

15 hydro projects planned in National Forest

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

There are currently more than 15 micro-hydroelectric projects planned for the Mt. Hood National Forest, with four of these planned for the Zigzag Ranger District on Henry, Devils, Camp and Wind Creeks.

Micro or mini-hydroelectric power is not a new concept. The first known

project was established by Dr. John McLoughlin at Willamette Falls near Oregon City in 1820. By utilizing the 30-foot fall, Oregon's founding father was able to generate enough power to operate a grist mill.

From the late 1800s to as late as the 1940s, lumber companies relied upon the natural flow of the streams to provide the power to mill the timber. Some of these sawmills were either

movable or temporary. One such mill was established a couple of miles up North Boulder Creek, and operated for number of years until it was destroyed by a flood sometime in the 1960s.

On some streams in the mountain area, mini-hydros were historically used to generate electricity for individual homesites. J.E. McNaught, of Sleepy Hollow, constructed one

such system—a waterwheel—on a creek that ran through his property back in the early 1940s.

Today on the mountain, however, micro-hydros are being developed not to power individual homesites or individual mills, but are being constructed primarily to sell power to Portland General Electric (PGE) or the Bonneville Power Administration, who, by law, have to buy this

power. Such is the case on four streams under the jurisdiction of the Zigzag Ranger District.

One project will be constructed above a domestic water system; another will be diverting part of a scenic waterfall; another in a stream utilized heavily for recreational fishing; and another in a basin lying between the historic Laurel Hill and Still Creek.

Douglas Pegar, of Gladstone, who works for the manufacturing firm, North American Controls, Inc., is the developer of three of the four proposed hydroelectric projects. The Devils, Henry, and Wind Creek projects would be operated by Douglas Water Power, an energy development company he operates with a number of local investors.

Maryanne Hill, owner of the Government Camp Water Company and a member of the Clackamas County Planning Commission, has made a special use permit application to the Forest Service, to construct a micro-hydroelectric project on Camp Creek. This project is a joint venture with J. Val Toronto & Associates, a professional engineering firm from Pendleton.

Pegar's three projects are all located above Rhododendron.

Pegar's Henry Creek project is being proposed for steep terrain, above the Rhododendron Summer Home Association's new 100,000 gallon water holding tank.

The Summer Home Association, as well as the Rhododendron Neighborhood Association, is opposed to the proposed hydro, fearing that it will cause turbidity and erosion which would effect the domestic water supply for some 300 residences.

The RNA also fears that if the Henry Creek Hydro is constructed, that the steelhead, salmon and trout populations, would be seriously impacted. The organization is currently exploring ways to enhance the spawning areas utilized by the fish.

Pegar said that he has no idea, as of yet, how many theoretical kilowatt-hours his Henry Creek project will generate. He estimates that it will cost about \$1200 per kilowatt-hour, which is an average figure used among micro-hydro developers.

Zigzag Ranger Chuck Smay said that the project is still in its infancy, and that there has not yet been an

environmental analysis conducted on the site. If approved, construction would begin within six months, taking an estimated 24 months to complete.

According to the project's special use application filed on Dec. 1, 1981, Pegar is seeking use of 4.3 acres of public land for a pipeline, and 2.2 acres for a powerhouse.

Pegar's Devils Creek hydro would be located above a large waterfall, located also in the Zigzag Mountains. The Forest Service conducted a preliminary examination of the site on April 24 and May 1 of last year. The field review looked at the area in terms of geologic suitability as well as the hydrology of the creek.

The review team noted some problems with the project site, particularly with the intake site for the pipeline located above Devils Falls. They recommended an alternative pipeline route which would utilize a cliff area that should have less environmental impact.

Another problem concerning the waterfall, is that its waters would be diverted into a pipeline which would affect its scenic quality. During the summer months, Enola Point, along Forest Service Road S-27, is heavily frequented by tourists who travel the low standard road for a view of Devils Falls. Any diversion of the waters would dry up the waterfall.

The Forest Service also stated that the stream flow of the falls would not only be important to the visual quality of the area, but would "help prevent a severe impact on downstream vegetation dependent upon that water."

Pegar filed a special use permit application on Nov. 11, 1980, seeking to use 1.75 acres for a pipeline and five acres for a powerhouse. He has made no total cost estimate for the project.

If Pegar gains support for his project, construction would begin within 12 months and be completed within a 24-month period.

Pegar's third proposed hydro project is located on Wind Creek in the Tom, Dick and Harry Mountain area.

Application for the Wind Creek hydro also was filed with the Forest Service on Nov. 11, 1980 and seeks to utilize four acres for pipeline and five acres for a powerhouse site. The hydro's input would be located around the 4200 foot elevation.

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This rental at University Apartments just recently became available. Air conditioning is reportedly one of its features. Pictured, from left to right, is Becky

Elizabeth Summer, Isaac Heil, Shawnee Summer, Clayton Summer, Mandy Summer, Steven Summer and John Summer.

Taxing districts lose investment potential

Clackamas County could lose as much as \$750,000 in interest this year because of a new state disbursement plan, according to Chuck Harrison, chief of the county's tax department.

Kenneth Blackburn, superintendent of Welches School District, said that the district only receives about \$7,000 annually from the county, and any delay in getting those funds will not have a major impact on them.

While the state used to pay the district in three increments, it's now being paid monthly.

In the past the district could make money from the unused funds, but

now this revenue will be lost.

"For Welches School," said Blackburn, "it means the loss of a few thousand dollars. But for a big district like Portland, it will mean millions."

Blackburn said that the state's attempt to solve the budget problems have only created new ones.

Clackamas County officials were warned that there could be \$18 million less to operate on for taxing districts such as schools, fire districts and service districts.

Harrison said problems with the economy will probably mean that

there will be a 12 percent tax delinquency rate this year, which will affect cash flow of both the service districts and the county itself.

"There will be fewer people able to pay their taxes," Harrison said, "and they will not be able to pay it all at once, like they used to do."

Harrison said that because of this the state will not be paying the tax relief dollars to the county in full, but in thirds. He said that with the state passing on the problems to the county, that the \$17 million that was available in one lump sum last year will not be available, and the

county's investment potential will be affected.

The state of Oregon has a cash-flow problem, said Harrison. "Now we have a cash-flow problem. The money will be coming in slow and everyone, especially the taxing districts, will have to watch their dollars so they don't spend money they don't have."

Chief Don Armintrout of the Hoodland Rural Fire Department said that the fire district will be doing just that.

He said that they will probably have to postpone such programs as

vehicle maintenance until they know for sure enough funds are available to meet the costs.

Harrison estimates there will be \$12 million less available for investing, which means the county will lose an estimated \$750,000 in interest this year. There will also be \$6 million less in the general fund.

"I am keeping daily tabulation not only on the money coming in and being paid out," said Harrison, "but also on the types of payments. If I see a major deviation in the money, I can forewarn the county and the taxing districts."

Harrison said that all tax districts should watch their dollars closely because with less money coming in and less money available at the end, that they could overspend their limit. He said there is nothing his office can do except monitor the money flow and watch the economy.

Harrison said that with unemployment predicted to continue rising, both in Oregon and across the nation, that everyone will have to learn to live with less money. This includes the county and the various taxing districts.

After 23 years, teacher wouldn't leave school quietly

by GWEN BOGH
Post Correspondent

After 23 years at Boring School, Arlena Stallard was not about to leave quietly.

A singing gorilla, surprise parties, and visits by former students and old friends made her retirement festivities something to remember.

Over half of those at Boring School met in the cafeteria to surprise Stallard on her last day of teaching. She was on cafeteria duty that day when a singing gorilla approached her. Once Stallard realized that the gorilla was there for her benefit, and not the students', as she had thought, the parties began.

After the gorilla-hosted party in the cafeteria ended, Stallard was greeted by another party, comprised of immediate students and room mothers.

Nuts, cheeses and apple cider were served.

At the end of the school day Stallard was again surprised by the faculty. Cake and punch was served in the library, and former students, parents of children that had also been in her classes, were in attendance.

She was given a gold-plated bell from the staff, with "Love from the Boring Gang," inscribed.

Having three parties in one day might have been enough for some

people, but apparently her friends didn't think it was enough for Stallard.

The final party of the day was held at a neighbor's home, and it ended a day she will treasure and never forget.

In Stallard's 23 years of teaching, nearly 400 pupils had her for a teacher. She taught fourth grade at Boring School for all those years, except for one year, when the third and fourth grades were split.

There was a lapse in Stallard's career, when she did not teach for 13 years, solely for the purpose of raising her two children. Jerry is now 36, and Donna Jean is 41.

During the latter part of her time home with the children she worked at Providence Nursery.

At that time she decided she wanted to go back to teaching, but couldn't until she renewed her teaching certificate. That meant going back to school.

She spent many hours at night school, as well as summer school, to validate her certificate.

Originally, when Stallard went to college in the '40s, a two-year degree was all that was necessary because teachers were in great demand. She went to college at a private school in Tennessee. There she met her husband, Conrad Stallard. They were married in secret after a few months of courtship.

While Stallard had not yet graduated, her husband had. In fact, they were married on his graduation day.

The marriage remained secret for several months, until they rendezvoused at home during Christmas time and announced it.

The couple separated for a year while Mrs. Stallard finished school and Mr. Stallard taught in another city. They kept the marriage secret because they thought it might hamper Mrs. Stallard's chances of getting a teaching job—although it didn't.

Following graduation, Stallard taught for two years in Clintwood Virginia (her home town), and for one year in Baltimore.

After the Stallards had children and Mrs. Stallard resumed teaching again, her first, and last job, was at Boring School.

There for over 20 years, she worked under three principals, observed the construction of the Naas building, and watched the staff grow from the original four teachers to 28.

Reflecting on the change between 20 years ago and now, Stallard said, "There are so many people you can't be as close knit as you used to be." She said she enjoyed the "close knit" relationship, but added, "I wouldn't want to live back then now."

Stallard says she's very glad that she could teach at Boring and

says she wouldn't have considered changing jobs during her years there—even if she had been offered more money.

As a teacher, Stallard sees her students as part of a family. "The children become your children," she said. When asked if she had any favorites, she said she took an interest in all the children as if each were her own.

She is proud when she says that children have asked for her to be their teacher.

Stallard is thought of highly, not only by her students, but also by her associates. Jo Taylor, school superintendent, said, "She's a tremendous teacher. She's one of those teachers that are impossible to replace."

Members of the Boring PTA thought so highly of Stallard that Connie Reynolds, PTA president, presented her with a locket.

The chairman of the board also gave her a parting gift—a hand-painted plate.

Time with her husband, traveling, volunteer work and quilting are things that Stallard looks forward to in her retirement. "I want to be home for a while and then we'd like to fish and camp," she said.

They plan to travel to Arizona in a few months, pulling a trailer behind them.

While a quilt for her granddaughter is one of Stallard's future

projects, she also intends to do volunteer work as a foster grandmother at David Douglas High School for the Extreme Learning Program.

She has already talked with coordinators of the program, letting

them know that she is interested in volunteering.

But she says she won't be available until next fall. Her time now is being devoted to the most important person in her life—her husband.



Conrad and Arlena Stallard

Photo by Gwen Bogh