



**OCTOBER 1, 2016**  
**KS WILD ANNUAL DINNER**

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



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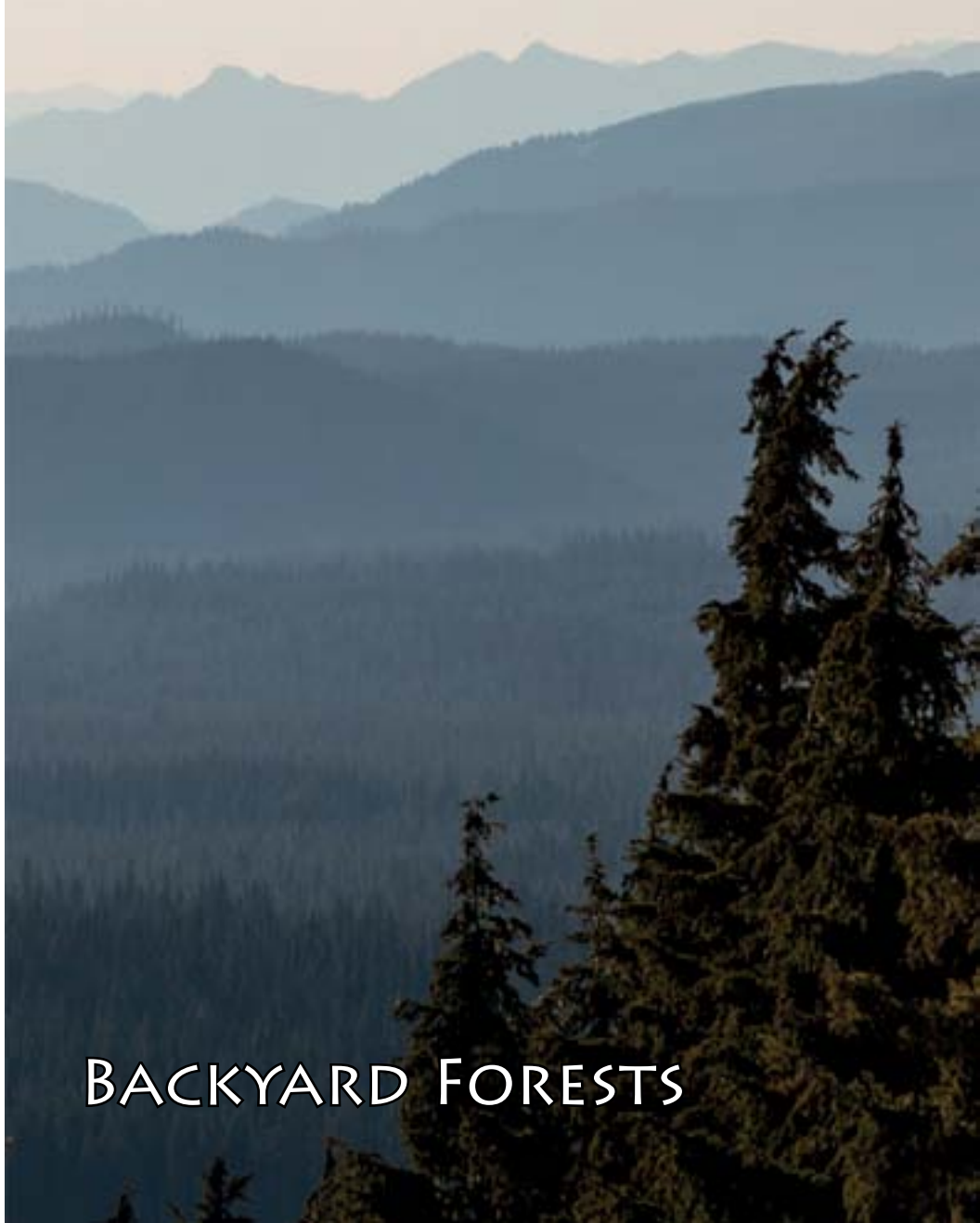
Cover Image: Southern Oregon's BLM forests. Amy Schlotterback

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# KS WILD NEWS

The Journal of the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center  
Summer 2016



## BACKYARD FORESTS

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Amy Schlotterback

# UPCOMING HIKES

## Wildflower Hike to Frog Pond in the Red Buttes

June 19h, 9am-1pm

Join the Applegate Neighborhood Network, Applegate Trail Association and KS Wild for a 4-mile hike to Frog Pond in the Red Buttes Wilderness, a backyard of the Applegate.

## 2nd Annual Star Thistle Pull at Mariposa Preserve

June 23rd, 3-7 pm

Team up with KS Wild, the Siskiyou Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, and Medford BLM at the Mariposa Preserve just outside Ashland. On this point-to-point walk, we will continue to clear star thistle in the habitat of the rare Green's Mariposa Lilly.

## Capturing the KS in Words & Photos: Sunset Hike and Creativity Workshop, Rogue River

July 14th, 4-9:30 pm

Join KS Wild naturalist Jeanine Moy and writer Elizabeth Tobey of Squawking Hawk Acres for a creative exploration along the heart of the Rogue River. We'll find inspiration from big trees and a wild river. Bring a notebook, camera and snacks.

## Rogue Gorge Trail Hike

Aug. 7, 9am - TBD

Hike along the upper Rogue River starting at the dramatic Rogue Gorge, where the Rogue River passes through a narrow basalt passage. We will hike downstream with views of spectacular forests and the wild Rogue on this moderately easy hike.

## FOR ALL HIKES

Bring water, comfortable walking shoes, warm layers and a lunch. Call Jeanine at (541) 488-5789 or visit [www.kswild.org/](http://www.kswild.org/) hikes for more information, directions, and to sign up for a hike.

# NEWS AROUND THE KS

## BUTTE FALLS BLM TARGETS STREAMSIDE FORESTS

In response to timber industry pressure, Butte Falls BLM abandons restoration in favor of destructive logging in the Big Butte Watershed.

## ILLINOIS VALLEY CLEANUPS

Eco-heroes and the BLM team-up to remove trash from IV recreation and botanical hot spots. See page 6.

## OUR BACKYARD FORESTS

The BLM is revising its management plans to emphasize clear-cutting and stream-side logging. Read more on pages 3 & 4.

## CLEARCUTTING THREATENS MARBLE MOUNTAINS

The Klamath National Forest is pushing the massive Westside logging project. KS Wild has filed suit to protect at-risk salmon. See page 9.

## SHASTA RESERVOIR PRESCRIBED FIRE

In a laudable effort to restore fire to fire-dependent forests near Shasta Lake, the Forest Service is conducting prescribed burns.

Covering nearly 11 million acres, the Klamath-Siskiyou region stretches from the Umpqua in the north to California's wine country in the south, from the Pacific Ocean to the mighty Cascades. The mountain ranges and river valleys that define this region harbor renowned biological diversity and are some of the most spectacular in America.

OR  
CA

Crater Lake  
National Park

Crescent City

Orleans

Mt Shasta

Eureka

Hayfork

Redding



# BLM RELEASES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR 2.6 MILLION ACRES IN OREGON

Public forests and rivers are the pride of Southern Oregon and Northern California. They provide our communities with clean water, recreation, and scenic views. They are a safe place for fish and wildlife, for towering ancient forests and for all of us to get outside and experience nature.

The Bureau of Land Management administers the public forests that surround communities in Western Oregon. These are our backyard forests, and KS Wild has been working to protect these public lands for nearly 20 years. Places like the Wild Rogue River, the Applegate Valley foothills and rare plant hotspots in the Illinois Valley deserve our best conservation efforts.

The BLM recently released new plans for these public lands to guide management in the future. This includes direction for logging, road building, recreation, wildland fire safety, and protection of creeks and rivers. While the BLM proposes to increase logging by nearly 40%, timber executives and elected officials want to ramp up logging to even more astronomical levels. Some counties are now threatening to file suit over the plans, demanding that 500 million board feet be logged off of BLM land in Western Oregon every year.

The BLM's plans put key conservation values at-risk, and the counties and industries are going to court to mandate an even worse future for our forests. The counties won't be happy unless there is a plan that would require clearcutting across vast swaths of these public forests. KS Wild is going to stand up for these forests and watersheds. Please join us and let's raise our voices for wild rivers, towering forests, and fish and wildlife.



# BLM REPORT CARD

## KS WILD'S REVIEW OF THE NEW PLAN

### PROTECTING ANCIENT FORESTS:

The plan protects over 80% of what remains of our ancient forests, but includes loopholes for logging if there are concerns about bug, fire, and road construction projects.

B

### CLIMATE CHANGE:

The BLM sets aside the most carbon rich ancient forests, but it would increase logging overall by heavily logging previously managed forests. This would release more atmospheric carbon.

C

### CLEAN WATER:

The plan would shrink streamside forest setbacks from two tree lengths to only one (if the trees were laid on their side outward from the stream). This will allow logging and road construction close to precious waterways.

D

### FIRE HAZARD:

The plan does not focus enough on fire preparedness efforts near communities but rather heavily focuses on planning timber sales in back-country forests far from homes.

C\*

### PUBLIC INPUT:

This is a key issue in southwest Oregon, where the Applegate Adaptive Management Area was established to encourage a collaborative, community-based decision-making process. The plan removes this key designation on BLM lands in the Applegate Valley.

D

Learn more about the BLM RMP:  
[www.blmbackyardforests.org](http://www.blmbackyardforests.org)

# APPLEGATE NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK UNITING TO IMPACT PUBLIC LANDS POLICIES

For those who call the Applegate Valley “home,” it’s difficult to characterize the region without mentioning the public lands that weave throughout and around homes and neighborhoods. These backyard forests are an intricate part of life in the Applegate and many residents consider them essential to sustain their rural livelihoods and quality of life.



Like most forest communities, the many generations of rural residents and indigenous communities of the Applegate have been inextricably tied to the forested landscape through traditional ecological knowledge, cultural values and land management practices.

Today, the backyard forests of the Applegate are primarily managed by the BLM. The guiding document for the future of these public lands is the Resource Management Plan (RMP), which includes all aspects of land management ranging from restoration objectives, to fire prevention measures and logging plans.

While the former RMP encouraged community involvement and engagement through the Applegate Adaptive Management Area, the newly proposed RMP removes this element and takes away the threads connecting land management agencies with local knowledge.

A successful land management plan generates a wide range of benefits—not only forest quantity and quality, but enhanced food security, improved air and water quality, climate change resilience, job creation, and more. As land management practices evolve, the conservation community is increasingly looking toward forest restoration strategies benefit both forest health and the future of local communities.

Residents of the Applegate are coming together to ensure their values are included in the BLM’s land management plans and beyond. Whether working with the BLM or private timber companies, the Applegate Neighborhood Network is committed to engaging in the issues that affect the environment and community in the Applegate Valley. The network is comprised of local residents, representatives from several non-profit conservation, community and recreation-based organizations, and representatives of subwatersheds in the Applegate Valley. Visit: [www.applegateneighborhood.net](http://www.applegateneighborhood.net)



## DESTINATION: ILLINOIS VALLEY

Nestled among endless mountains, the Illinois River feeds a valley rich in ecological diversity. Wild rivers and their tributaries flow through the serpentine mountains of the Kalmiopsis region toward the Redwood forests that hug the coast providing clean water and ample recreation opportunities for residents and visitors from around the world. This natural landscape provides abundant beauty and benefits to the local community, yet it faces various threats from illegal off-road vehicle use and trash dumping that can scar the land irreparably.

The Illinois Valley is surrounded mostly by public land, and thus its health is critically dependent on a community of stewardship. Community vision discussions are beginning to incorporate action plans to tackle these abuses, and residents are initiating monthly cleanups and public education. Promoting responsible stewardship will pave the way for respectful use of this magnificent place.

## NEW ILLINOIS VALLEY COORDINATOR: WELCOME CHRISTIE FAIRCHILD!

Christie Fairchild has been working as the new outreach coordinator in the Illinois Valley, providing KS Wild with her exuberant passion for the community and the wild places of the area. Combining her history in sales and activism, she strives to make a difference through education, action, and conscious community organizing. Christie is working with youth in the valley, hosting regular cleanups and hikes, and coordinating events with the Siskiyou Field Institute and Dome School.





# A WATERSHED MOMENT

When Forrest English joined Rogue Riverkeeper six years ago, the program was ready to make an impact for clean water and fish in the Rogue basin. Today, as Forrest moves on to his next endeavor, Rogue Riverkeeper is in a position to secure victories for two key campaigns thanks to his efforts.

In a surprise decision, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission DENIED the LNG pipeline and Jordan Cove LNG Export facility.

A federal judge recently ruled that protecting Oregon streams from mining is legal and can be implemented, as Rogue Riverkeeper has been working toward for years.

These recent milestones are reasons to celebrate, and we are extremely grateful for Forrest's dedication and impressive service to Rogue Riverkeeper. We wish Forrest the best of luck in his next adventure!



**WHAT'S AHEAD?** Rogue Riverkeeper has assembled a 'transition team' of long time staff and board members including help from Waterkeeper Alliance. As we look toward hiring a new Conservation Director, we remain committed to:

**Growing our grassroots network.** We know that we can't protect the Rogue without supporters like you.

**Boosting water quality testing across the Rogue Basin.** With Frances Oyung, our Volunteer Coordinator, Rogue Riverkeeper will provide comprehensive, up-to-date water quality data and alert the public when pollution threatens fishing and swimming.

**Continue our coalition effort with Rogue Climate to stop the LNG pipeline.** While FERC denied the permit, the Canadian company behind the proposal has appealed the decision and asked for rehearing so there is more work to do.

**Monitor and improve conditions that are polluting the Rogue River,** including reviews of pollution permits for industrial discharges.

**Protect the Wild Rogue.** Proposals are on the books to expand the Wild Rogue Wilderness; we are committed to securing protections for this world-class stretch of river.

**Secure permanent stream protection** by reforming safeguards that protect clean water and wild salmon from the harmful impacts of clearcut logging, pesticides and mining.

Your input and support provides stability as we embark on a new chapter. We are energized by the possibilities to grow the program and would love your feedback!

# GO RAFTING

WITH ROGUE RIVERKEEPER



Join us and ROW outfitters for a 4-day, Wild & Scenic Rogue River Raft Trip! We had such a good time last year that we are partnering again with this incredible outfitter for another unforgettable trip.

ROW Adventures and Rogue Riverkeeper are taking ten folks on a 4-day, 3-night rafting and camping trip down the Wild & Scenic Rogue River. A percentage of proceeds from the trip will go towards Rogue Riverkeeper's work for clean water in the Rogue Basin.

This year's trip is September 12-15 and is \$695 per person (a \$200 discount off the regular price!). And for every guest who joins us, ROW Adventures will donate \$150 to Rogue Riverkeeper.

The Wild & Scenic Rogue is one of the original eight designated Wild & Scenic Rivers and offers something for everyone from whitewater thrills to historical side hikes, amazing wildlife to relaxing by the river's edge. The trip includes great guides, all river gear, camping gear, delicious meals and more. Just bring your clothes, a toothbrush, and your sense of adventure! Joining your trip will be river guide and Riverkeeper, Robyn Janssen. Robyn has been a guide on the Rogue for over 19 years and now works to protect the Rogue and its tributaries.

We are incredibly honored to be working with this amazing outfitter and can't wait for this fun-filled trip. Space is limited and will fill up fast. Call ROW for more information or to make your reservation 1.800.451.6034. We hope you can join us!

# KS WILD CHALLENGES MASSIVE SALVAGE TIMBER SALE

Forest Service responses to the 2014 wildfires in the fire-evolved forests in Northern California were all over the map. On the Goosenest Ranger District forest planners focused on post-fire restoration while retaining snag habitat and protecting streamside and wildlife habitat. Planners on the Shasta-Trinity

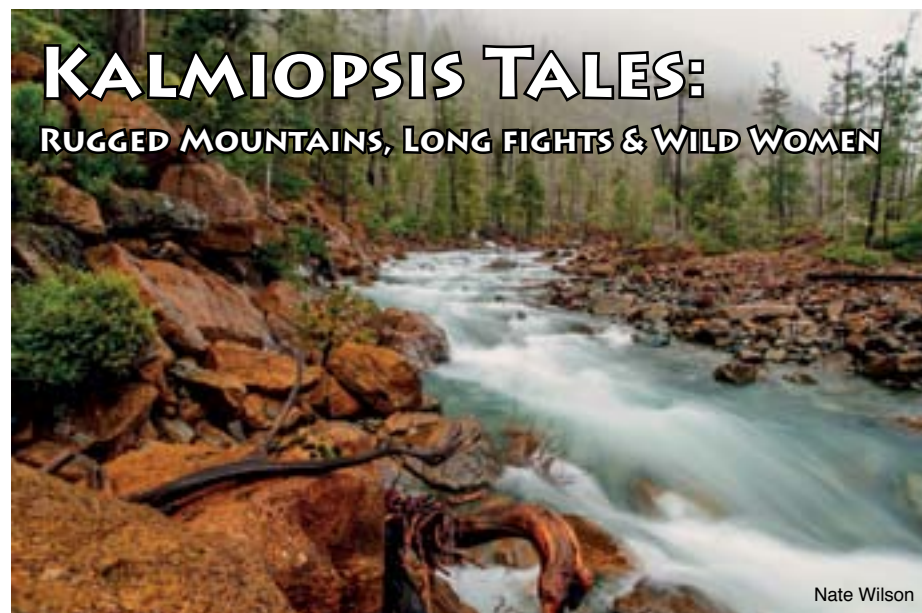


National Forest want to retain the ecological benefits of fire by creating fuel breaks along existing roads to allow for increasing use of prescribed fire. In contrast, Klamath National Forest timber planners went old-school and proposed thousands of acres of salvage logging clearcuts on steep slopes in the backcountry in the Westside Salvage timber sale.

While the Klamath National Forest hopes to use wildfire as an excuse to turn the clock back to the bad old days of widespread clearcutting, just about everyone else hopes to see a more reasonable approach. Over 12,000 people sent in comments during the timber sale planning process asking for restoration and recovery rather than timber production. Conservation organizations including KS Wild, the Center for Biological Diversity, EPIC and the Klamath Riverkeeper provided technical information concerning the protection of watersheds and wildlife. The Karuk tribe offered a local alternative that would have protected homes and communities while utilizing prescribed fire to manage fuels and protect forest values. Scientists weighed-in urging protection of post-fire forests and pointing out the harmful effects of salvage logging clearcutting.

The Klamath National Forest may have ignored the public, scientists, local tribal knowledge, and common sense, but they can't ignore a court of law. So KS Wild has joined with our allies to challenge the illegal Westside salvage logging clearcutting timber sale. Stay up to date on our legal challenge at [KSWild.org](http://KSWild.org).

*"Salvage logging of large snags and down boles does not contribute to recovery of late-successional forest habitat; in fact, the only activity more antithetical to the recovery processes would be removal of surviving green trees from burned sites." - Dr. Jerry Franklin, Author of the NW Forest Plan, commenting on the Westside Salvage Timber Sale*



KS Wild's history of protecting the Kalmiopsis region is as extensive as the jutting peaks of its rugged peridotite mountains. In 1983, our predecessor the Siskiyou Project, started some of its first direct action at Bald Mountain, and continued through the early 1990's to bolster public engagement in the drafting of the Northwest Forest Plan to protect the previously-named Siskiyou National Forest.

The first proposal for nickel mining in the Kalmiopsis region, at Rough and Ready Creek, was submitted by Nicore in 1992. Today, we are still trying to stop the three proposed mines on the North Fork Smith/Baldface Creek, the Rough and Ready Creek, and Hunter Creek/North Fork Pistol River.

Typical of many conservation efforts, we have been working for a long time, to protect this beautiful and biologically unique place that is treasured by both inhabitants and visitors alike. We work so hard because this place is worth fighting for.

Long fights with no reward can feel tiresome and unrewarding after awhile. That's why this May we held the first annual Return to the Wild, a rustic retreat along the Illinois River for female activists from around Southwest Oregon. Elders told stories of past trials and triumphs, we bonded and benefited from the therapy of nature, and were reinvigorated for our work ahead.

We sat together along the deep, emerald river, and reminisced about the history of protecting this place. These are some of the most pristine wild rivers in North America, necessary for salmon spawning, supporting the endemic plants that grow along its banks, and providing for the future generations' water security and enjoyment

The bond of humans, forged by our common experience of this place, is what will ultimately create the strength to protect our backyard wildlands. Go to the Kalmiopsis, spend time by a river (and then come back and join our group, resolutely dedicated to protect this special place!)



# STEWARDS' CORNER: ADOPT-A-BOTANICAL AREA



Signal Fire Arts

Do you know your backyard ACEC's? Areas of Critical Environmental Concern are designated places on our BLM-managed lands that are recognized for having special ecological qualities like vital riparian corridors, rare and endangered species, and archaeological resources in need of management attention.

The unfortunate aspect of these designations, is the lack of resources and support to actually protect these extraordinary places. Our stewardship program fills this gap in public land protection. This spring, Adopt-a-Botanical Area volunteers spent a few weekends cleaning up extreme amounts of trash at a couple of ACEC's-to-be: Waldo-Takilma, and Reeves Creek in the Illinois Valley. Volunteers regularly serve as watchdogs, and coming together furthers our impact through building a community of stewardship. Join us this summer for some of our upcoming events and become a steward of your public lands by joining our Adopt-a-Botanical Area team.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### June 23: Annual Weed Pull, Mariposa Preserve

Join KS Wild, the Native Plant Society (Siskiyou Chapter) and a BLM Botanist to explore this seldom visited part of the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument. Explore rare *Calochortus greeneii* habitat and help pull invasive star thistle together.

### July 7: Pollinators and Flower Walk for all ages

Mt Ashland meadows in July must not be missed! Join naturalist Jeanine Moy for a "five senses hike" and introduce yourself to a vast variety of plant families in the height of their brilliant blooming. We'll learn techniques to observe native pollinators and discuss their role in our alpine backyard forest.

## FEATURED HIKE: SOUTH FORK SMITH

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA GEM FEATURES OLD-GROWTH AND TURQUOISE POOLS

Big wildlands? Wild and Scenic rivers? Old-growth forests? Remote hiking trails? The Siskiyou Wilderness Area has you covered! In particular, the South Kelsey Trailhead on the South Fork Smith River provides year-round access to adventure and natural wonders.

Long prized for its steelhead and considered one of the clearest flowing rivers in California, the South Fork Smith is largely undiscovered as a hiking destination. This is particularly true upstream of the rustic Buck Creek Shelter once one enters the designated wilderness area.

The Smith River Watershed is famous for its concentration of congressionally designated Wild and Scenic Rivers and is renowned as one of the largest free-flowing rivers in the country. Of the 3 major Forks of the Smith (the others being the North Fork and the Siskiyou Fork) the South Fork has the best hiking access due to the old Kelsey National Historic Trail which follows a gold-rush era mule trail that once stretched from Crescent City to Fort Jones.

While mining and Off-Road Vehicle damage continue to threaten much of the Smith National Recreation Area, you won't see any of that here: The South Fork is wild, undamaged and beautiful.

### GETTING THERE

To reach the trailhead take highway 199 just east of the town of Hiouchi to the bridge leading south across the mainstem of the River which is signed for the famous redwood "Stout Grove." Almost immediately cross a second bridge and turn left onto South Fork Smith Road (FS15), which you will follow awhile to FS road 15N39. which steeply veers down to a trailhead. From the trailhead, follow a short downhill spur to the riverside trail. From here, heading upstream to the confluence with Eightmile Creek is as rewarding of a day hike as you are likely to find, while longer backpacking trips into the heart of the High Siskiyou beckon. As always, it is essential to have a good map, water, and plenty of gas, all of which can be obtained in Hiouchi.



KS Wild



## WHERE WILL WOLVES GO FROM HERE?

Is there any animal in the West that elicits more reverence than the Gray Wolf? Their striking nature has spawned more scientific research and fictional stories than any other species of animal. Native, yet exterminated throughout most of the U.S., in the new era, wolves have begun to make a comeback in the West.

At KS Wild, we have a deep admiration for this creature that so deeply epitomizes the wilderness. Unfortunately, the story of the wolf is one of systematic persecution and deep-rooted mythologies that inspire fear in people. Some say the removal of the wolf is a bitter reflection of our society's tendency to suppress all things wild; others, want nothing more than to allow wolves to fade into extinction.

The struggle of the American Wolf is far from over. Recently, they were removed from Oregon's Endangered Species List. Shortly thereafter, in Northeast Oregon, state officials killed OR-4 and his family due to their predation of livestock. The state official's reactionary action came despite the fact that wolves' threat to the livestock industry pales in comparison to the tens of thousands of livestock lost to disease, weather events, and even domesticated dogs.

To make wolves the scapegoat, is to ignore the greater forces, like climate change, that threaten all life on this planet. As we enter another phase of American history, we must write a story with new themes that are based in science, compassion, and healthy coexistence with our natural world.

## WOLF FRIEND-FACTS

**Canis lupus**, literally translates to “dog-wolf.” From this our modern dog's name “**Canis lupus familiaris**” is derived, as they descended from a now extinct lineage of wolves from the Pleistocene era. Social animals, wolves travel in packs that consist of a mated pair and the pair's adult offspring, around 5-10 members total. Sometimes they will include 2-3 families; the largest pack recorded was comprised of 42 wolves.

## FUN'RAISING WITH A FUN GUY

Planned giving is a great opportunity to help your favorite non-profit in the long run. While legacy gifts through one's will are most common, other methods of planned giving include:



**Bequests:** Bequests allow the donor to maintain and own assets all of their life. It is as simple as copying this text into your will & testament: “I, (name), hereby leave \_\_\_\_\_(% of estate/money/certain assets) to the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center in Ashland, Oregon.”

**Stocks:** One can avoid paying capital gains taxes by donating to a non-profit, and the total amount is still eligible for a tax deduction.

**Real Estate:** While we kindly accept donations of a house or property, we evaluate such donations based on their relevance to KS Wild's mission.

## SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT US

Acupuncture, Health & Healing, Adrienne Fansler, LCSW, Aquatic Ecosystem Sciences, Ashland Alternative Health, Ashland Center For Women's Health, Ashland Financial Solutions, Ashland, Mind Matters, Berryvale Grocery, Big Tree Farms, Bloomdesign Interiors, Carlos Delgado, Architect LLC, Cecelia Howard Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, Computer Doctor of Ashland, Cucina Biazzi, Dan the Backhoe Man, Family Practice Group, Fly Water Travel, Four & Twenty Blackbirds Bakery, Full Circle Real Estate, Get'N Gear, Gift Community, Grateful Meds, Oregon, Herb Pharm, Idiart Law Group, Inner Synergy, Jahfirm Productions, Jani Rollins, MD, Jefferson, State Financial Group: Insurance, Jive Mountain, John Merrill Woodworker, Kathy A. Sprick, D.D.S, Kindler Stout Piano Service, Kleiman & Stamper Physical Therapy, KSKQ, Mark Machala, Chiropractic Physician, Mary Ann Terrall, MA, Master Craft Wood Floors, Inc, Matt Witt Photography, Mihama Teriyaki Grill, Momentum River Expeditions, Northwest Nature Shop, One Voice Associates, LLC, Patagonia, Plant Oregon, Richard Billin Attorney at Law, Rogue Basin Coordinating Council, Rogue Valley Fitness Training, Rogue Valley Runners, Safeworld International, Science Works Museum, Southern Oregon Mediation Center, Standing Stone Brewing Co., Steelhead Water, TEN Realty Group, The Downey Co. home Builders, True South Solar, Village Shoes, Wessler Design Associates, Inc

## KS WILD'S MISSION

*The Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center is an advocate for the forests, wildlife and waters of the Klamath and Rogue River Basins of southwest Oregon and northwest California. We use environmental law, science, collaboration, education and grassroots organizing to defend healthy ecosystems and help build sustainable communities.*

**KSWILD.ORG**

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