

# *A View of the Summit*

*from the CRAG*

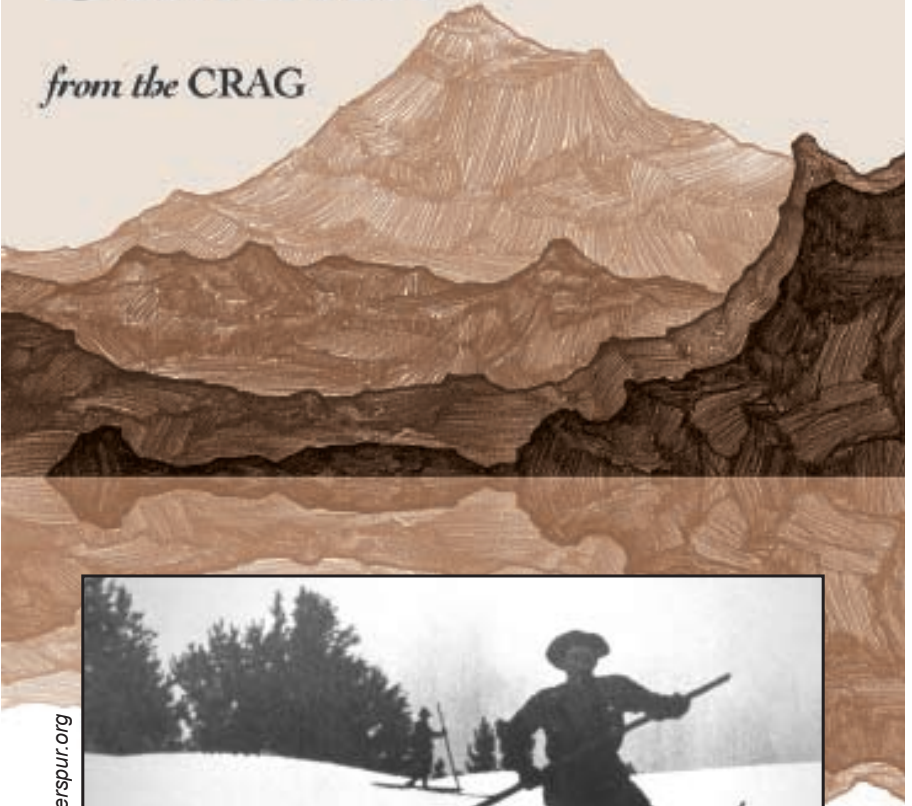


photo courtesy [www.cooperspur.org](http://www.cooperspur.org)

*Taking off at the jump hill in the early days of ski exploration on Mt. Hood.*

***A Legacy For Mt. Hood  
Winter 2005-2006 Issue***

# A View of the Summit

## Vision and Action

by Ralph Bloemers, Co-Executive Director

It is easy to be immobilized by the sheer magnitude of the issues facing the world today. The tasks call for Hercules, and we are mere puny mortals. We feel uncomfortable at demanding changes when we know our own lives are not pure, that we share a lifestyle harmful to the planet. But is it not better to fight than to be defeated?

Vision is essential but without action, it is empty. I was recently wowed by the words of Brigadier General Mike Lehnart, the commanding officer at Camp Pendleton in California. He was speaking on a panel with Dave Forman, the founder of The Rewilding Institute, about the conservation of wildlands and endangered species. He told of his efforts to preserve the land around Camp Pendleton from urban sprawl by commissioning scientific studies to map all the remaining wildlands. He also realized the critical impor-

tance of educating and motivating the troops. So he had posters made depicting marines in the forest with a beautiful and endangered plant near their feet, which contained the slogan: "A country worth preserving is a country worth defending!" With a smile, he said he put the posters in a place that every marine was sure to go at least once a week: the barbershop.

Just four short years ago, local residents in Hood River grew concerned about the prospect of a destination resort on the north side of Mt. Hood, in their community's watershed. These individuals had the courage to question the legitimacy of a land trade that had been approved by the Hood River Board of County Commissioners, and they had the conviction to take action to protect their community. Local residents, recreation groups, and volunteers came together around a shared vision for protecting the historic backcountry on Mt. Hood's north side, the Crystal Springs watershed, old-growth forests, and migration corridors for deer and elk. Now after many hard won fights, the community's vision is on the cusp of becoming reality.

This vision was essential, but the action of many amazing people has made this possible. On Mt. Hood, and around the state, we continue to play a key role in enabling ordinary people and small grassroots groups to take on daunting tasks. These tasks are only achievable because of committed people on the ground like Lou and Jennifer Klump from the Oregon Nordic Club, Russ Pascoe and Keith DeWit from the Oregon Canoe and Kayak Club, Bob Smith, Vic Anantha and Kelly Harrison with the Mazamas, Bob McGown with the American Alpine Club, Kate McCarthy and Barbara Wilson from



photo by Darryl Lloyd

Mt Hood with fall colors

the Friends of Mt. Hood, Scott Franke and Mike McCarthy from the Hood River Valley Residents Committee, Joe Keating from the Oregon Wildlife Federation, Mike Dianich from Ptarmigans, Carol Porto from the Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club, Richard Kednay from the Friends of Tilly Jane, Dennis Chaney from the Mountain Shadow Homeowner's Association, and the many volunteers and staff from BARK and Oregon Natural Resources Council. These people and many, many others take ownership of their public lands and vibrant communities very seriously, and they are willing to take action to defend them.

I hope you will be motivated to take a few minutes out of your busy life and write a personal letter as described on page 7 to educate your elected officials on your vision for Mt. Hood Wilderness! ●

### Cascade Resources Advocacy Group's Mission:

*Cascade Resources Advocacy Group is a public interest, non-profit law center that defends and protects your Pacific Northwest coasts, forests, rivers, wildlands, wildlife, and communities through education, organizing and strategic litigation. Founded in 2001, CRAG provides high-quality legal assistance to citizens and community groups working to preserve the beauty and wildness of the Pacific Northwest.*

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917 SW Oak, Suite 417  
Portland, Oregon 97205  
503-525-2724 • www.crag.org

## FROM THE SUMMIT

# SETTLEMENT REACHED! Protecting Mt. Hood's Historic Backcountry at Cooper Spur

by Ralph Bloemers, Co-Executive Director

This August, the Hood River Valley Residents Committee, representatives from the Mt. Hood Meadows companies, and Hood River County, announced an agreement that provides for the permanent protection of the north side of Mt. Hood at Cooper Spur. If adopted, this agreement will set aside the wildlands on the north side as congressionally-designated Wilderness, and establish a special Watershed Protection Area for the Crystal Springs watershed. Mt. Hood Meadows would relinquish all of its land

*photo by Homer Rogers/courtesy Kate McCarthy*



*Historic Cloud Cap Inn on the north side of Mt. Hood will be surrounded by Wilderness as part of the proposed solution.*

and business holdings on the north side of the mountain, and in exchange would receive property of equal value in Government Camp that is part of the local community's revitalization plan.

How was this agreement achieved? Back in 2001, Mt. Hood Meadows first floated its proposal to build up to seven ski lifts across thousands of acres of pristine forest in the Cooper Spur and Cloud Cap Tilly Jane historic recreation areas. The Forest Service sought to implement a large-scale logging project in the same area. Hood River County traded about 620 acres of the Crystal Springs watershed, which provides the drinking water for the county, to Mt. Hood Meadows. Meadows sought to move forward a plan to build a destination resort and golf course on top of the county's watershed, even though it traded the land for its value as a forest.

The community immediately leapt into action. County officials rejected the public's complaints about the land trade, so Mike McCarthy and the Hood River Valley Residents Committee engaged CRAG to challenge the trade in court. Our staff attorneys worked to bring together recreation groups like the Oregon Nordic Club, Friends of Tilly Jane, Oregon Canoe and Kayak Club and the Mazamas, conservation groups like Portland Audubon, BARK, the Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club and the Oregon Natural Resources Council and local residents groups like the Hood River Valley Residents Committee and the Mt. Shadow Homeowners Association.



*Congressmen Blumenauer and Walden hike with local residents and county officials to protect Mt. Hood.*

These groups came together to form the Cooper Spur Wild & Free Coalition ([www.cooperspur.org](http://www.cooperspur.org)). The Coalition focused its efforts on community organizing and education. The community responded with record turnouts to public meetings in Hood River opposing the destination resort proposal. With information gathered by BARK and an analysis provided by an expert in fire ecology, the community urged the Forest Service to tell the public the truth about the scale and impact of their logging proposal. The Forest Service refused. CRAG represented many of these groups in their challenge of this misguided project in the summer of 2002.

In the early part of 2004, the Residents Committee, Hood River County officials and representatives from Mt. Hood Meadows met to try to resolve the dispute with the help of a professional mediator. Just before the mediation began, the Oregon Court of Appeals handed down a favorable ruling on the challenge to the land trade that CRAG brought on behalf of the Residents Committee. In the spring,

2005, the Forest Service withdrew its logging project, and the recent settlement proposal was announced this August.

The parties' agreement proposes to permanently protect the remaining wildlands at Cooper Spur as Wilderness. The coalition and many other groups are now working to educate the Oregon congressional delegation on this issue. The conservation community supports the proposal as part of a comprehensive package to protect the one and only Mt. Hood.

Congressmen Greg Walden and Earl Blumenauer recently backpacked around Mt. Hood and are now in the midst of putting together a comprehensive proposal to protect Mt. Hood by building on the modest concept advanced by Senator Wyden's proposal to protect Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers from the Summer of 2004. Now is the time to educate Oregon's delegation, including Senator Smith, Congresswoman Hooley and Congressmen Wu and Defazio on the importance of Wilderness for the Gorge, the Clackamas and Mt. Hood! ●

## TAKE ACTION

# Going Forward: A Vision for Wilderness

by Russ Pascoe, Chair, Cooper Spur Wild & Free Coalition

In conjunction with the plan to protect the Cooper Spur area, local residents are seeking preservation of other special wild places on the mountain, like Still Creek, Mirror Lake, Bonney Butte, Salmon River Meadows, and Lost Lake Butte. Conservation, recreation, and community groups, including BARK, Oregon Natural Resource Council, the Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club, Mt. Hood Wilderness Committee, Cooper Spur Wild & Free Coalition, and many others, believe the time is ripe to protect wild lands on Mount Hood as a legacy for future generations. This broad coalition is advancing a proposal to protect hundreds of thousands of acres of Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers on Mt. Hood and in the surrounding region. There are 261,000 acres in the roadless inventory prepared for the Mt. Hood National Forest, which totals only 0.1% of Oregon's land base.

This proposal, would permanently preserve the old-growth forests, watersheds, and habitat for rare wildlife on Mt. Hood. Without Wilderness protection, these national forest lands are vulnerable to logging or being sold or traded for development. Two-hundred years after Lewis and Clark gazed in awe at the splendor of our towering forests, teeming wildlife,

photo by Darryl Lloyd, [www.longshadowphoto.com](http://www.longshadowphoto.com)



*Like Crystal Springs, Lost Lake Butte forms part of the watershed for the city of Hood River and is up for protection as Wilderness.*

and the ethereal spectacle of Mt. Hood it is high time to protect what remains of this wildness and beauty.

To date, only 3.6% of Oregon's land is protected as Wilderness. Washington and California far exceed Oregon's Wilderness acreage, with 10% and 13%, respectively.

## Take Action:

Congressman Walden and Congressman Blumenauer unveiled their legislative concepts at public meetings on December 3, 2005. See [www.crag.org](http://www.crag.org) for more info on their proposal and for a map with an inventory of the special places that are up for protection. The East Fork of the Hood River and the White River are worthy of protection as Wild & Scenic Rivers. Marco Creek and Lost Lake Butte provide drinking water for the City of Hood River. Encourage them to protect these and other special places like Olallie Lakes and Eagle Creek. Urge them to expand their exceedingly modest concept when they introduce legislation in the New Year!

## Please Write:

Please write to the Oregon congressional delegation and educate them on the importance of protecting the remaining wildlands on Mt. Hood and the Clackamas River area as Wilderness. Visit [www.crag.org](http://www.crag.org), [www.cooperspur.org](http://www.cooperspur.org), or [www.oregonwild.org](http://www.oregonwild.org) for more information on proposed Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers. Visit [www.crag.org/cascade.php](http://www.crag.org/cascade.php) to find contact information for the Oregon congressional delegation. Please note that most congressional websites now do not allow you to contact a congress member via email unless you live in their district. It only takes a few minutes to call or send a short letter!

Tell Oregon's representatives and senators:

- Oregon needs Wilderness designation to permanently protect wilderness-quality lands and eligible Wild and Scenic River segments in the Mt. Hood National Forest, from the Columbia River Gorge to Mt. Hood and south to the Clackamas River. These are lands you love, and visit for solace and recreation.
  - The Oregon delegation's leadership on this proposal can preserve the magnificent legacy of Mt. Hood, old-growth forests, and abundant wildlife that so inspired Lewis and Clark 200 years ago.
  - The inventory of roadless lands on Mt. Hood contains 261,000 acres, adding all these lands would provide a modest increase in the statewide total of protected Wilderness (1/10 of 1%).
- Backcountry skiers enjoying the glades from a stand replacement fire in the Polallie Canyon in the 1920s. The north side of Mt. Hood has recovered naturally from this fire.*
- Wilderness, along with Wild and Scenic River designation, is the best way to safeguard these natural treasures, which are currently vulnerable to unsustainable development and resource extraction practices.
  - Backcountry recreation stimulates local economies. Hikers, hunters, campers, fishermen and women, paddlers, birdwatchers, and those simply seeking solitude and natural beauty provide a sustainable source of revenue for local communities. •

photo by Homer Rogers/courtesy Kate McCarthy



# The Truth Behind The Snowmaking Flurry

by Chris Winter, Co-Executive Director

CRAG has been assisting the Friends of Mt. Hood (FOMH) in their review of a proposed snowmaking system at the Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Area. FOMH is a non-profit organization dedicated to monitoring and protecting the natural resources on Mt. Hood. FOMH monitors the development and management of national forest land on Mt. Hood and promotes decisions to protect the mountains' alpine meadows, wetlands, streams, and forests.

FOMH is not opposed to snowmaking in principle. Many of its supporters are skiers, who also enjoy the rivers around Mt. Hood, and are concerned about the impacts that snowmaking will have on water quality and quantity in the area.

The snowmaking proposal involves the construction of a four-million-gallon water tank in the national forest as well as the withdrawal of several million gallons of water each year to feed the system. Mt. Hood's fish, including the threatened steelhead trout, require clean water and sufficient in-stream flows to spawn and rear. Recreational activities such as kayaking and fishing also require healthy water levels.

photo by Jason Rackley, [www.oregonkayaking.net](http://www.oregonkayaking.net)



Narrows of the East Fork of the Hood River

The Oregon Water Resources Department has determined that current in-stream flows are insufficient to support fish and wildlife populations and recreational activities for much of the year. Mt. Hood Meadows claims that water used to create snow will simply return to the system in the form of runoff. However, scientific studies suggest that for every 100 gallons pumped for snowmaking, only 25 to 75 gallons return to the water system after the manufactured snow melts. The proposed withdrawals from both surface and ground water will increase Mt. Hood Meadows' water consumption up to eight times over its current rate. The withdrawals will occur during the lean winter months, when ice and other conditions already tax the aquatic systems. There is also a potential for water withdrawals to have a significant negative impact on flows in the East Fork of the Hood River.

Global warming and the resulting climate change compounds this water lost during the snowmaking process. Scientists have been documenting rising temperatures and diminishing snowpacks. Long-term snow records show north Cascade mountain peaks snowpack has decreased dramatically over the last six decades. All this combines into a very dangerous equation for steelhead trout, fisherpeople, kayakers and others who enjoy the East Fork Hood River.

Contact Chris Winter at [chris@crag.org](mailto:chris@crag.org) to find out more about the snowmaking proposal and how you can help Friends of Mt. Hood, Oregon Canoe and Kayak Club, the Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club, and American Rivers protect this special place as a Wild and Scenic River. ●

# Bedrock Environmental Law Protects Democratic Participation on our Public Land

by Kate Schneider, Georgetown Law School, 2005 Summer Associate

photo by Ralph Bloemers



Kate Schneider works with Karen and Dr. Royce to prepare random samples of timber sales within the B&B Complex Fire.

This semester I returned to Georgetown Law School to start my second year, and I have been learning about the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which legal scholars consider to be the Magna Carta of environmental law. NEPA requires that government agencies perform environmental analyses of major federal actions. My professors frequently repeat the following two mantras:

- NEPA has no substantive "bite;" rather, it is strictly a procedural law. In other words, as long as an agency jumps through all the procedural hoops, it can still take just about any action it chooses.

- Federal agencies routinely perform legally valid environmental analyses of particular road-building projects or particular timber sales under NEPA, meanwhile avoiding the need to examine their flawed policies on an agency-wide basis. As one of my professors put it, "You'll never see the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) do an environmental analysis of their policy of selling the nation's timber at below cost!"

However, my experience at CRAG this past summer taught me that there is reason to be optimistic about NEPA's ability to bring about substantial reforms in agency management. I worked on cases involving complex claims against the Forest Service and the BLM using our nation's environmental laws. By the end of the summer, I was able to see the forest instead of focusing on the trees. Public lands monitoring organizations have kept consistent and widespread pressure on agencies to consider ecologically sound alternatives to their proposed projects and conform to NEPA's other requirements. Through these activities, the American people have dramatically changed agency behavior.

For instance, some ranger districts

are beginning to realize that they must carefully consider the environmental and social impacts of their logging projects, or they will most certainly face a challenge in court. This summer, I was involved in the early stages of a collaborative working group established by the Mount Hood National Forest to design a fuels reduction project near Cooper Spur that would satisfy a range of user groups, including landowners and conservation groups. Responding to the concerns of the local community, the Forest Service finally cancelled a plan to conduct large scale timber harvest in the area. Whether the Forest Service is truly open to collaboration with the working group remains to be seen. The Forest Service is attempting to include the conservation community in the planning stages of projects around the state; hopefully this is not just a testament to the power of the law as a bargaining tool, but also an indication of the agency's commitment to the land and the people who care about it.

Thus, NEPA remains an important part of our democracy. It has tangible effects on the ground, and it engenders agencies' respect for the environmental consequences of their actions. At CRAG, I saw first-hand the practical achievements of this bedrock of environmental law.

## CRAG Summer Intern Program

by Jennifer Bragar, Summer Associate

As part of the 2005 Summer Associate Program, CRAG took on three law clerks from three different law schools. Each Associate was assigned projects based on her experience so we could work together to create winning strategies for CRAG clients. Jennifer Bragar combined her community organizing and land use planning experience to challenge a zoning change, which would have allowed unsustainable

development in Coos County. Suzanne Piluso, formerly with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, used her expertise in grant making and community relations to file a potentially precedent setting discrimination case against the Environmental Protection Agency. Former Forest Service biologist Kate Schneider worked to protect post-fire forests from logging that would destroy natural ecosystem regeneration. ●



*Cascade Headlands. Ink drawing by James Jack. Jack is a Portland artist whose work was recently featured at a solo exhibition, "Natura Naturans," at the Portland Art Center. His next solo exhibition is "Linguistic Expressions" at Tama Gallery in New York City. jajaku@gmail.com*

### Fire Management and Watershed Protection Project Update:

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) continues to be under attack from administrative rule changes pushed through by the executive branch under the moniker Healthy Forest Initiative. These rule changes are of questionable legal validity and their broadscale application is threatening serious negative environmental impacts across America's public lands. Our law center is working with local residents and conservation groups to challenge bad projects under this misleading initiative. We are involved in collaborative working groups and in litigation on the Umatilla, the Mt. Hood, the Deschute, the Umpqua, the Malheur, the Fremont-Winema, the Ochoco, the Willamette, the Siuslaw and the Klamath Siskiyou National Forests. In early November 2005, the House

considered a bill that would further constrain democracy on our public lands. Congressman Walden proposed legislation that would change the nation's bedrock environmental laws to allow expedited logging after natural disturbances, including fire, insect outbreaks and windstorms. Senator Smith followed suit. The rest of the Oregon delegation has not signed on to either effort. Existing authorities already provide a number of flexible mechanisms for the Forest Service to propose common sense actions to improve forest health. Local communities do not want controversy in the forest, they want solutions. Please contact the CRAG Law Center for a detailed analysis of these legislative proposals or to find out how you to educate your local District Ranger on community fire protection. ●

## Success on the Coast!

### Protecting Farm and Forest at Indian Point

by Jennifer Bragar, Lewis and Clark Law School, 2005 Summer Associate

Have you been down to Coos Bay recently? Perhaps you kayaked on the South Slough, or sat on the bay eating freshly caught oysters. Those are only some of the activities that Coos County residents enjoy after the long winter months of rain. Without wetlands, these people know there would be no seafood. And without sensitive marine reserves, there would be no coastline.

Yet the Coos County Board of Commissioners made the short-sighted decision to eliminate protection for 184 acres of land at Indian Point, adjacent to the South Slough. The county rezoned Indian Point from "Forest" to "Urban Residential," based on highly suspect testimony. Not only did this violate state land use law, but it also threatened the quality of life for Coos County residents and visitors.

This past summer, I worked with JD Brown on the Coastal Law Project, which is a collaborative partnership with the Oregon Shore Conservation Coalition that seeks to provide legal, educational, and advocacy assistance to coastal communities. As part of my work I carefully assessed the county's decision. The zone change paved the way for a development proposal of more

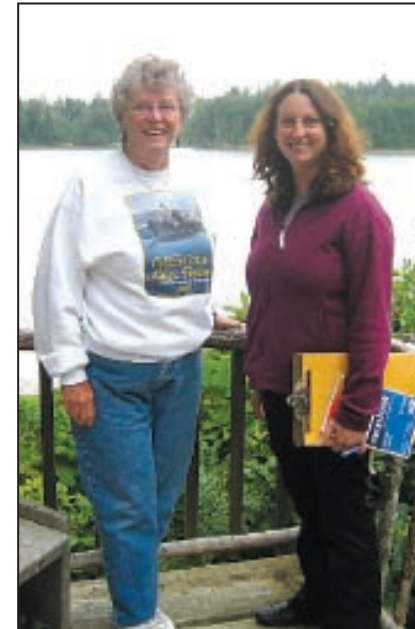
than 1000 homes in a pristine area with limited utilities and infrastructure. Local residents were very concerned that a development of this scale would disrupt the communities quality of life, pollute the bay, create traffic problems and ruin the exquisite landscape. Indian Point is a natural extension of the ecosystem of the protected South Slough Estuary Reserve, and local residents have been actively working to get Indian Point included in the reserve, but thus far have been foiled by opposition from some Coos County Commissioners.

I helped JD work on a challenge to the county's decision before the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA), on behalf of local residents and Oregon Shores.

On October 28, 2005, our work came to fruition. LUBA issued a resounding

decision against Coos County's rezoning, telling the county they cannot ignore the protections state law provides for farm and forest land simply by rezoning it. The fate of Indian Point is not sealed, yet this land and the community can now continue to enjoy the benefits of sound land use protections for this sensitive and beautiful area. For more information on this decision, visit [www.crag.org](http://www.crag.org). ●

photo by JD Brown



*Summer Associate Jennifer Bragar with Indian Point resident Norma Van Natta.*

# 20 Years Gone

## The Coastal Law Project Helps to Hold the Line at Botts Marsh

by JD Brown, Staff Attorney

In the mid-1980's, the controversy surrounding a proposed development on the Oregon coast drove Oregon to adopt a comprehensive state wetlands program to protect Oregon's remaining wetlands. The site of the proposed development was Botts Marsh. Located in the town of Wheeler on Nehalem Bay, Botts Marsh is a well known recreation destination for coastal kayaking and fishing enthusiasts. The marsh is also essential habitat for salmon and trout species as they swim the Nehalem River between coastal streams and the Pacific. Botts marsh is also a crucial link in the Pacific flyway for migrating shorebirds.

The 1980's development proposal included plans to fill Botts Marsh for a marina, but the state wetlands agency denied the permit to fill the wetlands. The threat to Botts Marsh was averted and there was a sigh of relief... for a time.

The developer returned in 2003 with a revised marina development proposal. Dust was blown from the file and a battle re-ensued. Federal and state wildlife agencies commented extensively on the renewed proposal and all agreed that the

*photo by Doug Firstbrook*



*Shorebird at Botts Marsh, Oregon coast*

*photo by Doug Firstbank*



*JD Brown kayaks with activist Phil Blanton.*

loss of the rare estuary type would likely adversely impact wildlife. Local resident Phil Blanton led the charge for community and conservationists who similarly argued that Botts Marsh is a unique Oregon setting that cannot be replaced. The state heard the evidence and found that the development was not in the public interest. The developer has appealed the denial and is seeking to have the decision overturned. As part of the Coastal Law Project, CRAG is representing Oregon Shores and Phil Blanton as interested parties in the appeal and will hopefully assist the state in making the decision final for the second time.

The Coastal Law Project is a partnership between CRAG and the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition to preserve the coastal environment for future generations. Contact JD Brown directly to learn about the Coastal Law Project or about opportunities to visit the areas we are working to protect.●

# CRAG's Environmental Justice Program:

## Seeking a Safe, Clean and Healthy Environment for All Pacific Northwest Citizens

by Suzanne Piluso, University of Oregon, 2005 Summer Associate

The Rosemere Neighborhood Association (RNA) has been working to get the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to take action after years of retaliation by the city of Vancouver, Washington, against the RNA's efforts to ensure water quality and a livable community. CRAG stepped up to represent the RNA in a challenge against the EPA for failing to investigate the RNA's complaint.

The complaint alleges that the city of Vancouver discriminated against the RNA by failing to utilize the EPA's funds to address failing septic systems and lack of a comprehensive sewer service network, contaminated ground and surface waters, industrial pollutants, and other documented problems in the Rosemere neighborhood. In response to the complaints, Vancouver took action — but not to clean up! Rather, the city revoked the RNA's formal status as a neighborhood association, preventing them from obtaining any further community grant money.

The EPA is required to investigate the RNA's complaint, but for years has ignored it. CRAG is seeking to force the EPA to address this complaint. If successful, this will set positive precedent on complex issues at the intersection of civil rights and environmental justice.

Rosemere neighborhood includes a high concentration of under served racial minorities and low income populations. RNA members are committed to revitalizing the neighborhood — both economically and environmentally. CRAG will continue to work with the RNA to ensure that the EPA properly investigates the RNA's discrimination claims. Ultimately, CRAG will assist the RNA to make sure that Vancouver distributes EPA funds fairly to address some of the environmental concerns in the Rosemere neighborhood. ●

*art by Heidi Hanson*



*Wetlands Preservation*

# Mazamas

## A Century-old Climbing Organization Reaches New Heights

The Mazamas is a venerable non-profit climbing organization that has been part of the Portland and Mt. Hood communities since 1894. Their mission: “provide a comprehensive climbing program with allied activities that enhance and protect the participants and the environment.”

The Mazamas offer a broad array of mountaineering experiences for the community. They lead climbs and hikes to explore alpine areas, and sponsor climbing and other recreational workshops and trainings.

The Mazamas are named after the Rocky Mountain goat (mazama is a derivative of the Nahuatl word for deer, which was used in early America to refer

to the mountain goat). Since their inception more than 100 years ago, the Mazamas have been active in mountain conservation. Their goals include preserving alpine wilderness and ensuring access to it, and funding scientific studies of mountain ecosystems. The Mazamas accomplishments include advocating for the establishment of Crater Lake and Mt. Rainier as National Parks, the Oregon Caves as a National Monument, and setting aside 4,000 acres in the city of Portland as Forest Park.

Currently, the Mazamas are continuing the proud tradition of preservation by actively working on protection for Mt. Hood. As part of the Cooper Spur Wild & Free Coalition, the Mazamas support the settlement agreement to protect the Cooper Spur region on the north side of Mt. Hood from development and excessive logging. They are also pursuing wilderness protection for several areas on the mountain.

CRAG represented the Mazamas in the Polallie-Cooper timber sale. CRAG is working for the Mazamas around the Pacific Northwest on protection of Cascade peaks and the watersheds and forests on their flanks. ●

CRAG represented the Mazamas in the Polallie-Cooper timber sale. CRAG is working for the Mazamas around the Pacific Northwest on protection of Cascade peaks and the watersheds and forests on their flanks. ●



*The Mazamas near the West Crater Rim route near Illumination Rock on Mt. Hood.*

*photo by Barbara Bond, www.oregonscrambles.com*

## Staff Profile

by Ralph Bloemers, Co-Executive Director

*CRAG is the sum of many parts, including volunteers, donors, conservation groups, local citizens and a skilled staff.*

### JD Brown, Staff Attorney

James (JD) Brown joined the law center in March, 2004. He knew he was signing on for an adventure, one that would push him to do things he had never been called on to do before, like doing community organizing. In the short time since he joined CRAG, JD has led the charge on a collaborative effort with the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition to protect the Oregon coast. He has carefully

prepared three separate cases before the Land Use Board of Appeals and won all of them. The first one protected farmland in Douglas County, the second is part of a longer-term effort to protect the coast near Samuel Boardman State Park and the most recent one protects sensitive resource land at Indian Point near Coos Bay. JD has also done an immense amount of work on public lands, clean water and unsustainable grazing of our public lands. JD is a very modest fellow, the last person to toot his own horn. But if I had to guess, these initial successes are a sign of good things to come! ●

## CRAG CREDITS

**A hearty thanks to the following people for their valuable contributions:**

### Artists

Diane O'Leary  
Asanta Riverwind  
Sasha Sharp  
Heidi Hanson  
Darrel Lloyd  
Doug Firstbrook

### Capacity Builders

Gene Ehrbar – website and database  
Bobby Meeker - eZine  
Art Cheek – eZine

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Carrie Ward & Dave Richardson  
Gene Ehrbar  
Erin Madden & Alex Brown  
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Bill Barnes  
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Great Wine Buys  
Costello's Travel Café  
Whole Foods Market  
New Seasons Market

Jennifer Baldwin  
Sue Knight

### Law Students

Jennifer Bragar  
Kate Schneider  
Suzanne Piluso  
Danyel Stasch  
Anna Murray  
Eric Leonard  
Jay Flint  
Jessica Walz

Mary Wienicke

### Board of Directors and OFC Committee

#### Members

Bill Barnes, Aubrey Baldwin, Leo McCloskey, Sadhana Shenoy, Jill Keen, Gary Kish, Brian Litmans, Carrie Ward, Courtney Brown, Amy Osenar, Gene Ehrbar, Jessica Burness, Kristen Winter

#### Staff Attorneys

Chris Winter, Ralph Bloemers, and JD Brown

#### Foundations

The Mazamas, Columbia Gorge Environmental Foundation, Peter H. Michaelson Foundation, Deer Creek Foundation, Ralph L. Smith, MRG Foundation, Lazar Foundation, Harder Foundation, The Jackson Foundation, Rose E. Tucker Memorial Trust





**Cascade Resources**  
ADVOCACY GROUP

917 SW Oak, Suite 417  
Portland, Oregon 97205

[www.crag.org](http://www.crag.org)  
503.525.2724  
503.296.5454 fax

**TAKE ACTION:**

Write a letter to educate Earl Blumenauer and Greg Walden on your vision for Mt. Hood.

Call on them to protect the East Fork of the Hood River as a Wild and Scenic River Corridor and to protect the watersheds of Marco Creek and Lost Lake Butte, the historic backcountry at Cooper Spur, special places like Olallie Lakes, Eagle Creek, Roaring River, Big Bottom and Fifteemile Creek.

