

## Suit filed

(Continued from page 1)

versing roadless protections," according to Smith.

Additionally, "the plan to log in Late Successional Reserves will be a significant setback in the standard of protection of old-growth forests established by NFP," Smith said.

Furthermore, removing trees in the post-fire landscape will retard recovery, he noted.

Smith maintains that SREP is not a "no-cut" organization.

"We can accept some logging, but the important point is where, and how extensively, he said.

Although founded in 1983 to protest old-growth logging, SREP no longer organizes demonstrations in the woods, Smith said.

"We try to do what we can to keep that as a last resort," he said, such as filing administrative appeals and taking the issue to court.

Some, however, plan to take direct forest action.

Local and regional activists, as well as international group Greenpeace, have said that they will go into the woods, and are encouraging others to do likewise.

During a recent rally in Medford's Alba Park, attended by nearly 300 protesters, activist Tim Ream called on people to be ready to "put their bodies on the line" to stop logging in old-growth.

A contingent of concerned Illinois Valley residents, calling themselves the Biscuit Alliance, have been hiking the sales areas, monitoring road hazard tree removal, and securing funding to publish columns stating their concerns and purposes, and to keep tabs on activity in the area.

Said one participant, "The forest has always recovered without human intervention. It's doing so right now.

"I'd like to see us devote more resources to repairing the damage (incurred during the fire-fighting efforts)."



Ellie Buell (Photo provided)

## American Legion Auxiliary Unit 70 Unit, Buell big winners; she'll head to national

The American Legion Auxiliary Glenn Morrison Unit 70 meeting on Wednesday, July 7 opened with news of the American Legion 2004 Convention held in La Grande from June 23-26.

Post and Unit 43 were hosts. "It was nice meeting new people and seeing longtime friends," said Unit 70 Auxiliary.

The unit won two 10-year traveling trophies that were retired this year: one for Overall Best Poppy Program, and one for Overall Best Poppy Display. The unit also won trophies in Best Community Service Project, Overall Best Poppy Program for the year, and Best Poppy Press Book that is going on to national for judging.

Ellie Buell received personal certificates in appreciation for Community Service of the Year and Top Poppy Distributor.

Other certificates awarded the unit were a history award, national citation meritorious service in membership goal and overall meritorious service.

"We are proud to say that three of our five poppy poster winners on the unit level won at state level and will go on to the national level competition," said Unit 70 Auxiliary. "They are Kenny Krska-Class 1, Timothy Phlaum-Class 2,

and Lydia Beeman-Class 3." All received cash prizes along with a pin.

Mrs. Buell, District 4 president last term, is going on to state level as Dept. of Oregon Poppy chairman. She also was voted to be a delegate for the state of Oregon at the National Convention in Nashville, Tenn. at the end of August.

Grants Pass Unit and Post 28 will host a chicken barbecue with homemade sweets on Saturday, July 31 at 3 p.m. at the post in Grants Pass (corner of F and Fifth streets) as a benefit to help Mrs. Buell go to the national convention. There will be a fee for the meal along with door prizes and raffles. Anyone can attend.

We need the support of the whole district, units and posts to send Mrs. Buell to the national convention, as she will be our voice for all of us here in Southern Oregon," said the Auxiliary. Tickets will be available at the door or in advance. For more information: Sue Faubion, 597-2397, or Tina Haemmerlin, 592-6190.

Also, a rummage sale will be held soon as a fund-raiser to send Mrs. Buell to the national convention. Anyone wanting to donate items can contact Valorie Squire, 592-4483.

## Timber industry sues USFS, Bush on salvage

While it comes as no surprise that the Biscuit Fire salvage Records of Decision released Thursday, July 8 would initiate a barrage of litigation, few would have anticipated that the opening salvo would be lobbed by the timber industry itself.

The nonprofit American Forest Resource Council (AFRC), filed suit in U.S. District Court in Eugene July 10, alleging

that U.S. Forest Service and the Bush Administration broke the law by not moving more aggressively to quickly salvage burned timber and restore productive forests.

Among those joining the lawsuit are Rough & Ready Lumber Co., Cave Junction; South Coast Lumber Co., Brookings; the Swanson Group, Oak Flat LLC, Indian Hill LLC, Cave Junction; and Illinois

Valleyites Jim Frick, and Jim Nolan.

Said AFRC President Tom Partin in a prepared statement: "Too much time has been wasted and critical wildlife habitats, key watersheds and rural communities are at stake to allow this process to be bogged down by environmental groups who oppose forest reforestation in the area of the Biscuit fire."

- Michelle Binker

## Brevity, levity mark city council meet

By MICHELLE BINKER  
Staff Writer

Brevity and levity marked the meeting of the common council of Cave Junction Monday evening, July 12 in city hall.

During the roughly hour-long meeting, in which exhaustive readings of every ordinance and memo were dispensed with, the council heard a request by developer PJW Properties to lease or purchase an unused street plug (city property to be used for street extension) on Shadowbrook Drive.

PJW plans to build a storm-water "detention structure" on the site, which is owned by the city. It would eventually own the structure itself.

One property owner, whose home is adjacent to the small parcel designated a "street plug," said he would be concerned about having an open pond-type detention facility next to his yard for fear of endangering his children.

Public Works supervisor Gary Biggs noted that the structure could be entirely underground, and the land surface above maintained as a simple, park-like setting.

While the concerned homeowner insisted he did not want any "Jubilee Park-like activity" next to his house, the council believed it a choice opportunity to create a "nice little pocket-park," and decided 3-0 to approve the request, with the conditions that the structure be underground, and the developer landscape the property.

Councilmen Tony Paulsen and Sandi Lund were absent.

The council also voted 3-0 to adopt a wellhead protection plan to protect

that portion of the city's drinking water supply which originates in the Daisy Hill well field.

City Recorder Jim Polk informed the council that due to clerical error and publishing difficulties, a notice of a public meeting about part of the city's budget inadvertently was not printed in "I.V. News."

Required by Oregon law to make the council aware of such a mistake,

Polk made a statement detailing the event.

Tongue-in-cheek, Mayor Ed Faircloth immediately called for "a motion for punishment," and Councilman Rita Dyer concurred in good humor.

"I think discipline is in order," she said.

Those in attendance laughed, and Polk was thanked for his explanation, which was accepted by the council.



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## Added wilderness? 'Hold the gravy...'

By MICHELLE BINKER  
Staff Writer

With the final plan for salvage sales in the Biscuit Fire area, last month Siskiyou National Forest Supervisor Scott Conroy made a surprise recommendation to add some 64,000 acres to Kalmiopsis Wilderness.

The proposal may have been intended to make the Biscuit salvage plan more palatable, but some environmental

groups are saying, "Hold the gravy."

"The wilderness proposal is just a symbolic distraction," said Don Smith, executive director, Siskiyou Regional Education Project.

"We don't believe in deal-making behind closed doors," he said. "The real issue is the scale of what the forest service is proposing" in the Biscuit salvage plan.

The wilderness idea was initiated by Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongowski's natural resources staff. He and U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) have been working for more land under wilderness protection.

The idea was then put before USDA Undersecretary Mark Rey, who has been the primary forest policy adviser for the current administration.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman delivered the wilderness proposal to Congress July 8. Only an act of Congress can create new wilderness.

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