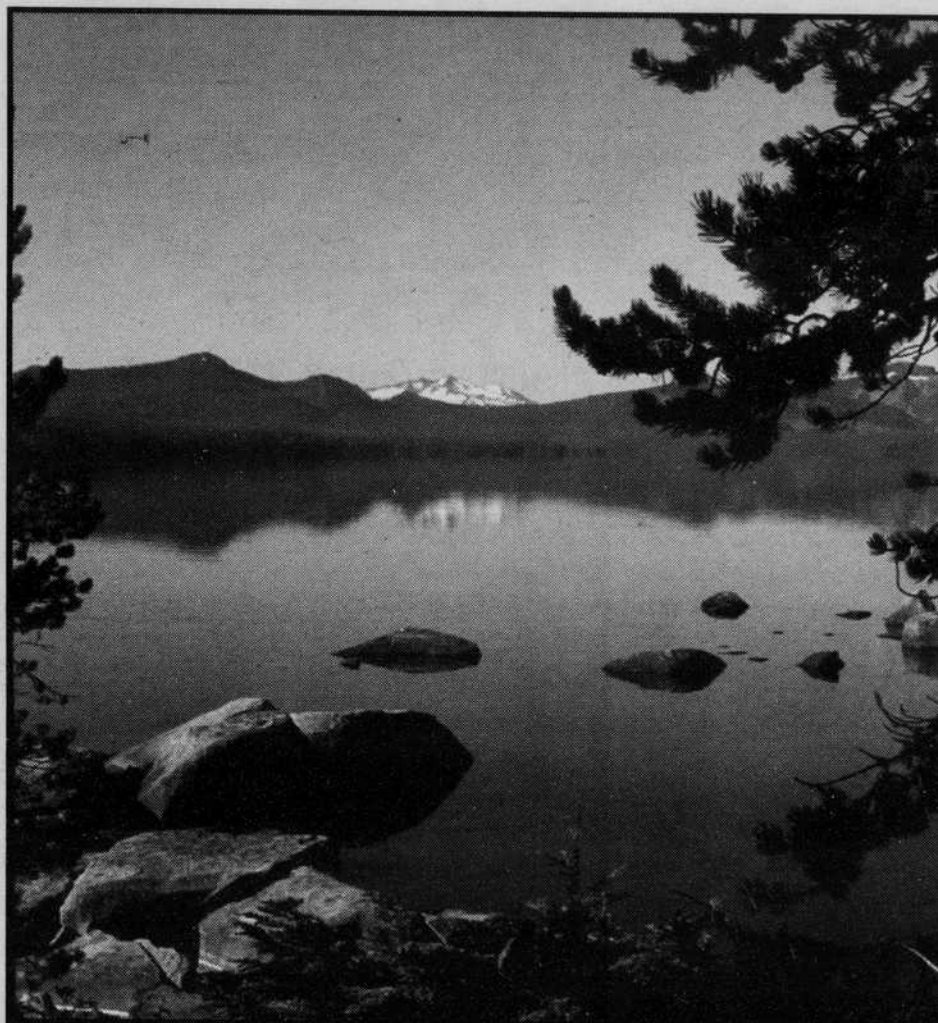


News and Views

Waldo Lake Plan Withdrawn: Will Motors Remain On Pristine Waters?

Advocates of protecting the Waldo Basin and restoring its natural quiet, free of motorboat whines, are disappointed that the Forest Service recently withdrew the Waldo Basin Plan. The selected alternative of the plan prohibited the use of gas engines on the lake after 2005, while encouraging motorboat users to switch to electric motors. The plan also changed the classification of the lake from roaded, motorized to semiprimitive, as well as other protective measures regarding the Charnelton road, commercial permitting, dispersed camping and snowmobile access. The progressive plan was signed by the forest supervisor last December.

Four opponents of the plan filed appeals. After a long regional administrative review process the Willamette Office withdrew the management plan before a decision was made by the appeal review board. The reason for the withdrawal remains unclear at this time, but more supporting data may need to be gathered for the plan to get through the appeal process. At any rate, even if the changes are minor, the plan will likely have to go through another full NEPA process requiring many months before Waldo can get the protection it deserves. If you are interested in helping the Forest Service keep Waldo on the agenda and moving forward, please consider sending a note to the Forest Supervisor and the Middle Fork District Ranger.



New Gear Raft Scheduled for Arrival at OP Barn

According to Trip Facility Manager, Ed Fredette, the OP will have a new gear raft in October. This purple, Sotar Elite raft with a hammer finish frame will be rigged to outfit Colorado-style trips. Unlike our other 14' gear rafts this one is a bigger and beefier 15'. So when you're dreaming of initiating multi-day OP raft trips on big rivers, get ready to reserve the new purple raft! For more information on the OP Equipment please see page 3 of this newsletter.

Oregon WFR Courses 2002-3

Several Wilderness Medicine Institute (WMI) Wilderness First Responder (WFR) courses have already been scheduled in Oregon; prices range from \$465-\$495 per course. Here's the details:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Contact Info</u>
Bend	Nov 15-24	Dan Walker, WMI Instructor, 541-383-9259
Ashland	Dec 13-22	Southern Oregon University, 541-552-6334
Portland	Jan 9-18	Lewis & Clark College, 503-768-7116
Bend	Jan 31-Feb 9	Oregon Museum of Science & Industry, 541-504-2538
Eugene	Mar 21-30	City of Eugene, River House Outdoor Program, 541-682-5329

For information on more WMI-WFR and WFR Recertification Courses check out the Wilderness Medicine Institute's website at: <http://wmi.nols.edu>

The UO Outdoor Pursuits Program (OPP) also instructs Wilderness First Responder courses, contact Jim Blanchard at 346-3399.

Local Club Focus

Greater Eugene Area Riders

Fall is a great time to get out and enjoy the view from a bike. Greater Eugene Area Riders (GEARS) promotes just the type of recreational bicycle riding and community bicycle events you may be looking for. GEARS organizes regular weekly rides as well as safety and skill education for bicyclists and participates in local events like the Eugene Celebration Cycling Classic. Annual GEARS dues are inexpensive (\$12 for an individual/ \$17 for a family) and they produce monthly newsletters with articles, events and information throughout most of the year. Grab an informative GEARS newsletter at local bike shops, the Outdoor Program, or contact Mel Huey at melhuey@aol.com for ride schedule and membership information.

