



COAST RANGE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 148
NEWPORT, OR
97365
PH. (503) 265-8105
FAX (503) 265-8179

Executive Director
Chuck Willer

Federal Lands Oversight
Lisa Brown

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Bob Gerl
Vice President
Marie Cole
Secretary
Don Andre
Treasurer
Patrick Tempel

William Gates
Carolyn Lochert
Doug Ray

2, 4-D & South Clatsop's Watersheds The Herbicide Connection

In 1980, Tower Chemical Company spilled the pesticide Kelthane into Florida's lake Apopka. Within the decade Lake Apopka's once robust alligator population had crashed to one tenth its size. In many years less than 20% of alligator eggs hatch, and half of those that do hatch die within 20 days. But equally alarming, more than half of lake Apopka's juvenile male alligators have severely shrunken penises.

Swimming in Estrogens

Juvenile male alligators in Lake Apopka have strikingly high estrogen levels and very low testosterone levels. In fact, the young male's estrogen/testosterone ratios were very close to those of female alligators from clean lakes. Research revealed that the Lake Apopka alligators were the victims of dicofol and DDE, a breakdown product of DDT, all of which entered the lake's food chain from the Kelthane spill.

The astonishing fact is that DDT, DDE, and dicofol are just three of several dozen man-made chemicals capable of imitating naturally occurring hormones, in this case the female sex hormone estrogen. Over the past ten years a frightening picture has emerged of a newly identified class of toxic chemicals called endocrine disrupters.

Endocrine Disrupters

We're all familiar with the expression "raging hormones" that is used to excuse the peculiarities of adolescent behavior. Estrogen and testosterone are the hormones secreted by the endocrine system that turn boys into men and girls into women. The endocrine system is a collection of organs and glands that produce the body's hormones. In addition to the sex hormones, the endocrine system produces hormones to regulate metabolism, growth, response to stress, and aspects of the immune system.

The chemicals capable of endocrine disruption are certain pesticides (including herbicides, insecticides and fungicides), solvents, heavy metals and additives in plastics. Of particular interest are the organochlorines 2,4-D and atrazine, two chemicals widely used in Coast Range forestry. In the past, most concern has focused on the cancer causing ability of many of these chemicals. Now, new understandings of the effects of these chemicals implicate them in a whole host of problems linked to disrupting or mimicking body hormones. This problem is showing up tragically in both human & wildlife populations.

Learning Impaired Children, Breast Cancer & Declining Sperm Counts.

What happens to children who are exposed to high levels of organochlorines often found in fish, dairy products and other bioaccumulative foods? A study from the Great Lakes area of children exposed to PCBs in the womb and through breast feeding clearly showed serious problems with short term memory, attention span, and mental processing of visual images. The seriousness of the problem was directly related to the amount of PCBs in the mothers umbilical cord blood.

The two leading risk factors for breast cancer - exposure to excessive estrogen and high fat diets - may be exacerbated by chemical hormones like 2,4-D. Another major

trend being linked to chemical hormones is the drop in sperm count of men living in industrial nations. Since 1940 average sperm production in men has fallen 50 percent. Chemical hormones have been linked to increased incidence of testicular cancer and prostate enlargement. Endocrine disrupters are causing wildlife to suffer. Western Gulls failing to reproduce off Los Angeles, whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence suffering depressed immune systems, and salmon mortality have all been linked to this newly defined class of reproductive and endocrine-disrupting chemicals.

The Seaside/Gearhart, Cannon Beach and Arch Cape Watersheds are at Risk.

Two chemicals widely used in Coast Range forestry are reported to be endocrine disrupters: 2,4-D and atrazine. Literally hundreds of thousands of acres of Coast Range forest land are helicopter sprayed with 2,4-D every decade. Last year, one Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) official from Lincoln County remarked about helicopter herbicide spraying by saying, "When I smell 2, 4-D in the air, it must be spring." 2,4-D is widely used to kill alder trees in industrial conifer plantations. 2,4-D is a growth regulating hormone that causes alder trees to go into a hyper-growth mode and die. 2,4-D can persist in water for months, working its way through the watershed. Private industrial forests make up over 90% of South Clatsop County municipal watersheds. We suspect South County watersheds have been sprayed with 2,4-D in the past. Without a doubt they will be sprayed in the future unless we speak up.

Coast Range Association Herbicide Mapping

How much herbicide spraying is occurring in Clatsop County's forests and watersheds? Everyone who sprays herbicides files a notification with the local ODF office. Yet, if you went to ODF's Astoria office and asked if they knew how many acres were sprayed and where those acres are they won't be able to tell you. As long as the directions are followed, the Department of Forestry does not think it a problem if 500, 2,000 or 5,000 acres of your watershed have been sprayed with 2,4-D. In fact, they think it's good because spraying 2,4-D is, in their view, part of good forestry.

Wildlife Gender Scrambling

Delicate hormone balances determine sexual development in many animals. Scientists believe that PCBs, DDT, and other chemicals passing from mother to fetus or bird eggs can create offspring that are gender scrambled.

Channel Island western gulls off Southern California are experiencing reproductive failure. The mating colony is almost 80% female. Why? DDT contamination has apparently feminized male gulls and they don't bother to mingle with female gulls.

We disagree and believe you want to know how much and where herbicide spraying occurs. We also believe the more you know about hormone disrupters like 2,4-D, the more you will want to know if your watershed has been or will be sprayed. With your help we can provide that information. I want to show you a map of South Clatsop County no one has ever seen before. Over 200 hours of work went into this map. The map was made from ODF notification data. Each square on the map is a section, usually 640 acres. The number displayed in each section is the number of acres, over the past three and half years, that land owners notified ODF they intend to spray with herbicides.

Notice that the sections with the highest spray numbers are in the central portion of the county. Central county is where the industrial foresters started their current wave of clearcutting. The wave is heading for the coast as more coastal watershed forests reach 35 to 50 years of age. Hanson, (known on television as Cavenham) the company that owns most South County watersheds intends on "harvesting" these areas in the next 10 to 20 years. Will they use 2,4-D and other herbicides? Only Hanson can say what they intend to do. Hanson currently practices a clearcut, site prep (burn), plant and, when needed, herbicide spray forestry.

With Your Help the Truth Will be Known

Oregon's private industrial foresters practice a forestry largely outside of public view. The deforestation, burning and spraying practiced by industrial foresters results in the loss of functioning forests, wildlife habitat and healthy streams. For forest workers and drinking water users, industrial forestry is a health threat. This isn't the view Hanson shows on their Portland television commercials. The Coast Range Association doesn't have hundreds of thousands of dollars to counter the industry's shameless commercials. Instead we have our eyes focused on the great truth of our Coast Range forests. A truth that understands our Coast Range forests and rivers were once the mightiest on Earth. A truth that knows our coastal rivers once teemed with salmon and our shores thrived with native peoples. A truth that knows that we are exposed too to many dangerous chemicals like 2,4-D. And we intend to make those truths known.

What Should be Done? Our work for 1995 and beyond.

Herbicide mapping is only the beginning. Now, with your help, we intend to do serious number crunching and map making. But, it will take hundreds of additional hours and thousands of dollars. We can't do it without your help. That's why I want to share our work plan with you.

We intend not only to analyze herbicide use but also harvest (deforestation) rates and stream conditions.

Our goal is to:

1. Document who owns the land.
2. Document what they are doing.
3. Document the land's ecological condition.
4. Explain in what way industrial landowners are responsible for ecological problems.
5. Propose new forestry practices that will protect rivers and public health and provide for a vibrant forest products industry.

Quite obviously, the first step in solving a problem is to identify it. Please join in this effort with a contribution of \$25, \$50, \$100 or more. The choice is between what you see happening everywhere in Clatsop County or what you see on the television commercials. The sports fisherman shaking their heads over missing salmon are the real truth. The corporate propaganda commercials are not. With your help we can bring an intelligent focused understanding to the debate over proper land stewardship.

I rest assured that your concern and financial support will see us through this difficult work.

Sincerely

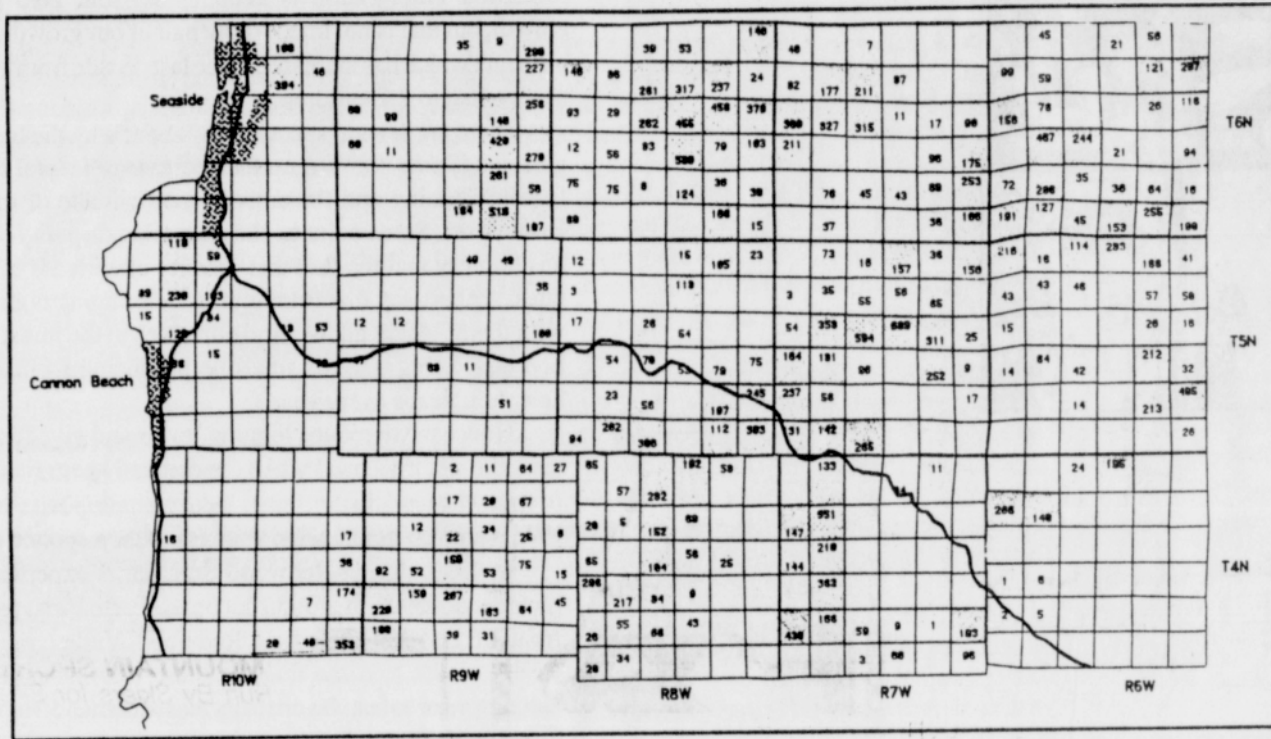
Chuck Willer

Chuck Willer
Director

P.S. Remember our concern isn't with the 98% of forest land owners who own 10% of the land. Our concern is with the 2% of owners who own 90% of the land. We must insist on responsible corporate stewardship. Please become a Coast Range Association member and support our vital work.

I have been to that special place in the shadow of Saddle Mountain. I have seen the giant cedar trees.

I know of the Valley Of The Giants, In the heart of the Coast Range, where trees 160 feet up still are ten feet across.



Coast Range Association Herbicide Mapping Project, 1994.

The above map shows number of acres notified to ODF for herbicide application from the period January 1990 to June 1994. Each square represents approx. One square mile (640 acres). Number in each square is the amount of acres notified for spraying.

RECYCLING MEANS NOTHING IF YOU DON'T CLOSE THE LOOP!

You need to buy recycled products made from the paper you recycle. At Peacetre, we know the issues. We'll help you satisfy your paper needs based on cost and environmental sensitivity.

Call us for a catalog of household, office and packaging products. Or stop by our office M/W/Th 12 - 4 pm to see for yourself!



Peacetre Recycled Paper 503/282-7266
523 NE Davis FBI 97232 (503)233-5821

The great are great only because we are on our knees.

Pierre J. Proudhon



OREGON COAST SUPPORT GROUP

P.O. BOX 50
CANNON BEACH
OREGON 97110
503-436-1420
503-436-0527

Whatever you may be sure of, be sure of this, that you are dreadfully like other people.
James Russell Lowell

GREAT SAVINGS!

25 - 50%
off most items

Patagonia jackets and fleecewear
Woolrich shirts, sweaters and coats
Rusty surfwear
Teva and Merrell sandals
and more!

Cannon Beach Outdoor Wear

239 N. Hemlock • Cannon Beach • 436-2832

Open 10-5 daily

SUSHI - KO IS HERE!

And Seaside Has It - the first sushi-bar on the North Coast! Not the fanciest, but it's the real thing - from spicy tuna to California rolls, to original concoctions! Sushi fanatics already give them



1115 So. Holladay • Seaside • 717-0613
(Behind Pacific Seafood) Tue-Sun 11-2, 4-9

BISTRO



Memorable Meals Of Honorable Mention

RESERVATIONS: 436-2661
263 N. HEMLOCK • CANNON BEACH

..TABLES of CONTENT..

RESTAURANT

"A Very Special Dining Experience"

Dinner Seatings
Sunday - Thursday - 7:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday - 6:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

BY RESERVATION 265-5428

267 NW Cliff
Newport



No Smoking