access to popular recreational sites, Tribe cultural and historic sites, and destroy the beautiful scenery of the river corridors.

"If we let the Idaho Transportation Department and oil companies have their way with the Lochsa-Clearwater Wild and Scenic corridor, it would be like allowing construction of a McDonald's drive-through along the Middle Fork of the Salmon, or building a three story factory along the shores of Redfish Lake," Sedivy said.

"This wild river corridor is a national treasure, and its industrialization shouldn't be allowed," Lewis added. "There are 80-odd tar sands projects either underway or under review in northern Alberta right now, and they're all going to need oil processing equipment. These companies, some of the largest in the world, can afford to build their equipment in Canada or find other routes to ship it there."

Since the fall of 2008, the oil industry, their contractors and a specialized group of shipping companies have been working to convert U.S. Highway 12 into an industrial corridor that prioritizes the transport of megaloads over other uses of the highway.

"GE's intervention shows how desperately the oil industry and their contractors want to convert one of the America's first Wild and Scenic River corridors into an industrial highway," Lewis said. "They need to know that our rivers are not for sale."

## Keep Public Lands In Public Hands

### Guest Opinion, Antone G. Holmquist

My first glimpse of Idaho was in April 1973. As a recent college graduate with itchy feet, I traveled west over Lolo Pass. My friends and I hiked up Warm Springs Creek to Jerry Johnson Hot Springs. We didn't know what to make of the steaming pools, still surrounded by deep snow banks. In the 40 years since, I have traveled far and wide, but have always considered Idaho as my home. The wild lands are what drew me here and keep me here. The very existence of wild lands is of utmost importance to my psyche and in Idaho these lands are managed by The U.S. Forest Service and the BLM and thus belong to every citizen of this country. It is our heritage and an inheritance passed down to subsequent generations.

I view proposals by the Idaho Legislature to take over these federal lands as a hostile takeover attempt. All Americans (Owners) would be the victims. While the federal agencies get a mixed review for their past management, the State of Idaho would certainly sell much of these lands and liquidate our natural resources. The State of Idaho is Constitutionally mandated to reap maximum profits from State land, pushing other values to the wayside. That would be a tragedy.



King of the mountain

Antone Holmquist Photo Credit

**In the coming months, we will continue to provide space for guest opinions regarding the Idaho legislature's current attempt to steal federal public lands in Idaho. If you would like your letter to appear in this newsletter, please submit them, along with a picture, to [foc@friendsoftheclearwater.org](mailto:foc@friendsoftheclearwater.org). Try to keep them to 250-words. Thanks!**

## Around The Clearwater

### Gary Macfarlane

#### Lochsa Land Exchange: Legislation?

This August, two staff members from Senator Risch's office, Mike Hannah and Darren Parker, invited me (on behalf of Friends of the Clearwater) to meet to discuss the Lochsa Land Exchange (see related article from Janine Blaeloch page 4). As has been reported in past issues of the Defender, this exchange is ill conceived. While obtaining the upper Lochsa in public ownership is a good goal, a far better option is a long-term purchase and/or conservation easement with an eventual purchase. Hannah and Parker indicated that it looks like the Forest Service decision will be litigated and any administrative attempt at an exchange would be stymied. While it would not be accurate to say this was a tacit admission on their part that the Forest Service's process has been flawed, the process has been flawed, indeed, seriously flawed, and a legal challenge is a distinct possibility. The Forest Service is awaiting the appraisal before making a decision.

During the meeting, Mike Hannah and Darren Parker told me that Senator Risch is considering legislation to do an exchange. No decisions have been made and they wanted to meet with people who have been following the exchange process. They also explained any legislation, if it were to happen, would be an open, transparent process, and would not be tacked on as a rider to another bill. They indicated that a decision would be made to introduce legislation, or not, prior to the Forest Service's final record of decision. Since they also mentioned that the appraisal would provide them with important information, it seems that any decision to do or not do legislation might be made after the appraisal is final, but before the Forest Service makes its decision. In any case, the appraisal, which was to be done about now, has been delayed a few months.

I pointed out that, historically, legislative exchanges are even more controversial and worse for the public interest, than administrative exchanges. Alternatives, including purchases and/or easements (public, private conservation interests, or a combination of both), were discussed. They seemed interested in these possibilities.

As to why Senator Risch may be interested in taking on such a controversial project remains vague, even though the question was asked. Perhaps it has to do with the lobbyist, Mark Rey, who went from working for the timber industry, to government, and now back as a lobbyist with several clients.

Mark Rey has a history of promoting exploitive

corporate interests over the public interests and the interests of water quality, rare species, and ecosystem integrity. He was a former top-tier timber industry lobbyist (and still represents logging interests); he worked for Larry Craig when he was Senator; and he was the former undersecretary of Agriculture in charge of the Forest Service under the Bush Administration. To say he was viewed as wearing the black hat among environmental interests is an understatement.

Rey is now working as a lobbyist on behalf of Western Pacific Timber, the company that currently owns the cutover portions of the upper Lochsa, which wants to trade it for forested national forest land at lower elevations. Western Pacific says they are willing to continue to allow public access on any land obtained in an exchange, but such an agreement or easement will come at a price—more national forests will have to be given away.

The upshot of the meeting is that if Senator Risch does produce legislation, my best guess is that it would be approximately a value for value exchange in Idaho County, along the lines suggested by Western Pacific Timber. The land in Idaho County is important winter wildlife range. Citizens may wish to contact Senator Risch about their feelings on whether a legislative exchange should be pursued. His contact information is Senator Jim Risch, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510.

#### Mega Madness

Speaking of Mark Rey, he is also a lobbyist for Omega Morgan, the firm that wants to send megaloads up the US 12 wild and scenic river corridor and ruin that special place. Rey met with Forest Supervisor Rick Brazell a few weeks ago. Apparently, he got some of what he wanted, as the Forest Service, though they oppose the loads, didn't do anything to stop one in August. The Nez Perce Tribe led opposition to that effort (see related article page 1). He used to be over the Forest Service; apparently he still runs the outfit.



**Omega Morgan & Mark Rey together at last**  
**Alpha 1 Photography Photo Credit**



### **It's a Topsy-Turvy World**

Speaking yet again of Mark Rey, there is something strange going on. According to Open Secrets, a web-based group that has information on lobbying, he currently represents a variety of interests, including forest product companies, a defense contractor, and ... environmental groups!?! Well, for 2013, he was listed as representing Idaho Conservation League for \$9,000 and Trout Unlimited for \$15,000. It is interesting to note, the Idaho Conservation League and Trout Unlimited are part of the problematic Clearwater Basin Collaborative and were mentioned in a recent article in the *Lewiston Tribune* about the Lochsa Land Exchange.

### **Holding the Agencies Accountable**

Out of necessity rather than desire, we have had to devote more resources to pursuing litigation than we have in the past. Many months ago, Congress passed a bill that will eventually end the Forest Service's appeals process. This was done through a sneaky move by tacking the measure on a large, must-pass bill that authorizes government. This is known as a rider, and forces members of Congress to pass legislation that contains things they do not agree with, in order to pass measures to keep the government operating. The appeals process presented an opportunity for citizens to challenge bad Forest Service decisions before going to court. Many times, the Forest Service would make changes to the decision if the appeal were dropped. This provided an avenue for agency accountability. Now, citizens will have to go to court more often.

A hearing was held in early September regarding litigation that Alliance for the Wild Rockies and FOC filed on the Slate Creek Timber Sale. This sale is in crucial fish habitat. We expect a decision soon.

Wilderness Watch and Friends of the Clearwater are appealing to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals a bad decision by a federal district judge in Montana regarding the use of helicopters to repair a small dam in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. The Forest Service led the judge to believe that helicopter use is more compatible than horses in wilderness. We cited 9th Circuit Court precedent that rejects that erroneous conclusion.

FOC and allies will file our challenge to the Clearwater National Forest Travel Plan soon. Many thanks to Dave Bahr and Dana Johnson for representing the organizations on this litigation. We seek to keep motors out of key roadless wildlands like Weitas Creek, Pot Mountain, and Fish & Hungry Creeks.



**A positive ruling for North Fork Clearwater lovers**  
**FOC File Photo**

### **Fire on the Mountain**

FOC issued a summary of the actions taken on major fires on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests last year. Intern Reba Eggert prepared this report. She compiled the costs spent to put out fires, including some fires that shouldn't have been fought in the first place. Much of the cost includes rehabilitation of fire lines built to fight the fires. While the Forest Service fire policy here in north-central Idaho is generally much better than just about anywhere in the national forest system, it still needs improvement.

It seems the Forest Service, as a whole, hasn't learned. Fire fighting expenses are robbing other agency programs. Rather than come up with a sane fire policy on the national scale, the agency continues to fight fires in an expensive manner, including fighting some fires, which should not have been fought.

### **North Fork Suction Dredging**

The North Fork Clearwater is now clear and free from the proposed suction dredge claims that had been staked in 2012. The previous mining claimants were denied claims this summer by an administrative law judge under a 1955 law. The claimants chose not to pursue this any further, thus, they can't go to federal district court because they didn't move forward on the final administrative law process—filing a challenge to the Interior Board of Land Appeals.

The Forest Service made a good decision and was on the right side of the issue. Thanks to the efforts of the North Fork District and Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests personnel who worked on this issue, the claims were ruled invalid. Now the Forest Service needs to watch out for others who may attempt to file future claims.

**See water quality page 12**

**Water quality cont. from page 12**

### **An Interns Interesting Work**

Speaking of suction dredging, this past spring, FOC intern Jeremy Jenkins looked into some interesting issues surrounding water quality and mining on the national forests. While the archaic and destructive 1872 Mining Law remains on the books, some areas that were previously set aside by the government for potential dam sites—mainly along larger rivers and their tributaries—may offer important protection. This is the case with the North Fork Clearwater. It might also be the case for the South Fork Clearwater or portions of the Salmon River. We will be following up on Jeremy's fine work to see if suction dredge mining in other rivers falls under the 1955 law.

### **Snake Dredging: Put on Hold**

There can be no question that the Army Corps of Engineers wished it never heard of Lin Laughy. He has exploded the economic myths about river barge transportation on the Snake River (see related article page 14). The Army Corps must also cringe because the fine attorneys at EarthJustice recently authored comments on the Army Corps' draft environmental impact statement for suction dredging on behalf of the remarkable folks at Save Our Wild Salmon, the coalition that has been spearheading the effort to recover wild salmon and steelhead in our region. These crack attorneys also represented Idaho Rivers United, the Sierra Club and Friends of the Clearwater in those comments.

The Nez Perce Tribe's expert legal team and scientists have also given the Army Corps of Engineers fits. Because of all of this, the Army Corps has delayed the final environmental impact statement on dredging the lower Snake River. Hint to the Army Corps: drop the project and get rid of the lower four Snake River dams. They just aren't worth it anymore.

### **Could Bad Collaboration Be the End of Wilderness?**

Next year, 2014, will be the fiftieth anniversary of the Wilderness Act. It should be a momentous occasion to celebrate and recommit to one of America's best ideas and best laws. Indeed, Friends of the Clearwater is working with Wilderness Watch and others to plan a celebration in the wild Clearwater. In spite of the growth of the National Wilderness Preservation System since 1964—or maybe even because of how it has grown, especially in recent years—I can't help but wonder if we will be celebrating, commemorating, or eulogizing wilderness next year.

The reasons I feel our wilderness heritage is seriously threatened can be illustrated by the working plan, released earlier this year for the Clearwater Basin Collaborative.

A quick summary of the Clearwater Basin Collaborative is in order. According to proponents, the Clearwater Basin Collaborative was a group of people selected by Senator Crapo some years ago, to resolve “conflicts” in the Clearwater Basin, focused on the national forests. Opponents of this process point out, regardless of who appointed the group (its real origins are murky), that the group has no formal authority, legislative or otherwise, to operate on behalf of all Americans to resolve issues—even though the Forest Service funnels tax dollars to the group. There already exists a public involvement process under the National Environmental Policy Act (or NEPA) that allows all American citizens, not just a select group, to participate in an open and transparent process. It is this process that is the legal tool for making decisions on national forests (except for decisions like Wilderness, which Congress reserves for itself). Proponents of the collaborative counter the NEPA process will still be followed and take place after the collaborative group makes its “recommendations” to the Forest Service (or Congress, in some instances). Opponents counter with why have redundant publicly funded processes, one legitimate (NEPA) and the other not (the Clearwater Basin Collaborative)?

Thus, this back-room deal making, which involves the Forest Service, may actually circumvent existing laws like NEPA and the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Under this scenario, the real decisions would be made before the official and formal public involvement process rendering the legitimate process a pro-forma exercise.

The upshot is, the collaborative group came up with a work plan or deal, which amounts to its recommendation though not all details have been finalized. For example, the group made some recommendations for legislation to establish wilderness (in name only), wild and scenic rivers, and special management areas, though some boundary issues that have not been finalized.



**IDFG wants to use motorized equipment  
in newly designated wilderness**

**Gerry Snyder Photo Credit**



Conservationists in the group are touting the agreement as a step forward in protection of wildlands. A closer look at the deal, however, reveals that these special areas (roadless areas) would be less protected than under current management plans in certain key respects. Even worse, the deal includes provisions that are inconsistent with wilderness, as defined by the Wilderness Act, for the small wilderness recommendation in the deal. This is unacceptable and threatens wilderness everywhere.

In terms of river protection, the Forest Service recommends more streams for study and protection than are proposed in the collaborative deal. One must ask the question, “What did the collaborators get in terms of wildland and watershed protection?”

The collaborative group considered two legislative options for protection of wildlands—wilderness designation and special management areas, the latter of which are unique designations for parts of two larger roadless areas. Of the 1.5 million acres of roadless wildlands in the Basin, only 300,000 acres were proposed for wilderness (actually pseudo-wilderness), and about 170,000 acres as special management areas. Parts of Kelly Creek, Mallard-Larkins, tiny additions to the Selway-Bitterroot near Elk Summit, and part of Meadow Creek were proposed for pseudo-wilderness. Large integral areas like Weitas Creek, a prime wilderness candidate, were passed over for wilderness, though a small portion in the Cayuse Creek Basin would be a special management area that allows some motorized use.

However, the paltry wilderness recommendation is not the main concern with the deal. The problem is that the proposed wilderness designation is not real wilderness, rather an unrecognizable definition of wilderness, and more like the special management areas. As such, it is pseudo-wilderness.

There are two major problems with the proposed pseudo-wilderness. The first is that the Idaho Fish and Game Department (IDFG) believes it would have the authority to use motorized equipment in newly designated wilderness. According to the *Lewiston Morning Tribune*, IDFG officials believe the agreement gives them “permission to land helicopters and use other motorized or mechanized equipment” when they want to do so. The Forest Service doesn’t give such carte blanche permission on non-wilderness national forest land, let alone wilderness. What the IDFG truly wants, and what the agency believes the deal would give them, is a game farm to manage. For example, Forest Service trail crews walk and use hand tools in wilderness. IDFG officials can walk, too.

The second problem relates to expanding commercial activity in wilderness. The Wilderness Act prohibits its commercial enterprises. Only a narrow exception was



**Outfitters get carte-blanche in collaborative agreement**

**FOC File Photo**

made for services like outfitting and guiding. The Wilderness Act states that outfitting may occur, (it is not mandated) but only to the “extent necessary” and “proper.” This is a very high bar intended to preserve wilderness.

In contrast, the agreement allows outfitters to have structures, which are prohibited in wilderness. It also grants them veto authority over the Forest Service, in terms of whether camps or structures should be moved. For example, the Forest Service would be powerless to move an outfitter camp even if it was causing resource damage. Thus, the deal would create de facto rights. These are decisions the agency should make, not special interests. Nowhere is outfitting a legal right anywhere on the national forests, let alone in wilderness. Responsible outfitters don’t want or need these kind of special privileges. Instead of meeting the spirit and intent of the law, the deal denigrates wilderness by incorrectly stating the provisions in the 1964 Wilderness Act are “new and unduly restrictive” regarding outfitters. The deal proposes actions not only inconsistent with wilderness, but normal national forest management.

Allowing exceptions in one wilderness area seriously threatens the integrity of the entire National Wilderness Preservation System, which generations have worked to build over the past 50 years. Wilderness, both as a wild place and as a concept in America as we’ve known it, is in danger of disappearing from our culture and the landscape. Sadly, it is conservationists, like those in this collaborative group, who are ushering it out the door through their readiness to compromise away its meaning and qualities, by allowing nonconforming uses and exceptions.

Wilderness should be protected for the unique values and qualities that it provides. Wilderness isn’t a commercial equestrian park, a hiking camp, or a jungle gym. Compromising the Wilderness Act is too high a price to pay for designation of new “in-name-only” wilderness.

For some time, I have feared that the era of wilderness designation is over—at least under the current political climate. Though fairly large, the National Wil-

**See wilderness page 15**

## The Five Most Blatant Myths About Freight Transportation On The Lower Snake River

Guest Opinion

Linwood Laughy, Fighting Goliath

Those who benefit most from government subsidies for commercial navigation on the lower Snake River—the ports, industry associations and their members, and the US Army Corps of Engineers—have plied the public for years with untrue claims that barging is more economical, more fuel efficient, and less polluting than shipping freight by truck or rail. Barging supporters also make exaggerated claims that barging on the lower Snake River preserves highways and plays a critical role in the regional economy. The barging boosters make these claims while ignoring clear evidence to the contrary. In doing so, they are perpetuating myths—otherwise known as *cookin' the books* and *blowin' smoke*—and taxpayers are footing the bill.

### Five Myths:

1. **Barge transport is the most fuel-efficient means of transporting cargo.**
2. **Barging keeps trucks off our highways saving millions of dollars each year.**
3. **Barge transport on the lower Snake is friendly to the environment.**
4. **Barging is the cheapest way to move freight.**
5. **Barging on the lower Snake is a vital part of the regional economy.**



Barging megaloads results in US 12 industrialization

FOC File Photo

Below is the conclusion of the report.

- Lower Snake River barging boosters perpetually use false assumptions, old data, and questionable or non-applicable research studies in crafting their support of the status quo. The resulting misinformation misleads the public, quashes needed dialogue about important transportation issues, and leads to the misallocation of private and public resources.
- Freight transport on the lower Snake River has declined significantly over the past 13 years. The expansion and increased efficiency of rail in the region will likely continue to reduce the amount of freight hauled on this waterway.
- While freight tonnage has declined, costs for maintaining and operating commercial navigation on the lower Snake, as well as on the entire Columbia-Snake System, have steadily increased, which has greatly expanded the taxpayer subsidy for each ton shipped. These continuously rising costs come at a time when the U. S. Corps of Engineers faces huge financial demands across the nation for the maintenance of aging infrastructure, and when the federal government is making major across-the-board budget cuts.
- Barging on the lower Snake contributes only 5% of total tonnage shipped on the Columbia-Snake System and on a ton-mile basis, accounts for just 1/10th of 1% of U.S. commercial navigation. Barge transport on the lower Snake is not economically sustainable. As noted by the National Academy of Sciences in a study done for the Army Corps of Engineers, the Corps may need to abandon commercial navigation on some waterways in order to maintain those that handle more ton-miles of freight. The Corps faces large, perpetual costs for sediment management on the Columbia and at the river's mouth. Maintaining freight transport on the Columbia may necessitate abandoning commercial navigation on the lower Snake.
- Sediment management at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers is now shining a light on cost-benefit ratios involved in lower Snake River commercial navigation. For example, cost savings to farmers for the shipment of agricultural products from the Port of Lewiston are insufficient even to pay for the annualized cost of channel dredging necessary to keep barge operations at that port possible.



- Barging supporters pay limited, if any, attention to river system changes already occurring because of climate change. The rapidly expanding number of square miles of forest land burned in the Snake, Salmon and Clearwater drainages during the last decade are already producing increased sediment loads, and this trend will continue. Resulting lower flows and higher water temperatures will negatively impact anadromous fish, likely requiring lower Snake River reservoirs be kept at minimum operating pool levels, as well as mandating more spill. Maintenance costs will increase and river system reliability will suffer. The status quo on the lower Snake is no longer possible, and the refusal to give serious attention to alternatives is indefensible.
- Analyses of the maintenance and operational costs of continued freight transport on the lower Snake rarely include other significant costs to taxpayers and regional residents. A few examples: for much of the region, truck-barge transportation results in more damage to highways than truck-rail. Commercial and recreational fishing and related tourism are held far below their potential regional economic benefit. Electricity rate-payers spend over \$500 million per year trying to recover fish runs on the Columbia and Snake Rivers with limited if any success. Wildlife suffer the loss of thousands of acres of prime riparian habitat. Native Americans, such as the Nez Perce, have paid and continue to pay high social, cultural and economic costs related to the lower Snake River dams.



**Dredging the Snake-Clearwater confluence is delayed**  
**Save Our Wild Salmon Photo Credit**

**Editor's Note: Due to space, we are unable to print the entire analysis. To access the full report go to:**  
<http://www.friendsoftheclearwater.org/the-five-most-blatant-myths-about-freight-transportation-on-the-lower-snake-river/>

#### **wilderness cont. from page 13**

derness Preservation System is not yet complete. By their actions, the conservationists who were part of the deal are proving that the era of wilderness designation is over since their deal contains no real wilderness. This deal doesn't agree to authentic wilderness; it forwards a cheap imitation. Rather than be honest and label the pseudo-wilderness in the deal for what it truly is—some kind of backcountry with protection that prohibits recreational vehicles but one where commercialization reigns--the conservationists have opted for a fraud they are pawning off to the rest of US citizens as real wilderness.

This deal, if enacted into legislation, would threaten the integrity of the National Wilderness Preservation System. As Wilderness Watch notes, legislation that weakens wilderness "not only allow activities within Wilderness that are inappropriate and degrade individual areas, but more importantly the cumulative impact of these provisions threatens to diminish the core values that distinguish Wilderness from other public lands." The deal, if enacted, would also make it very hard politically to designate any new real wilderness in the Clearwater country. For these reasons, the provisions in the CBC work plan regarding wilderness must never be enacted into legislation.

In summary, the deal is inconsistent with real wilderness and any wilderness that may come of it would be wilderness in name only. This would be a huge step backward. Also, the individual area protection--in both the proposed pseudo-wildernesses and special management areas--is generally as good or better under existing plans than the proposed deal, with perhaps only one exception (portions of Meadow Creek). For such a paltry amount of protection, that is unacceptable. It seems that the collaborative group as a whole feels it must recommend some wilderness for appearances sake, but doesn't really support wilderness, as evidenced by the attitude of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Rather than calling for wilderness, the group could have been honest and labeled all the proposed protected areas, wilderness included, special management areas--for that is what they would be anyway.

If wilderness legislation comes from this toxic backroom deal, it is likely that it would be introduced into Congress next year, the fiftieth anniversary of the Wilderness Act. As currently written, the proposal deserves no support. Instead, it should be vigorously opposed, as it would result in a net loss for wild places in the Clearwater. Furthermore, it threatens wilderness everywhere and does great harm to the idea that wilderness is a special place. (For more information see [friendsoftheclearwater.org](http://friendsoftheclearwater.org), [westernlands.org/publications/preview/quid\\_pro\\_quo\\_wilderness/](http://westernlands.org/publications/preview/quid_pro_quo_wilderness/) and [wildernesswatch.org/pdf/Special Provisions.pdf](http://wildernesswatch.org/pdf/Special_Provisions.pdf)).



The Mallard Larkins Roadless Area Booklet will be published this Winter

Chuck Pezeshki Photo Credit

## FRIENDS OF THE CLEARWATER CALENDAR OF EVENTS FALL 2013

WILDLANDS POTLUCK

**Tuesday October 8, 5-8pm**

Q&A SESSION ON WILDERNESS  
AND COLLABORATION

426 E. LEWIS STREET, MOSCOW

WILDERNESS & COLLABORATION COLLIDE

**Tuesday October 22, 7-9pm**

COMPARISON OF WILDERNESS ACT 1964  
AND CBC WILDLANDS PROPOSAL 2013

VI LAW SCHOOL, ROOM 105

2013 ANNUAL MEETING & GATHERING

**Saturday November 9, 6-10pm**

SILENT AUCTION, COMMUNITY POTLUCK, AWARDS CEREMONY/BOARD ELECTIONS  
LIVE MUSIC WITH TOM PETERSEN

GREAT ROOM 1912 CENTER, 412 E. THIRD STREET, MOSCOW

**Friends of the Clearwater**  
**P.O. Box 9241**  
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