

should be carefully considered to provide the greatest benefit for all. It should not be used simply as a commodity for profit through speculation.

*Susan Tavakolian & Suzanne Boyd
Co-Presidents, LWV of Lane County*

MORE LIES AND LOGGING

Rep. Peter DeFazio's plan to privatize and liquidate half the federally managed O&C forest is really just a huge re-election gift to corporate timber without securing future old growth or future generations — a gift to the same corporations who are already allowed to export jobs and a third of Oregon's annual timber harvest while

paying a pittance in taxes.

Very little of the profit from logging the public's high-value O&C timber would return to the public. Most of it would go to the timber corporations who control our elected officials and, indirectly, the agencies. This latest giveaway of valuable public forest smacks of the Oregon land fraud scandal in the early 1900s. Subject of the famous *Looters of the Public Domain*, Oregon's elected officials granted millions of federal acres to some of the same timber companies returning for seconds and thirds today.

Greedy timber barons and their hirelings won't stop with half the O&C forests.

They'll peck away at the other half and then what's left of the high-value Forest Service forests. Oregon is the last stop in the timber industry's systematic looting of America's public domain. Will Oregonians wise up or continue to be duped and lose their great forest inheritance?

*Samantha Chirillo
Eugene*

LOSING PROPOSITION

Regarding "Goosed," Roy Keene's commentary (4/12) on one of the timber sales in McKenzie Bridge, there's another lesser known dark horse riding out of the Forest Service's McKenzie District stable:

the Horse Creek Timber Sale, of huge and equal or greater concern to the residents of Horse Creek Road, McKenzie Bridge and Lane County.

Log trucks are already pounding the pavement this spring, from the private sale that has clear-cut a large section of the north side of King Road and one has to wonder how this private company is making money on this sale considering the current price of gas and board feet. But, clearly, given the price the Forest Service finds acceptable, it's a losing proposition for everyone: Forest Service, taxpayers, local residents and not least, the trees.

A notice was sent out on May 19, 2011 announcing a 30-day review and comment period of the Horse Creek Sale, though where and who saw it is anyone's guess. I only discovered it recently while perusing the Save the McKenzie website.

The Horse Creek Project intends to cut 2,043 acres comprising 27 million board feet (another 7,000 trucks) and includes 940 acres of "heavy" commercial thinning.

Anyone who has had the good fortune and pleasure of exploring the Horse Creek drainage knows what an incredible place this is. When most of the pristine rainforests on the planet are being decimated on a daily basis, do we have an even greater responsibility to protect this amazing life sustaining forest intact.

*Lia Gladstone
McKenzie Bridge*

OCCUPY PARVIN

Developer Greg Demers has been in the news recently. Spend a little Google time and check out his track record. He has done well for himself: a lot of land and timber, property development and more, all quite legal of course.

Demers' methods of acquiring wealth are emblematic of those that gave rise to the Occupy Movement. The movement is relatively quiet now and many will prefer to dismiss it as a minor historical footnote. Perhaps the movement's original scale was too large. What if the Occupy movement focused on more local, more tangible issues like Parvin Butte, where state and local regulations have stopped working for a great many of the people whom they are supposed to serve?

*Kevin Reilly
Eugene*



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