

Groups ask to testify against mines

By RUSSELL LINEBARGER
Of the Emerald

Twelve environmental groups, opposing mining claims in the Three Sisters Wilderness Area, have asked the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to include them in a hearing the bureau will conduct this summer.

The hearing will be held to determine if the 10 claims currently held by U.S. Pumice Company — which affect the Rock Mesa area — are indeed valid.

According to Jon Kemp, president of the Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness, the basis for BLM scrutiny on behalf of the Forest Service is a study by geologist Allan Grant and mining engineer Elvin Magill.

The report, released last summer, was to be used exclusively as the only evidence on the environmental side of the dispute.

Kemp wants the BLM to also consider factors such as the effect on "wildlife, recreation, watershed, scenic and scientific values."

He says according to an "1872 mining law...only 'economic feasibility' would be considered" as criteria in determining U.S. Pumice's claim. He says the BLM does not have to use any other source in determining validity.

But attorneys for the groups have found a loop-hole in the law, which will allow the groups to participate at the hearing.



Drawing by Jim Payne

If the BLM decides against the environmentalists and favors U.S. Pumice, "we can appeal the decision of the hearing official, and if the Appeals Board upholds the hearing official's decision we can take it to the federal courts," Kemp says.

Several studies have been done in the Rock Mesa area to determine the validity of the company's claim.

Study results released by OSPIRG in 1976 concluded that all 10 mining claims were invalid "because of the low grade pumice found in the area and because of insufficient quantities of pumice to

allow for profitable mining," according to OSPIRG's Bill Van Dyke.

He says, "The claims were also found to be improperly marked and located by law."

In August, 1977, the Forest Service released a report of its own \$75,000 study, which con-

firmed OSPIRG's findings.

Kemp says at least four studies have been conducted in the Rock Mesa area and all have considered the pumice company's claim invalid.

He says if officials declare the claims to be valid, "citizens of the United States would be forced to sell all or part of the 1,460 acres to U.S. Pumice for \$2.50 per acre or less. We would then have to buy back the Mesa...for thousands of dollars an acre."

The claims were established in 1961, but the company agreed not to mine the area for 10 years because of other existing producing cities.

In 1971 environmentalists kept the mining operation in abeyance while studies were being run to determine the effect on the environment.

According to Kemp, the diesel-powered machinery used in the mining process would produce noise levels up to 80 decibels and could be heard at a three-mile range.

The early June hearing will be attended by OSPIRG, Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness, the Oregon Environmental Council, the Northwest Environment Defense Center, the Wilderness Society, the McKenzie Fly Fishers, the Obsidians, the Oakridge Audubon Society, the McKenzie Guardians, the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, the Sierra Club and the University Survival Center.

ESCAPE's new director optimistic about next year

By ANNA C. HOYT
Of the Emerald

ESCAPE has chosen a new director for the 1978-79 school year.

Kelly Nakao will replace Susannah Malarkey as acting Director of the program in the fall. Nakao will function as director in

training for summer session.

Nakao explains she applied for the position because she felt being former division head for the elementary division gave her good experience.

"I felt I could really grow and develop in other areas of leader-

ship through the director position," explains Nakao. "I feel I have a lot of ESCAPE background, and a lot of energy to put into the program."

The selection took place last Friday between Nakao and three other applicants.

"The other applicants were highly qualified. I feel honored they chose me," says Nakao.

Each applicant was interviewed for more than two hours by a six-member selection committee consisting of a member from the



Kelly Nakao

administrative staff, the curriculum staff, the steering committee, the faculty director and the ESCAPE director.

As director, Nakao will be responsible for payroll, budgeting, and nearly 500 student volunteers per term.

The ESCAPE program sends out students to fulfill practicum requirements for the education school. But Nakao points out there are tutors needed in almost every major.

"We give people a chance to really see what is going on...before they enter a career," explains Nakao.

The director and coordinators

hold seminars for tutors, to give suggestions so they are not thrown into a new environment with no idea of what to do, she says.

Nakao is optimistic about the next year's program.

"I think ESCAPE is a constantly changing and growing program...no real drastic changes, but there's always something new going on."

Nakao explains that projects such as the Bethel Middle School project have a lot of promise for the future. "I can see a lot of growth in that, and that's exciting."

EMU CULTURAL FORUM Presents

An Evening With STANLEY CLARKE & SCHOOL DAYS

* ONE SHOW ONLY *
FRIDAY June 2nd
8:00 pm EMU BALLROOM

Tickets available at the EMU Main Desk, Sun Shop & Everybody's.

UO Students \$4, General Public \$6
(add 50 cents for day of show)

PSYCHIC

Advises on business,
love & personal direction

Jamil
P.O. Box 10154
Eugene, Oregon 97401

Phone anytime:
342-2210 484-2441



- Domestic & Imported Beers
- Delicious Soups & Sandwiches
- Pool, Backgammon
- Foosball, Pinball
- Friendly Barmaids
- Comfortable Booths
- Great Conversation

de Frisco's IN THE ATRIUM
DOWNTOWN

