



President's Message 2
Board of Directors Update 3
Habitat Campaign Highlight 4
Streams Campaign Highlight 5
Eastern WA Party 6-7
Member Group Profiles 10-11
Grassroots Organizing 14
Volunteers Needed 15

VOICES

Washington Voters Support Strong Protections of Water and Land

By Tom Geiger, Outreach Director

In late May, WEC commissioned a public opinion poll in an effort to better understand citizens' views on important environmental issues. We hired Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates, a highly respected polling firm to survey citizens across the state.

We did not do this poll to choose our priorities but rather to better understand the public's views of our existing priorities. A poll like this enables us to become more effective in our grassroots outreach, media and policy efforts because it allows us to:

- ▲ more effectively communicate in ways that connect with the general public; and,
- ▲ better target our public education efforts.

In the analysis of the results, the pollsters state "Overall, the survey results show that, despite growing concern that the state is "off on the wrong track," and despite sharply increased concern about the economy and unemployment, **Washington voters remain strongly supportive of measures to protect land and water in Washington state.**"

This may not be a surprise to many of our members, but is very useful information to convey to decision-makers. Since the poll analysis became available, we have been meeting with some of the state's key decision-makers to go over the results. We will continue to meet with others over the coming month.

Please see pages 8 and 9 for graphs and explanations of some the key findings of the poll.

Washington Voters • continued on page 8

Forest Campaign Highlight Green Certified Logging

By Maria Mergel, Forest Campaign Intern

Looking up at a lush patch of hillside from the valley below, one probably would not guess that it is the site of a logging operation: stands appear thick, with no stumps to be seen. Yet less than two years ago Evergreen Ecoforestry logged 130,000 board feet of wood from thirty acres in that forest. One of eight forestry operations in Washington certified under the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council, Evergreen Ecoforestry aims to



Becky Kelley

Healthy Forest Campaign • continued on page 12

This is the certified forest *after* 130,000 board feet were logged.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



David Adam Edelstein

I hope you are all having a good summer. This time of year, many of us are out in the mountains hiking and camping with our families, or out in the garden growing flowers and vegetables. In addition to those activities, I am enjoying the challenge of my volunteer work as WEC's Board president, ranging from presiding at board meetings to participating in the ongoing mediation of the hotly contested shoreline management guidelines.

The staff and fellow volunteer board members are key to this organization's health – and you, as a member, play a crucial role as well. I am honored to serve each one of you as we work to protect our state's air, land and water for current and future generations.

I wanted to take a few minutes to give particular thanks to my fellow board members that bring much of the energy, skill and enthusiasm that make WEC a leader in the environmental community.

You will see on page three those board members who have recently come off the WEC Board. Jack, Marcy, Larry, Brenda, Vern and Greg – thanks for all your great service to WEC and I look forward to keeping in touch with you as we continue to work for a better future.

And like all living things, a board is a dynamic organism. And part of change is bringing on new board members with new energy, perspective and drive. We are pleased with the board members who have recently been elected to the board (see page three to read a little about them).

WEC's board is now a group of 24 individuals all committed to make this organization as effective and influential as possible. Every year we have elections to consider new board members and you, as a member are part of that process. You cast a vote to ratify a slate of "at-large" board members. The board itself elects individuals who are sponsored by WEC's many member organizations.

This past election we heard from many of our members that they were impressed by the quality of the candidates on the slate. We agree. A lot of hard work went into identifying individuals who would bring skills, commitment and strategic support to our Board.

We also heard concern from some members in eastern Washington that their area of the state had no names on the slate. To clarify, we have several current board members who are in the middle of their terms, so they were not up for re-election – board members from Republic, Spokane and Pullman. Additionally, the board elected a new organization-sponsored member from Winthrop. Finally, we did seek several additional people from Spokane to run, but they were already too busy with other community efforts. We welcome suggestions from our members throughout the year for potential board members. If you have people that you would like to be considered for the board in the future, please contact the WEC office and let them know.

Thanks again to all of you who make this organization a leader in Washington's environmental community. We couldn't do it without you.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jay Manning". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jay Manning

Board of Directors Update

WEC's Board of Directors is currently at a very healthy 24 members. Welcome to the incoming board members listed below. For a full list of our board, go to

www.wecprotects.org/board.html

Incoming Board Members:

Lisa Andrews, Seattle, at-large

Lisa has worked for Friends of the Earth, directed Congressman Jay Inslee's field campaign and served as the director of public affairs for the Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition. She currently works at Pyramid Communications, a public affairs firm serving environmental non-profits, labor unions, tribes, social justice organizations and government. She has significant campaign organizing and media expertise.

Elizabeth Davis, Freeland, at-large

A retired attorney, Elizabeth is an active member of the League of Women Voters, chairing the state League's natural resources umbrella committee and serving on its forest committee. Washington Toxics Coalition and Earth Ministry are the other organizations with which she is most involved. She participates in WEC's Sustainable State Forests Campaign work group.

William Donnelly, Seattle, at-large

Bill's experience includes board service with the Northwest Fund for the Environment, the Northwest Ecosystem Alliance, the Steering Committee for The Loomis Forest Fund, and several other organizations. As a leader of the Donnelly-Adams Group at Salomon Smith Barney, he has been involved with environmentally sensitive investing for two decades.

Aileen Jeffries, Winthrop, Sponsored by Pacific Biodiversity Institute

Aileen is a Senior Research Investigator for the Washington State Department of Health, Environmental Health Programs, and she regularly teaches at colleges and Universities. She is currently on the Board of Pacific Biodiversity Institute and the steering committee for the League of Women Voters of the Methow Valley.

David Mann, Seattle, at-large

Dave has returned to the board after a two-year hiatus. He left the board in 2000 after serving three terms (six years) including 4 years as WEC's president. He will be helping with fundraising, and WEC's legislative and legal committees. Previously he was a partner in the law firm of Bricklin & Gendler, and recently started his own practice focusing on environmental and land use matters.

Diane Schwickerath, McCleary, sponsored by Grays Harbor Audubon Society

Diane has been a member of the Grays Harbor Audubon Society (GHAS) since it was chartered in 1992 and has served on its board since 1993. In 2000, she was recognized as a WEC Environmental Hero for her help in the development of the Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival and for her work on GHAS's Wildlife Forever Program. Professionally, she is employed as an accountant.

David Somers, Monroe, at-large

David has worked as a professional fisheries ecologist since 1976. He serves as President of the Pacific Watershed Institute, a non-profit research and education organization, that he helped found in 1991. Most recently, he served a four-year term on the Snohomish County Council. In 2001 he was Council Chair, served on the State Forest Practices Board, and was Chairman of the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.

Constance Wolfe, Whidbey Island, at-large

Connie was a psychotherapist for 25 years before making a career shift to work for the environment. She worked for six years as the Planned Giving Coordinator for The Nature Conservancy of Alaska and helped significantly grow their Legacy Program. In 1999, she moved from Alaska to Whidbey Island. Connie has volunteered to help WEC create a Gift and Legacy Program.

Outgoing Board Members

Jack de Yonge,
Sedro-Wooley, at-large

Marcy Golde,
Seattle, at-large

Larry Harris,
Freeland, at-large

Brenda McMurray,
Yakima, sponsored
by Yakima Valley
Audubon Society

Vern Rutter,
Tahuya, sponsored
by Hood Canal
Environmental
Council

Greg Wingard,
Seattle, sponsored
by Waste Action
Project

Many thanks to these members for all the time and effort they gave to WEC. Serving on the board is a volunteer position, and requires that members make a space in their schedules, and in their lives, for the good of the organization. Their work has certainly been appreciated!

Habitat Campaign Highlight

Taking Action to Protect Shorelines



Everett Shoreline Coalition

Maulsby flats in Everett are threatened by development that would be allowed under the City's new Shoreline Plan. WEC and others are challenging the plan in hopes of protecting the water, land and wildlife in this area.

By WEC staff

Statewide polling results reveal that a solid majority of voters support better enforcement of existing laws to protect land, air, and water. Unfortunately, it is sometimes the government itself, be it state or local, that violates the law. In some of these situations, after trying other methods of achieving enforcement, Washington Environmental Council (WEC) will take legal action to hold government accountable. One such case was on July 12th when WEC took action against the Department of Ecology, appealing what we believe is an inadequate new Shoreline Master Program (SMP) for the City of Everett.

There were two other separate appeals of Ecology's action, one by the Everett Shoreline Coalition and another by the Tulalip Tribe. The appeals all focus on a central concern: the city's proposed new plan would allow for the destruction of important and relatively rare habitat.

The shoreline resources within the City's jurisdiction are of great regional and statewide significance. The marsh, mudflat, and channel habitats provide for a rich diversity of fish and wildlife species. The City's shorelines provide critical rearing, saltwater adaptation and migration areas for juvenile salmonids and are important feeding areas for migratory bird species. Moreover, the intertidal mudflats provide food for salmon and other marine fish and food, shelter and nesting habitat for up to 35,000 waterfowl and wading birds.

Maulsby Mudflat in particular is high-value intertidal habitat used as a feeding and transition area for juvenile salmon, including chinook salmon that are designated as "Threatened" under the Endangered Species Act.

In light of these significant resources, WEC believes the City's revised shoreline master program fails to meet the standards in the Shoreline Management Act in several areas. Some areas of particular concern include the City's designation of a significant portion of its Shorelines of Statewide Significance for development, Ecology's reliance on the City's outdated critical areas ordinance, provisions for off-site, out-of-kind mitigation, reliance on broad administrative discretion, and the special area planning provision for Maulsby Mudflats.

WEC's President, Jay Manning, said in a letter to the city:

"I want to emphasize that WEC does not take this appeal lightly; we have spent considerable time and effort considering its implications. We also are mindful of the time and effort Everett has invested in this SMP. It is not our intent to block progress on shoreline management in Washington; WEC is wholly committed to improving shoreline protection. We simply believe Everett's conditionally approved SMP fails to comply with the law and significant changes are needed to result in such compliance."

We want to express our thanks for the legal work of our volunteer attorneys Hilary Franz and Dave Mann who are handling this case for WEC. †

Healthy Streams Campaign Highlight

With Enough Water and a Ladder

By WEC staff

In an effort to help fish listed for protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Washington Environmental Council filed formal notice of potential legal action against the Peshastin Irrigation District (PID) in early July. At stake is the survival of “endangered” Chinook Salmon and “threatened” Bull Trout of Peshastin Creek, a tributary to the Wenatchee River, near Leavenworth.

Over the past two years, WEC has monitored the Peshastin, for ESA violations. Specifically, PID’s water management regime causes portions of the creek to be dewatered in some years and a diversion dam has no fish passage (see accompanying photos). These problems limit fish access to habitat and in some cases strand and kill them in their various life stages.

The problems with the Peshastin persist despite a \$100,000 grant by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board awarded in 1999 to improve the diversion dam so that it would no longer block fish from migrating up and down stream. As another low-flow season approached without any meaningful action, WEC felt compelled to act.

While WEC has stated the legal actions that we are willing to pursue, ideally the problem can be fixed more expeditiously outside the courtroom. In a July 8th, letter to the PID, WEC Board President Jay Manning stated:

“WEC’s goal is not to file lawsuits or to put farmers out of business. We are, in fact, very interested in retaining a viable agricultural industry in this state and in Chelan County. We assume that you share our goal of protecting threatened fish species, and that a preferred path forward for all of us involves modifications in diversion structures and water use that will address the needs of both water users and threatened fish species... I hope you will join me in an effort to work together positively and creatively to make Peshastin Creek a place where people and fish can thrive.”

WEC’s overture is genuine, and we are building upon a solid track record. WEC supports a coalition effort in the Walla Walla basin to fix long-standing



This diversion dam on Peshastin Creek blocks salmon and bull trout from migrating up stream.



Downstream from the diversion dam which directs water out of the stream, the stream often runs too shallow to support healthy fish.

problems that harm the river and its fish. We also are working with farmers on Manastash creek near Ellensburg in a similar effort. Both of these situations began with the possibility of ESA litigation, but both have resulted in good faith efforts to restore streams.

In regard to the Peshastin, WEC hopes that the PID will commit to good-faith negotiations to develop a plan to conserve the ESA-listed fish of Peshastin Creek. Such a plan would meet two basic criteria: 1) Installation prior to the 2003 irrigation season of a

fish ladder which allows for free and unobstructed upstream migration of fish; and, 2) Release of sufficient water over the diversion dam to maintain adequate stream flows.

WEC's purpose is to be a strong voice for Washington's environment; sometimes being that voice requires strong action. While we prefer to protect our state's land, air and water outside the courts, WEC can and will use our capacity to take legal action to make sure our laws are enforced.

We wish to give a special thanks to our lead volunteer attorney on the case, John Arum, and the assistance of attorney Rick Smith on the 60-day notice letter. ▲

WEC's Eastern Washington Office Celebrates its 9th Year

By Bonnie Morey, Eastern Washington Assistant



Bonnie Mager, WEC's longtime Eastern Washington Coordinator thanks all those attending for their support.

David Adam Edelstein

WEC's Eastern Washington office in Spokane celebrated its 9th birthday on June 28th. People from near and far gathered for an evening of fun and entertainment at the beautiful farm of Bart and Lindell Haggin.

Young and old alike indulged in fabulous food provided by Catered For You. Wine and beer was donated by local businesses, and cake and ice cream (of course!) was enjoyed by all. Again this year, local artist Mark Stanton played acoustic guitar and sang, further enhancing the mood of the evening. Even the rain didn't dampen the people's spirits.

The silent auction items were put under cover by the side of the house and the live auction items were open for pre-auction viewing in the shelter of the garage. The returning auctioneer Stuart Lee had people gather around and the competitive bidding started on a wide selection of donated items. The kids took this time to enjoy the famous tree swing overlooking the river.

It seemed that the guests enjoyed themselves immensely despite the damp weather, and most were able to return home with a wonderful new possession or gift certificate, or even a coupon for a weekend vacation. And as always, it was an evening where folks were able to get together for a common cause, rekindle old friendships and make new ones.

A very special thanks to all those listed below who helped make this event successful. As a result, over \$5,500 was raised to support the continued success of WEC's work in eastern Washington.

Thanks!

WEC gratefully acknowledges the following individuals who have helped to underwrite tonight's activities:

Allan Bonney, Attorney
Jane Cunningham
Danielle Dixon
Fred & Shirley Hudson
Mark Iverson, P.S.
Teresa and James O'Halloran
Steve and Gail Quaid
Terrence V. Sawyer, Attorney

We also extend our thanks to the businesses that provided us with food, refreshments and services. Please show your support whenever possible.

Catered For You
Kent's Balloons
Kinko's, Division Street
Kinko's, Downtown
Northern Lights Brewing Co.
Printing Inc.
Starbucks Coffee, Wandermere
Stuart Lee, Auctioneer
Walt's Mailing

We would also like to thank the following WEC board members and volunteers who worked so hard to make this event a success:

Laura Ackerman
Jane Cunningham
Don Davies
David Edelstein
Crystal Gartner
Bart Haggin
Lindell Haggin
Larry Hampson
Gwen Innes
John Innes
Justin Mager
Caroline Mager
Jay Manning
Bonnie Morey
Julian Powers
Shaun Reeser

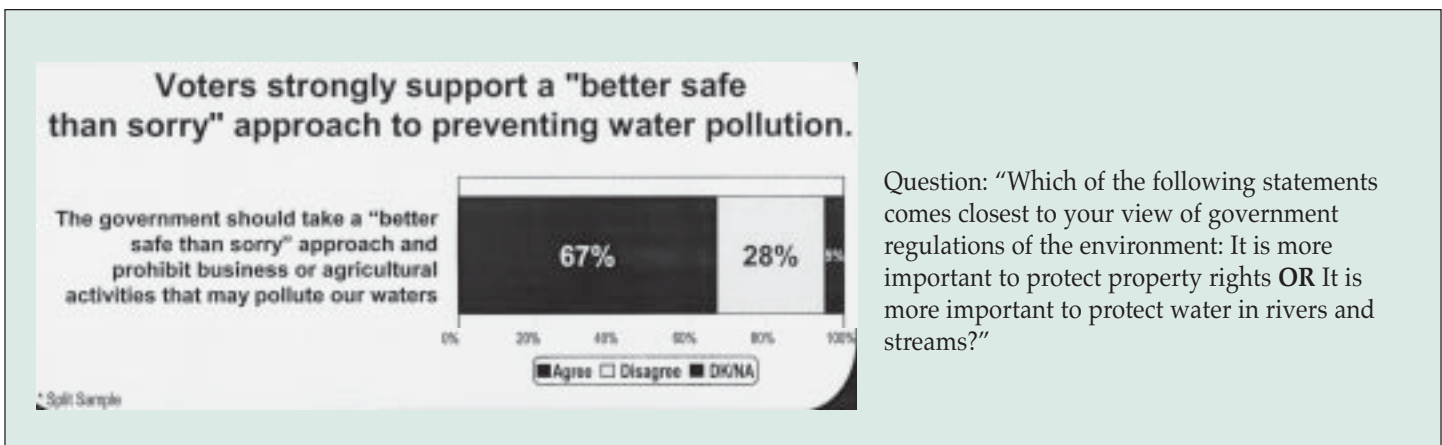
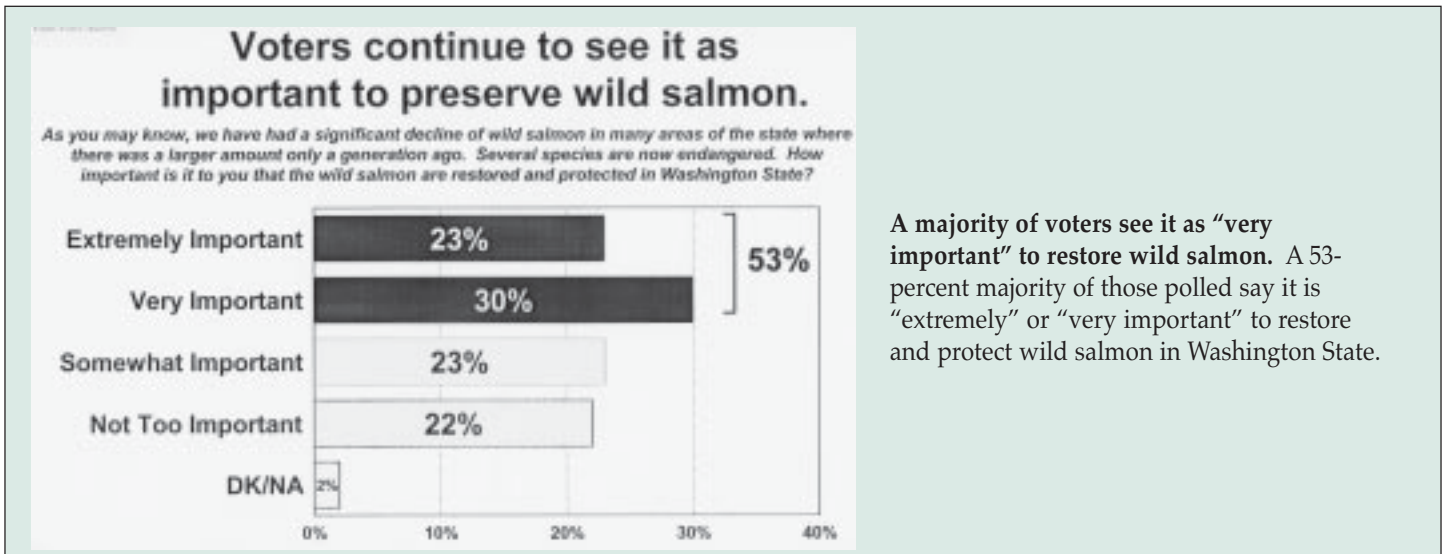
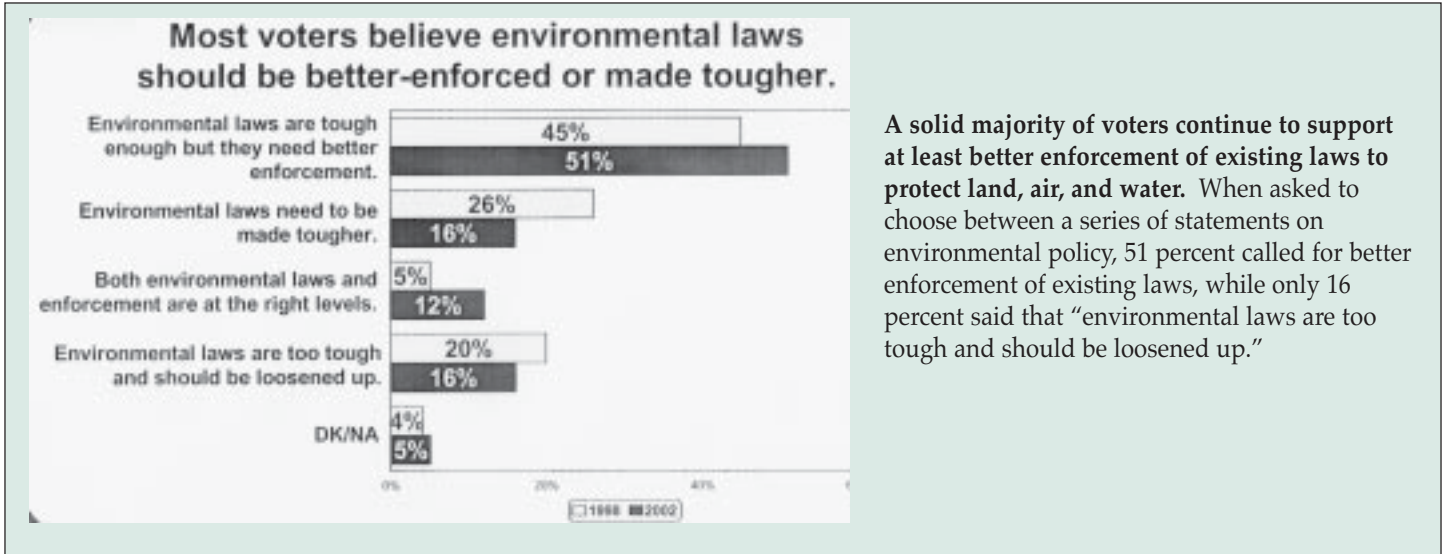
WEC extends a special thank you to **Bart and Lindell Haggin** for once again hosting our birthday celebration. We appreciate all that the Haggin's have done for WEC over these many years.

More thanks!

We would like to thank the following individuals and businesses who contributed to our live and silent auctions. Their generosity will help further WEC's efforts to conserve Washington's natural heritage. Please express your support for our contributors whenever possible.

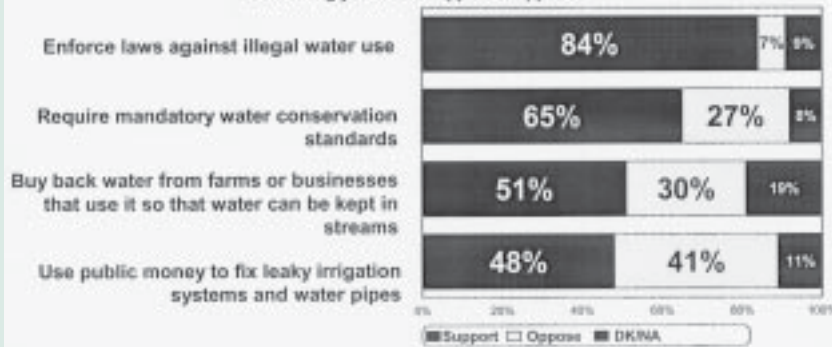
29 th Avenue Artworks	Paul Fish	Northwest Images
Laura Ackerman	Chuck Fisk	Northwest Map and Travel Center
Mary Ackerman	Four Seasons Coffee	Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture
Alan McCoy's Piano Service	Frame Shoppe	Peggy Ostness
Antique Emporium	Ganesh Himal Trading Co.	Pacific Flyway Art Gallery
Antique Gallery	Gentle Touch Hand Wash Car Wash	Peerless Sunpuft
Art by Yourself	Georgia's Framing & Design	Pine Acres Par 3
B & L Bicycles	Global Folk Art	Quinn's Restaurant
Mary Benham	Representative Jeff Gombosky	Paul Quinnett
Owen Berio	Gordy's Sichuan	Rico & Myrna Reed
Blue Dunn Fly Fish	Great Harvest Bread Co.	Revival Lighting
Senator Lisa Brown	R D Grunbaum	Rick Singer Photo
Bumpers Fun Center	Charlie Gurche	Ric-o-Shay
Brian Burke	Bart & Lindell Haggin	Rocky Rococo Restaurant
Cat Tales	Larry Hampson	Jill Silver
Caterina Winery	Buell Hollister	Spokane Alpine Haas
Children's Corner Bookshop	James Hood DDS	Spokane Interplayers Ensemble
Chrysalis Home Interiors	Huppins Hi-Fi Photo & Video	Starbucks Coffee
Clark Stephens Golf	Jacob's Java	Kathleen Stevens
Cobblestone Bakery	Kent's Balloons	Summit Sound Studio
Colburn's Gallery	Laser Quest	Suntree Books
Pam Comstock	James LaVigne	The Suspenders Store
Joan Crooks & Don Davies	Stuart Lee	Two Wheel Transit
Cucina! Cucina!	Lotions and Potions	Unity Books
Eagle Ridge Short Course	Wil Luedders	Wild Birds Unlimited
Eagles Ice-A-Rena	Made in Washington	Wild Walls
Earthworks Recycling	Bonnie Mager	Wonderland Family Fun Center
Eastern WA Orienteering Club	Mizuna	Vino! A Wine Shop
Eclectic Gifts	Bonnie Morey	Linda Yoemans & Sally Reynolds
Europa	Mountain Gear	Zephyr
	Mustard Seed	
	Northern Lights	

The following graphs and commentary from the polling firm explain some of the most interesting data from the poll. To view a more comprehensive series of graphs, go to: www.wecprotects.org/2002poll.pdf



Voters want more enforcement of laws against illegal water use.

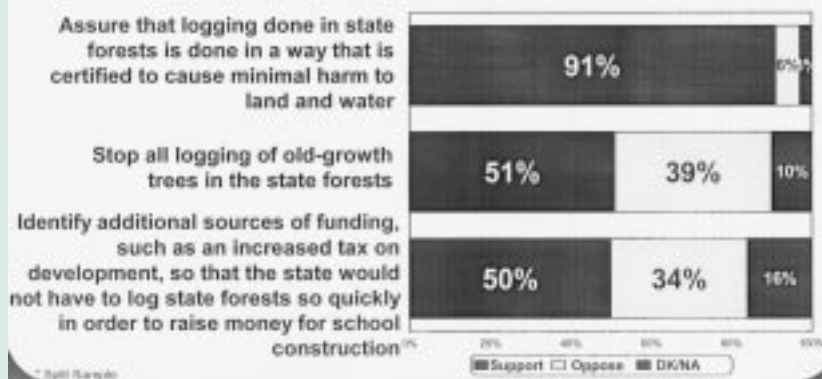
Does each of the following proposals for making Washington streams healthy and ensuring a reliable supply of water for farms, communities and industry sound like something you would support or oppose?



More than 8 out of 10 surveyed would support enforcing the law against illegal water use. If you would like to learn more about the state's failure to protect our waters, go to: www.wecprotects.org/waterreport.pdf

Voters want to be sure that logging does not harm land and water.

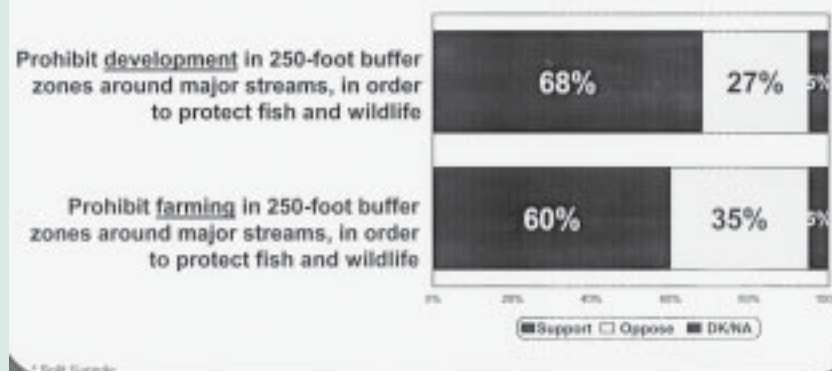
Does each of the following proposals to improve management of Washington's state forests sound like something you would support or oppose?



An overwhelming 91 percent of voters polled say that logging in state forests should be certified to "cause minimal harm to land and water."

Voters support 250-foot streamside buffers.

Does each of the following proposals for protecting land near rivers, streams, and wetlands sound like something you would support or oppose?



Two-third of those polled (68%) support prohibiting development in 250-foot buffer zones around major streams in order to protect fish and wildlife. Another 60 percent support prohibiting farming in such zones for the same purpose.

Methodology: From May 18-21, 2002, FMM&A conducted a survey of 500 registered voters in the state of Washington who are considered likely to cast ballots in the November 2002 general election. The margin of error for the full sample is +/- 4.4%; margins of error for subgroups within the sample will be higher.

Compiled by Amy Zarrett, Organizer

Friends of the Columbia Gorge

In 1980, visionaries who saw the need to protect the Columbia Gorge from urban sprawl founded Friends of the Columbia Gorge. For the next six years the group worked to organize citizens, educate the public and elected officials, and finally succeeded in passing the 1986 Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act.

The reasons to protect the Gorge are obvious to anyone who has visited it: 10,000 years ago, ice-age floods and earthquakes sent a torrent of water hurling towards the Pacific Ocean. In the wake of this cataclysm, a unique and inspiring wonder was created. As the floods receded, the once meandering Columbia River was held captive in a basalt Gorge rising 3000 feet at places along its 85-mile length.

Today, the Columbia River Gorge boasts more than 75 waterfalls, five major ecosystems and more than 800 species of flowering plants, 15 of which exist nowhere else in the world.

Friends of the Gorge has over 3,000 members in Washington and Oregon and works to vigorously protect the scenic, natural, cultural and recreational resources within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Unlike many conservation groups, Friends works on a myriad of issues and is the only conservation group dedicated solely to the preservation and enhancement of the Columbia Gorge.

Public land acquisition from private willing sellers is one of the important tools for long-term Gorge protection, and Friends of the Columbia Gorge is

promoting that acquisition aggressively. Due to recent federal legislation, the U.S. Forest Service has received 187 requests from willing sellers to purchase their lands. The Forest Service has three years to make offers to buy these lands or the lands will convert to zoning that allows more development and increased logging and mining.

For these reasons, the Friends of the Columbia Gorge, with the Sierra Club and the Trust for Public Land, have launched the Lewis & Clark Landscapes Project to ensure the public protection of 4,000 acres of land by 2004, the approximate start of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commemoration. As the Columbia Gorge is arguably the most distinctive stretch of the Lewis & Clark Trail, preserving these lands as a legacy to Lewis & Clark is an effort that will be appreciated for generations to come.

For more information on Friends of the Columbia Gorge, check out their website at www.gorgefriends.org, or call (503) 241-3762.

The Mountaineers

With the aim to be the premier northwest outdoor recreation club, The Mountaineers was established in 1906. Dedication to conservation of wild areas was core to the club from its inception. From the tops of mountains, members saw the devastation caused by rampant extraction, and were thus instrumental in the creation of the Olympic National Monument, in 1909, which later lead to the Olympic National Park. In addition, their members were key in creating the North Cascades National Park, the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, and the Glacier Peak Wilderness – all areas which are favorites of many Washingtonians. A few members are now volunteering in the effort for the proposed Wild Sky Wilderness, currently pending in Congress.

With almost 15,000 members, the club has a sizable presence in the Pacific Northwest. They have branches in Wenatchee, Bellingham, Everett, Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia. All of the members have one thing in common – they love the outdoors and they thrive in it.

The club offers recreation courses, all coordinated by volunteer instructors, in basic, intermediate, and advanced mountaineering, snowshoeing, alpine scrambling, wilderness navigation and orientation, first aid, avalanche safety, class I & II whitewater kayaking, and sea kayaking. They also have naturalist walks/hikes, international exchanges and outings, and conduct a nature photography course.

Their natural resource lecture series, titled the North-

A hiker on the Washington side of the Columbia Gorge enjoys Dog Mountain's great wildflowers.



Ken Denis

west Environmental Issues Course (NWEIC), begins in February 2003 and focuses on current Pacific Northwest environmental issues. In addition to the NWEIC, members work on conservation and recreation policy issues for the club through two club divisions: Recreation Resource Division and Conservation Division.

One of their current projects is advocating for the (National Forest) Roadless Area Conservation Policy. They strongly believe the February 2001 policy should be law, whether by executive order or by Congressional Action (HR 4865), and encourage all citizens of Washington state to urge their Congressman's support for the bill (which right now has 178 co-sponsors; only 1/3 of Washington's delegation has signed on).

The Mountaineers are also actively engaged in the mapping, outreach, scoping, and preparation of new Wilderness proposals in Washington State, of which the Wild Sky Wilderness proposal (HR 4844) is one.

According to the club, there are many benefits of being a WEC member group. In particular they feel WEC's focus, expertise, and enthusiasm provide an excellent resource for The Mountaineers in their actions to protect the environment of the state.

For more info or to get involved, contact Conservation Division Chairperson, Nancy Neyenhouse, neyen82@hotmail.com, or Public Policy Assistant, Kelly McCaffrey, kellym@mountaineers.org, 206-284-6310 x3029.

Washington Fly Fishing Club

Founded in 1939, the mission of the Washington Fly Fishing Club (WFFC) has remained remarkably consistent: "dedication to the preservation of Washington's native trout and salmonids; promotion of the art, craft and science of fly fishing; and the education of youth to assume environmental leadership."

The Club was founded when Enos Bradner and Ken McLeod, members of the Steelhead Trout club of Washington, were unable to convince that organization to actively promote the interests of fly fishing in the state. Within the first year, the WFFC successfully petitioned the Washington State Game Commission to set aside the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River and Pass Lake for fly fishing – the first such regulations in the Western United States.

The WFFC has consistently advocated for conservation-oriented fishing regulations and the preservation of native fishes across the state. In more recent history, the WFFC was instrumental in preserving and



Geoff Pegler

protecting the wild searun cutthroats of the Puget Sound basin. And, despite an initial setback, the WFFC is committed to the establishment of state-wide catch and release of all wild steelhead.

In 1999, the WFFC began limited funding for graduate student research at the Center for Streamside Studies at the University of Washington. As of 2002, five students have received funding to support studies relating to wild trout and salmonid populations and the environmental risks to them.

The membership of the Washington Fly Fishing Club is concentrated within the greater Puget Sound basin and averages 200 members. Associate membership extends the reach throughout the Northwest.

The WFFC's current priorities are the statewide release of wild steelhead, the preservation of genetic diversity within the trout and salmonids of Washington, and active support of graduate students engaged in research that will benefit either of the above.

The WFFC firmly believes in collaborative activities that will benefit the unique ecosystems of our state.

According to WFFC, the primary benefits of WEC membership are the formation of alliances and mutual support of issues that are consistent with the missions of diverse groups (eg, ESA listings and enforcement of protection for listings of depressed, threatened, and endangered trout and salmonids). In addition, WEC also provides a complementary scope of vision that extends beyond that of the WFFC.

Contact Doug Schaad and Preston Singletary for more information or to get involved at dcschaad@attbi.com and psinglet@gte.net. Also find out more through the website at <http://www.wffc.com> ▲

Mountaineers celebrate a great day of climbing

Previously selected trees of various ages were felled or yarded into the corridors. The logs were carried individually along a cable system to the logging road, then stacked on a truck and hauled off to the mill.

demonstrate and promote ecologically sensitive forestry as part of a larger effort in responsible land stewardship.

Evergreen Ecoforestry is a project of River Farm, a small community nestled in the foothills of the north Cascades. Upslope from the Farm is the forestry project, which operates on 160 acres leased to River Farm and the Evergreen Land Trust by Crown Pacific Ltd. Partnership. The lease includes the following provisions: the land would be managed in a non-conventional manner, and 30% of the profits would return to Crown Pacific, increasing to 50% in September 2002. Crown Pacific yielded to River Farm's lobbying for permission to practice sustainable forestry, and Evergreen Ecoforestry conducted their logging operation by selectively thinning through corridors.

The Cable Thinning Harvest Method

Almost one-third of the trees were removed from the 30-acre patch. The area is a dense stand of second growth forest including western maple, red alder, Douglas fir, Western hemlock, and Western red cedar. In their selective thinning method, Evergreen Ecoforestry cut narrow corridors that were used as pathways through which logs were transported. Previously selected trees of various ages were felled or yarded into the corridors. The logs were carried individually along a cable system to the logging road, then stacked on a truck and hauled off to the mill. The thinning was completed in three weeks. Evergreen Ecoforestry used anything that could not be milled for buildings, firewood, and other uses.

The environmental impacts of this harvesting system are significantly less than large-scale clearcutting. With only 30% of trees being chosen and removed through narrow corridors, the forest remains relatively intact. Trees of different ages are retained to maintain a healthy stand structure and the microclimates that it supports. Transporting the logs through narrow corridors reduces the amount of forest floor affected by compaction from dragging and erosion due to loosening of the soil. The corridors themselves are located to minimize the need to cut snags, which are valuable to wildlife. Depending on how well the stands reseed themselves, Evergreen Ecoforestry may do some replanting in the harvest area.

The thinning area was chosen due to its dense stand structure and its location close to an old Crown

Pacific logging road. The property contains two streams that run through River Farm and join the south fork of the Nooksack River, and Evergreen Ecoforestry will preserve all the trees in the areas close to those streams to minimize the effects that erosion and altered microclimates can have on streamside areas. The land surrounding Evergreen's acreage bears the scars of clearcuts by Crown Pacific and Trillium, potent reminders of the detrimental effects that conventional forestry can have.

FSC Certified Forest tour

On September 14th 2002, Alan Soicher, FSC Certified Forest Steward for Evergreen Ecoforestry LLC, will lead an all-day forest tour near Van Zandt, WA. Evergreen manages lands on the River Farm, an 80 acre forest and farm along the South Fork Nooksack River, and an adjacent 160 acre forested parcel. We will see examples of a cable thinning unit, single tree selection, and a riparian reforestation project. We will meet in the sleepy town of Acme, WA at the Acme Cafe at 7 am for breakfast and then carpool from there.

If you would be interested in attending please contact:

Becky Kelley
becky@wecprotects.org
206-622-8103

FSC Certification

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) has set international standards for forestry that balance ecological, social, and economic factors, and FSC accredits independent certifiers that evaluate different forestry operations by the FSC's Principles and Criteria. Wood products from FSC certified operations are stamped with the FSC logo, informing consumers that their wood product comes from a well-managed operation. While a number of organizations are conducting certifications for forest operations and products, FSC is the only certification body to have the broad support of environmental and consumer groups, and is generally considered to have the most stringent, but workable, standards.

At the end of the fifteen-year lease, Evergreen intends to use its eco-logging revenues to purchase the land. Thereafter, Evergreen will continue to use ecologically-based forestry practices to provide ecological services and high quality wood products for centuries to come.

In September 2000, Evergreen Ecoforestry received FSC certification. Evergreen Ecoforestry could have removed more logs without losing their certification. But they prefer to have their thinning operations have even less impact than some other FSC certified logging operations might.

After the Harvest

Much of the wood from the thinning operation was used in buildings for the Puget Sound Environmental Learning Center on Bainbridge Island and the Cedar River Watershed Education Center. One of the benefits of FSC certification for Evergreen Ecoforestry has been access to markets: the architects for both projects specified that FSC certified wood be used in the buildings. Another benefit is that the finished products can be sold at a premium. However, Evergreen Ecoforestry chose to become certified not only for the financial benefits, but to support certification as a way of letting consumers know that their purchases are protecting, not destroying, forest ecosystems. While logging selectively at this small scale is more expensive, costs are kept low by not building too many roads, and by maintaining seed trees so that replanting is not necessary.

At the end of the fifteen-year lease, Evergreen intends to use its eco-logging revenues to purchase the land. Thereafter, Evergreen will continue to use ecologically-based forestry practices to provide ecological services and high quality wood products for centuries to come. ▲



Becky Kelley

This corridor was used for the cabled pulley system. This system allowed logs to be brought to the logging truck with minimal harm to the forest.

Growing Our Grassroots

By Amy Zarrett, Organizer

Last spring, I was lucky enough to catch Texas rancher and political satirist, Jim Hightower, speaking excitedly about the National Down Home Democracy Tour coming to Seattle on August 24th. Its intention is to bring together all walks of life for a festival with a purpose: to empower people to connect and strengthen the ties necessary for effective grassroots progressive activism. It's based on the premise that, during a time of corporate questioning and continued assault on our natural resources, there is a call for citizens to be the voice of reason to their leaders.

Along these lines, WEC plans to increase our grassroots organizing to help people reconnect with their state legislators on environmental issues. We anticipate a 2003 state legislative session loaded with environmental decisions on everything from shoreline protection to water for both people and fish.

Acting Locally...

With fall elections soon upon us, we want to ensure that our natural heritage isn't given the short end of the proverbial stick on water, natural resource funding and other important issues. The best way to accomplish this is for citizens to educate legislative candidates about these pressing issues, and then to follow-up after the election and before the legislature starts to repeat those concerns.

WEC members number many statewide. In those numbers is an important link to the work we do in Olympia. We lobby the legislature, state agencies, and the governor's office, help gain media attention, do research, and develop new policy proposals to protect air, land, and water. But one piece that connects all of these aspects of our work is the powerful voice of our more than three thousand members statewide. ▲

How You Can Help

Many of you are already involved in our email action system, GreenTree. If you do not receive these, but would like to, simply email and ask to be signed up (amy@wecprotects.org). But we need more than just email. We feel a need to get local citizens to talk more face-to-face with their legislators.

For that reason, we'll be contacting some of our members this fall in certain areas of the state to facilitate more dialog between citizens and their legislators.

If you are interested in having a pre-session gathering in your legislative district, please give me a call (206-622-8103) or drop me an email (amy@wecprotects.org). ▲

Funding and Support for Organizational Capacity-Building

Available from Environmental Support Center through November 30

The Environmental Support Center has special funds available through November 30, 2002 to assist environmental activist and environmental justice organizations in Washington state, and in particular Pierce County. Please visit their web site: www.envsc.org or call Patty Larson at 202-331-9700 for more information.

Through six different programs, The Environmental Support Center (ESC) works to strengthen the organizational effectiveness of local, state, and regional organizations working on environmental issues in the U.S. ESC provides funds and technical assistance to help groups plan strategically, increase and diversify funding, strengthen leadership, communicate more effectively, use technology, and work collaboratively.

Bequests

Where There's A Will, There's A Way

Leaving a gift to WEC in your will can help WEC protect Washington's environment and natural heritage. You can bequeath to WEC a percentage of your estate, a specific sum of money, or the remainder of your estate after you have provided for others. If desired, you may also request that the funds be used for a specific purpose. To make a bequest, you should contact your lawyer and ask that language similar to the following be inserted into your will. Should you want to leave a percentage, remainder or designated gift, the language would change accordingly.

"I hereby bequeath the amount of \$ _____ to the Washington Environmental Council, a non-profit organization incorporated by the laws of the state of Washington, having its principle address at 615 Second Avenue, Suite 380, Seattle, WA 98104, for the Washington Environmental Council's general purposes."

Leaving a gift to WEC through your will is a simple and lasting way to make sure your support of the environment continues after you have passed away. For more information, please contact Kathy Malley at 206-622-8103, or kathy@wecprotects.org



WEC VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers: We Want You

Calling all cohorts, compatriots, and collaborators! WEC depends on upon the efforts of volunteers statewide to protect Washington's environment for future generations. From healthy streams to office assistance, we need willing volunteers to lend a hand. Current volunteer needs include:

- ▲ Assist staff with the administration of the organization
- ▲ Give testimony at public hearings concerning environmental issues
- ▲ Help organize special events such as fundraisers, trainings and workshops
- ▲ Work on behalf of our three campaigns (please see description of campaigns at: www.wecprotects.org)

If interested, go to our on-line volunteer sign-up form at www.wecprotects.org/volunteer or contact Volunteer Coordinator, Amy Zarrett, at 206-622-8103. *Thanks!*

Voices is a publication of the Washington Environmental Council, a non-profit statewide advocacy organization working to protect and restore the environment of Washington State. The opinions expressed in feature articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policies of WEC or its members.

Voices is published quarterly.

Please contact editor Tom Geiger at 206/622-8103 or tom@wecprotects.org, before submitting material.

Officers:

John Anderson, *Treasurer*
John Karpinski, *Vice President-Governmental Relations*
Jay Manning, *President*
Joseph Ryan, *Vice President-Administration*

Staff:

Josh Baldi, *State Policy Director*
Joan Crooks, *Executive Director*
Tom Geiger, *Outreach Director*
Jerry Gorsline, *Policy Associate*
Antonia Jindrich, *Office Manager and Development Associate*
Becky Kelley, *Policy Associate*
Bonnie Mager, *Eastern Washington Coordinator*
Kathy Malley, *Development Director*
Michael Rossotto, *Legal Program Director*
Amy Zarrett, *Environmental Organizer*

Voices is printed on recycled paper made of at least 20% post-consumer waste.

Seattle Office:
615 Second Avenue, Suite 380
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: 206/622-8103
Fax: 206/622-8113
Email: wec@wecprotects.org

Olympia Office:
1063 South Capital, Suite 212
Olympia, WA 98501
Phone: 360/357-6548
Fax: 360/956-9287
Email: josh@wecprotects.org

Spokane Office:
3 East 6th Ave., Unit B
Spokane, WA 99202
Phone: 509/747-3663
Fax: 509/747-3742
Email: bonnie@wecprotects.org

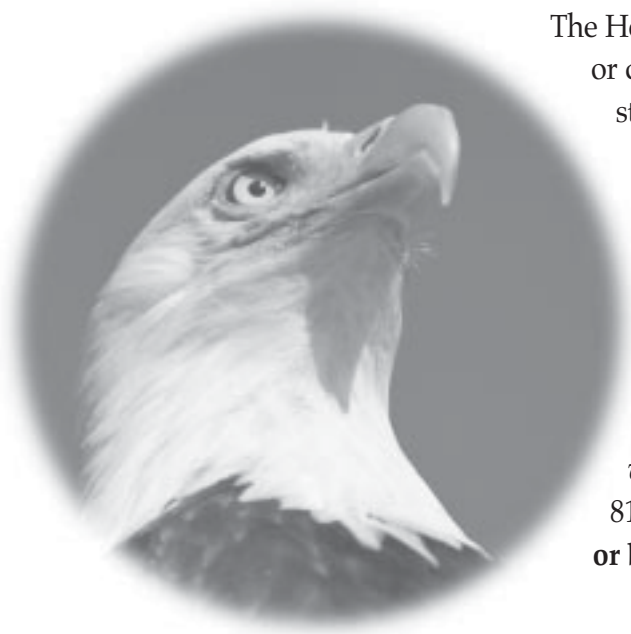
WEC is a member of Earthshare of Washington.



Earth Share
OF WASHINGTON

NOMINATE YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL HERO

The Washington Environmental Council is seeking nominations for our 2002 Environmental Heroes Award. In recognition of the diligence, work and passion required to protect the natural heritage of Washington State, WEC would like to honor dedicated citizens at a November awards celebration.



The Heroes Awards are given for sustained and effective action (ongoing or completed) to preserve or enhance the environment in Washington state, including, but not limited to: protecting endangered species; combating pollution; restoring damaged ecosystems; raising public awareness of environmental issues; and influencing public behavior or environmental policies.

Please help recognize the unsung heroes who give so much to protect the environment. The nominating process is an easy one. If you know of a potential nominee, and would like information about how to make a nomination, please look at our web site at www.wecprotects.org or contact Kathy Malley at WEC, (206) 622-8103. **Nominations must be received in the WEC's Seattle office on or before September 16, 2002.**



WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

615 Second Avenue, Suite 380
Seattle, WA 98104-2245

Address service requested

206.622.8103
email: wec@wecprotects.org
web site: www.wecprotects.org

*Check date on mailing
label—has your
membership lapsed?*

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Seattle, WA Permit #814
