



Public's Concerns Emphasized

Priest Lake Comprehensive Plan Drafted

Note: The following is an SPBA editorial analysis of the preliminary Priest Lake Comprehensive Plan.

The long-awaited preliminary Priest Lake Comprehensive Plan has been released and was reviewed jointly by the Priest Lake Advisory Committee, the county Planning and Zoning Commission and Bonner County commissioners on July 20.

Public review will follow on dates yet to be scheduled.

Fourteen elements were considered by the Priest Lake Advisory Committee during its year-long development process. Each one was discussed in detail by the 19 committee members; the plan reflects the group's con-

sensus opinion on the direction of the lake's future.

All Priest Lake area property owners were mailed a questionnaire last year asking for input on the plan. Respondents expressed a strong concern for protection of the area's natural environment and "sense of place." These concerns were incorporated in the preliminary plan through designated zoning standards.

Also included in the plan is recognition of the area's capacity to accommodate economic growth consistent with Priest Lake's high environmental and aesthetic values.

The plan pinpoints seven established resort communities and one commercial/urban community zoned to provide centralized but expanded commercial devel-

Continued on page 11.

Large Scale Development Plan Submitted for Huckleberry Bay

Don Barbieri of the Huckleberry Bay Co. (HBC), a subsidiary of Goodale and Barbieri Co. of Spokane, submitted a Large Scale Planned Unit Development Conceptual Plan to the Bonner County Department of Planning and Development on July 12.

The plan supplants an earlier, smaller development plan for the company's holdings at the lake.

The Bonner County Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) will conduct a hearing on the Large Scale Planned Unit Development proposal on August 24 at 7:30 p.m. The hearing will allow the developer to make a formal presentation to the P&Z commissioners. Public testimony will also be received.

Subsequent to last year's approval by the Bonner County Planning and Zoning commission for the Huckleberry Bay Co. to construct 35 homes at Sandy Shores on Huckleberry Bay, a second application to construct an 18-hole golf course nearby was denied.

The reason for denial was incompatibility with the current county comprehensive plan, which calls for protection of the

natural quality of Priest Lake.

Following denial of the golf course application, HBC submitted for approval its Large Scale Conceptual Plan providing for a service center, including:

- a Rural Service (Commercial) Center featuring (1) a marina; (2) a resort; (3) lodge; (4) restaurant; (5) store; (6) gas station; (7) boat launch; (8); fire station and (9) chapel.
- a nine-hole golf course
- 279 housing and dwelling units including 109 lakeside single-family units; 80 golf course single-family units and 90 condominium units at Huckleberry Bay and Canoe Point
- a Timber Mgt. Area

Directors of the Sekirk-Priest Basin Association have not yet had an opportunity to review the new Large Scale Concept but as previously expressed in SPBA's "Action Alert" of February 28, 1989, before any development takes place it must adhere to the goals and objectives

Continued on page 3.

INSIDE...

Special Reports:

Saying Goodbye to the Selkirk Grizzly?

The old monarch of the mountains makes a goal-line stand for survival.

Page 6

Forest Road Building

Lax enforcement of contractor's performance on Gold Creek impacts Upper Priest fisheries.

Page 8

Visual Quality Under Seige

State and federal land managers may take the "scenic" out of scenic Priest Lake.

Page 12

The Chairman's Message

A Year of Progress

It has been a year since our last issue of Sightlines and about 18 months since the formation of the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association. We have achieved many of our goals over the past year-and-a-half and this is a good time for reflection.

We can look back with a sense of pride in our accomplishments. Strong financial support from our membership and active involvement in response to issues combined with the actions of a hard-working and committed Board of Directors, has resulted in an enhanced level of environmental integrity for the Priest River basin.

Close scrutiny of the U.S. Forest Service by individual directors before SPBA was formally organized and since its inception has resulted in successful challenges of Forest Service timber planning activities. Modification of three timber sales, a complete withdrawal of a fourth and the protection of more than 800 acres of old growth forest in the Upper Priest River drainage are achievements of which members can be proud.

More significantly, these actions are, in part, responsible for the new direction being taken by the Priest Lake Ranger District (PLRD).

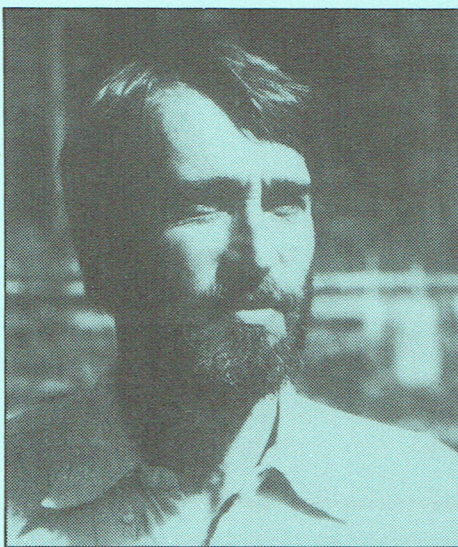
Negotiation is replacing confrontation.

Public input is now much more seriously considered. A Forest Service Sounding Board has been formed. And, the new management at the PLRD has begun to apply concepts of multiple-use in earnest.

The PLRD is currently taking an inventory of its timber base in order to manage the timber on a more realistic sustained yield basis. With the help of the Spokane Audubon Society and volunteers from other regional environmental groups, the PLRD is also taking inventory

of the amount of old growth timber remaining on the district.

Another major challenge has been



and will continue to be the development of Huckleberry Bay at Priest Lake. Under the leadership of directors David Hunt, Bill Egolf and Jules Gindraux, SPBA successfully organized an informational campaign which, with the exceptional response of our members, was influential in the Bonner County Planning and Zoning Commission's decision to deny a proposed golf course at the site.

The Huckleberry Bay Company has now submitted a "concept plan" which outlines its vision of the total development of the property. The Selkirk-Priest Basin Association and its members will review this concept and evaluate its effect on the natural character and environmental integrity of Priest Lake.

In addition, the new draft comprehensive plan for Priest Lake has been released by the Bonner County Department of Planning and Development. SPBA will

work to gain support for this plan from residents, businesses, and agencies which are involved in the management of Priest Lake's resources.

Directors and members of SPBA also are active on various committees: the USFS Priest Lake Sounding Board; the planning committee for the Priest Lake Comprehensive Plan; the Idaho Department of Water Resources-Priest River Advisory Group; the Idaho Lakes Association and the Priest Lake Self-Help Lake Monitoring Program.

Issues have dominated this past year leaving little time to deal with important organizational matters such as a membership drive and fundraising activities. The Board is committed to strengthening our organizational structure this coming year and, along those lines, will be looking for a full-time executive director in the months ahead. A strong patron donor program is part of the plan to provide funding for this position.

During these past 18 months, SPBA has established itself as a credible, viable organization. The challenge now is to sustain our momentum, increase our strength so that we can continue to provide the needed stewardship and work towards our goal of sensible resource management.

All this depends on you—our membership.

We encourage you to respond quickly and generously to the current membership renewal campaign and to help us recruit new members. To those of you who have not yet joined, we need your support.

We are established and positioned to meet future challenges and will do so with your help.

Onwards and Upwards.

Barry Rosenberg

Sightlines is a periodic publication of the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association, P.O. Box 181, Coolin, Idaho 83821; (208)-443-2529. Copyright © 1989 by SPBA: Barry Rosenberg, Chairman; William Egolf, Treasurer; David Boswell, Secretary. Directors: Bruce Brockway, Jules Gindraux, David Hunt, John Crane, Kate Batey. SPBA is a non-profit corporation providing environmental oversight and public information for the Priest River valley of northern Idaho. **Sightlines** Editorial Board: David Boswell, David Hunt. Contributors: Jules Gindraux, Bruce Brockway, Bill Egolf, John Salmon, Martha Lindquist. Third-class postage paid at Coolin, Idaho. Permit No. #2. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SPBA, P.O. Box 181, Coolin, Idaho 83821.

Would Be Largest Stand on IPNF

Upper Priest Lake Old Growth Protected

Idaho Panhandle National Forest officials, responding to formidable public opposition and the recommendations of a local advisory group—the Sounding Board—have temporarily withdrawn their recent proposal to clearcut nearly half of the remnant old growth forest within the Upper Priest South Management Area.

The proposal, part of the area's management plan, suggested clearcutting 10 percent of the area's old growth forest—not already protected—each decade for the next century. It met with early opposition from the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association which organized a campaign among its members and the public to oppose implementation.

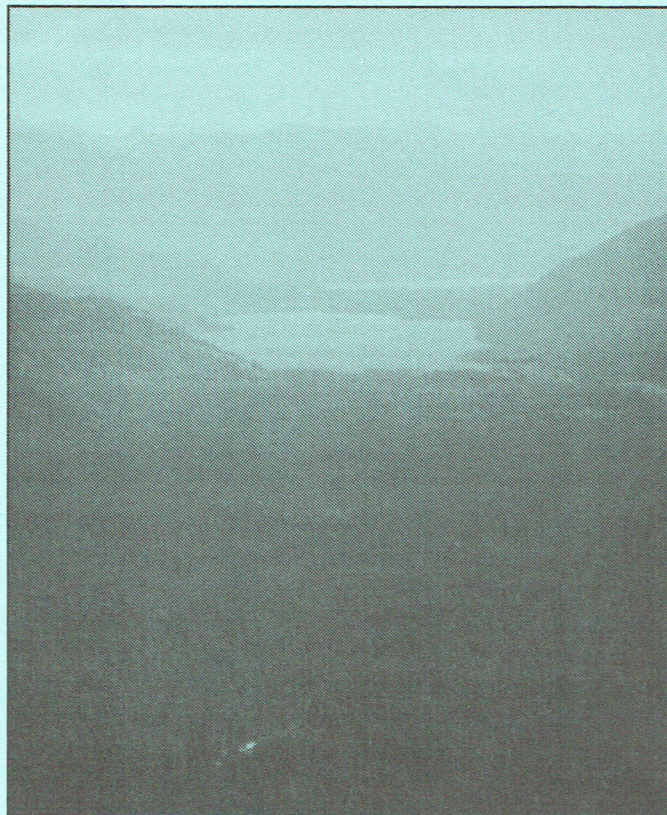
The result was an enormous outpouring of public sentiment in favor of protecting the remnant forest. Final tallies showed more than 85 percent of respondents wanted the old growth area preserved intact.

"This was the by far the largest public response to any single issue in the Priest Lake Ranger District," said Barry Rosenberg, SPBA's chairman.

"More than 500 letters and 1200 petition signatures were received by the District in response to this one proposal, the vast majority in favor of preserving this exceptionally rare resource.

SPBA also set up a special Old Growth Preservation Fund to finance the public awareness campaign.

Though its permanent status is uncertain, about 1300 acres of old growth forest straddling the Upper Priest River are currently under protection while Congress considers the suitability of the river environment for Wild and Scenic Rivers designation. Another 116 acres nearby is protected as part of the plan for recovering the endangered Selkirk Mountain Caribou. The balance of the forest, about 1038 acres, is what the management plan proposed for clearcutting and roadbuilding.



PROTECTED. Enormous public support helped save this remnant old-growth forest in the Upper Priest River drainage. The view is from Hughes Ridge. Upper Priest Lake in the background. (Photo: SPBA-D.Boswell).

Another Forest Service plan, the IPNF Forest Plan (presently under appeal by a coalition of conservation groups) called for

“... the resulting 2000-acre primeval forest would be the largest stand of its type on the Idaho Panhandle National Forests.”

retaining 10 percent of the total old growth acreage on the IPNF.

The timber industry likened the old growth forest to a cancerous scourge which, if left uncut, would jeopardize local jobs and sawmill profits.

"Many people don't realize you have to cut a tree to make a 2-by-4," said one industry representative in defense of clearcutting the old growth area.

But comments received by Priest Lake Ranger Al Collotzi indicated the public's overwhelming preference for retaining the recreational and aesthetic values offered by old growth forests despite industry's allegations.

Officially, however, the proposal has not been rejected, only deferred until the next IPNF planning period—in about 1996.

If all segments of the remnant old growth are permanently protected, the resulting 2000-acre primeval forest would be the largest stand of its type on the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. Still, that is less than 1/100th of one percent of the 2.5 million acres in the IPNF.

Old growth forests support a wide variety of rare and sensitive animal, plant and fish species, provide critical baseline data for research on forest management im-

pacts, preserve a delicate, complex biological diversity not found in managed forests and offer recreational opportunities unique to areas that retain them.

Development

Continued from front page.

of the county's comprehensive plan.

Readers are encouraged to stay informed and express their views to the Bonner County Commissioners (c/o Bonner County Courthouse, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864) with a copy to the Planning and Zoning Commission, 127 So. First St., Sandpoint, Idaho 83864).

Your attendance at a public hearing to be held on August 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the county courthouse in Sandpoint is also encouraged. See the Letter Drop for more information.

Dollars From Living Forests

According to university research, a single tree is worth \$196,250. A tree living for 50 years will generate \$31,250 worth of oxygen, provide \$62,000 worth of air pollution control, add \$31,250 worth of soil fertility and erosion control, recycle \$37,500 worth of water and provide habitat for animals worth \$31,250.

Klockman Diary Still Available

Several copies of the A.K. Klockman diary are still available from SPBA Information Services. Klockman chronicled life in the Upper Priest River country from 1920-1940. His diary makes fascinating reading. SPBA members will have first chance to purchase the 80-page, spiral-bound manuscript by sending \$17.95 to SPBA with a letter of request. Postage is prepaid. Non-members can order the dia-

"In the Wind...."

A compilation of the curious, the humorous, the noteworthy and other informational tidbits of interest to our readers.

ries for \$22.95, subject to prior sale. Don't put it off! Order now.

So What Else Is New?

Question: Which state's Senate delegation racked up the most votes against environmental legislation in 1988? Answer: Idaho. According to the League of Conservation Voters, Idaho's Steve Symms and Jim McLure won first place for the worst environmental voting record; neither voted in favor of any legislation viewed by the League as crucial to protecting the environment during the last congressional session.

Rhetorical Question?

An Edmonton, Alberta, Canada group called Canadians for Responsible Northern Development invited SPBA Chairman Barry Rosenberg to speak at a forum in July. The group is concerned about Alberta's plans to lease 100 percent of the province's available timberlands to eight pulp mills. Alberta has a policy of clearcutting its leased forests.

"You're setting yourselves up for a disaster," Rosenberg told attendants. One official of the Albert Forest Service, apparently worried about Rosenberg's expertise and influence, called the Priest Lake Ranger Station to inquire about him. Ever heard of Barry Rosenberg or the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association, he asked?

Thank You, Thank You, Karen!!

Volunteers mean a great deal to any group. The work they perform is essential. Words are often inadequate compensation for a volunteer's help but, sometimes that's all there is. SPBA member Karen Shill, who maintains the group's membership list (with a degree of organizational efficiency that boggles the directors' minds), deserves a heartfelt expression of gratitude from all of us. The words just don't seem adequate but we mean them sincerely—Thank you, Karen. You help make it all work.

A License to Steal

Investigators for the House Appropriations Committee reported to Congress that 95 percent of timber thefts in the Northwest's national forests go undiscovered. The report, Timber Thefts in the Pacific Region of the U.S. Forest Service, found that "so-called legitimate timber purchaser's" have moved timber sale boundaries, buried stumps of illegally cut trees, cut trees outside boundaries and otherwise defrauded the government of millions of dollars. Bid-rigging is still "very widespread," the report concludes, but the Forest Service has taken "only limited steps at instituting curbs." Several Forest Service rangers told investigators that timber sale procedures in the Northwest were a "license to steal."

VERBATIM

"Abuse of the existing appeals process has had a disastrous effect on some small communities dependent on the national forests for their economic well-being. It is imperative that the appeals process be revamped without delay."

—from a letter (blaming appeals for disruptions in timber supply) to USFS Chief Dale Robertson signed by Rep. Larry Craig (R-Idaho). (Oct. 1988)

"Consistent with our earlier findings...delays were not due to the appeals process...rather, they were due to underlying problems with the Forest Service analyses that did not meet all requirements."

—John Harmon of the General Accounting Office testifying before a congressional subcommittee after conducting research on the issue of appeals at Congress' request. (May 18, 1989).

THE LETTER DROP

What can SPBA members do? Here's a list of current issues along with the people and agencies involved with them to whom our membership can write. Express your views—be part of the solution. And SPBA will appreciate a copy of your letters for our information.

The Bonner County Planning and Zoning Commission voted 4-1 last month to deny a conditional use permit to the **Huckleberry Bay Co.** for construction of an 18-hole golf course at Priest Lake. The company has appealed denial of the permit to the **Bonner County Commissioners**. They're expected to decide the appeal soon (see the related article elsewhere in this issue). The Selkirk-Priest Basin Assc. has opposed the construction citing, among other things, nutrient leaching from golf course fertilization which could degrade Priest Lake's high water quality and the tax burden placed on local residents to pay for improvement of the road leading to the company's development on the lake's east side. The commissioners are accepting public comment on the issue. Write: Commissioners Dean Stevens, Jim McNall and/or Susan MacLeod, c/o Bonner County Courthouse, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864.

• • •

The **Idaho Department of Fish and Game** is contemplating a mandatory bear identification class for all hunters issued a black bear permit. The proposal is one of several being considered by IDFG as it wrestles with the crisis of illegal Selkirk grizzly bear killings (see the article elsewhere in this issue). Seven of an estimated 30 Selkirk grizzlies have been illegally shot in the last ten years. SPBA supports immediate implementation of the mandatory bear identification class, among other emergency measures, to educate hunters and prevent further grizzly losses. Comments should be directed to: Jerry M. Conley, Director, IDFG, 600 South Walnut Street, P.O. Box 25, Boise, Idaho 83707. Please also send your letters to: Washington Department of Wildlife, N. 8702 Division St., Spokane, Wa. 99218, and Dean Tresch, Special Agent, USFWS, US Courthouse Bldg., Room 207, Riverside Ave., Spokane, WA 99201

• • •

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare-Division of Environmental Quality is soliciting public input on Idaho's anti-degradation policies. A Water Quality Basin

Area meeting is being held July 25 in Coeur d'Alene to solicit public comment and to take nominations. The department will implement Idaho's new water quality agreement hammered out by the Governor's Negotiating Committee which, under the federal Clean Water Act, must be approved by the Environmental Protection Agency. Copies of the agreement are available from IDHW and comments on the policies outlined therein can be directed to: Mrs. Trish Klahr, IDHW-DEQ, 450 State St., Boise, Idaho 83720.

• • •

Spokane developer **Don Barbieri** has filed an application with Bonner County for

approval of a large scale development at **Huckleberry Bay** including 279 dwelling units (see article/analysis elsewhere in this issue of **Sightlines**). SPBA opposes the massive plan to develop the lake. Submit your comments to the Bonner County Commissioners, c/o Courthouse, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864 and the Planning and Zoning Commission, 127 S. First St. Sandpoint, Idaho 83864.

• • •

If you're concerned about scenic quality at Priest Lake, write: Bill Morden, Supervisor, IPNF, 1201 Ironwood Dr., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814.

County Denies Golf Course at Priest Lake

Heavy public opposition, concerns about pollutants entering Priest Lake and potential conflicts with a still-uncompleted Bonner County Comprehensive Plan were factors in the county Planning and Zoning Commission's decision on June 8 to refuse two permits for construction of an 18-hole golf course at Huckleberry Bay.

The decision, by a 4-1 vote, was a major setback for developer Don Barbieri's firm, the Huckleberry Bay Company (HBC), to develop its properties at the lake. HBC, however, has appealed the denial of its permits to the Bonner County Board of Commissioners.

In denying the permits, the commission also concluded that the golf course plan did not meet community design standards, failed to provide adequate empirical data demonstrating the environmental safety of the project, failed to adequately provide for public services to the course and that the East Shore Road was inadequate to handle the volume of traffic predicted by the plan.

Barbieri was previously granted permits to develop 35 residential lots on the site but indicated last year at a hearing on that permit request that he did not intend to propose either a large scale planned unit development or a golf course until the county's comprehensive plan was in place.

The permits that were denied June 8 had requested both.

Bill Egolf, treasurer of the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association, which fought the golf course applications, said SPBA's opposition was based on several concerns including: water quality degradation from runoff of fertilizers; burdening local taxpayers with the costs of resurfacing the East Side road to accommodate increased traffic and apparent conflicts with a public mandate to preserve the natural character of the lake.

Egolf cited last year's survey of public opinion conducted by the County Planning and Development Department.

"The response they got back indicated that 90 percent of the people were interested in preserving the rural character of the lake," he said. "That kind of development (Barbieri's plan) is just not consistent with the public's wishes or the current county plan."

In addition, Egolf said Barbieri's plan lacked the comprehensive perspective residents needed to make an informed decision.

"The company picked one part of the plan and proposed that for approval without disclosing the complete plan. They didn't come forward with the whole development scheme and they didn't tell us how they were going to do what they proposed—like how

Continued on page 13.

Poachers Push the Selkirk Mountain Grizzly to the Brink of Extinction

Unlike Africa's Mountain Gorilla, there's been no movie about the U.S. Selkirk Mountain grizzly bear.

There is no dedicated soul like Diane Fosse camped in the back country researching and educating the world to the bear's plight.

There is no hollywood superstar, no international publicity, no glitz, no glamour. But there are parallels between these two creatures living continents apart—they're both fighting for survival.

Like the gorillas, the Selkirk bear in the U.S. is on the brink of extermination. And like the gorillas, poaching is the problem.

It's not over for the Selkirk silvertip. Not yet.

But illegal killings have reduced its numbers so significantly that recovery to viable population levels has become questionable at best. The bell is tolling for this Selkirk monarch. Without an immediate end to the killings, its millenia-old presence in the Upper Priest River country will end—forever.

Currently, the number of grizzlies inhabiting the Selkirk Range is estimated at less than 20 animals, a critically small and endangered population. From 1983 to 1987, 11 Selkirk grizzlies were radio-collared for research purposes. Five of these research bears have been illegally killed.

Two other uncollared bears have been shot, one in 1979 and another in 1982. The number of bears killed but never found is unknown.

In one incident reminiscent of the brutal slaughter of Fosse's favorite gorilla, Digit, poachers baited a grizzly with a decaying horse carcass, waited in a protected blind and killed it as it came to the bait.

Grizzly bears in the Selkirk Mountains are native; they have never been transplanted here. They are one of the few remaining indigenous populations in the lower 48 states. The grizzly's range once spanned two-thirds of the continent. It survives now in only six isolated areas below Canada—one of them



VANISHING BREED. This large boar Selkirk Mtn. grizzly, shown foraging in a low-elevation meadow in the spring of 1986, was poached several months later. Officials estimate his kind will vanish within 10 years without an end to the killings. (Photo: SPBA-D.Boswell).

the U.S. Selkirks, where no known deaths or injuries from grizzly bear encounters has ever occurred.

That contrasts sharply with bears in U.S. National Parks where conditioning to man's presence has resulted in the bears'

“... in the U.S. Selkirks...no known deaths or injuries from grizzly bear encounters has ever occurred.”

losing fear and respect for man.

The difference is the Selkirk bear is still wild—a measure of the area's wildness.

If or when he disappears, the Selkirks will be less wild.

“It's a simple equation,” said SPBA Director David Hunt. “Where we have bears,

we have wildlands and where there are no bears we have lands less than truly wild. The wildness of the Selkirks is, in large measure, the presence of its grizzlies.”

There are natural impediments to recovery of grizzly bear populations. Low reproductive rates, late maturation and low cub survival rates impair the Selkirk bear's ability to recover its numbers. But it is man-caused mortality and habitat alteration that pose the greatest threats. Besides the poaching, excessive road densities, increased access and environmental disturbance reduce the grizzly's presence.

Can they be saved?

Congress has mandated that the bear be recovered and officials from Washington and Idaho are part of the interagency team that is digging in to save the bear. The agencies have the desire to save the dwindling population and recognize the bear is in imminent danger of extermination but resources are limited. So the question remains: Are we doing enough?

Idaho's strategy includes a proposed mandatory hunter education program, increased enforcement using temporary and volunteer services, sign postings in bear use

areas and seasonal road closures.

"The Selkirk-Priest Basin Association is extremely concerned about this situation," Hunt said.

"Long term survival and recovery must depend on more than seasonal road closures, signs and volunteer help. Idaho Fish and Game's mandatory identification classes for all black bear permittees is a good start but it's time to end spring hunting for good, pursue tougher criminal sentences and provide more funding for emergency enforcement and protection."

"These local agencies have the desire to save the bears and they've been as active

Continued on page 15.



FIRST—AND LAST? "Sy", the first radio-collared Selkirk Mtn. grizzly, a female, has survived since being tagged five years ago. Some of her cubs have not. She is one of only three known sows of breeding age in the Selkirk ecosystem. (Photo: U.S. Forest Service).

And They Named Her "Honey"

Note: The following article was written by Martha Lindquist, Director and teacher at the Snow Valley Academy.

On Thursday, June 1, we spotted the cub. She was on the road near the gate to our property on Moore Creek. She was so small, one of the kids thought it was a black cat. We sighted her three times that day—always alone.

A call to Don Carr, Conservation Officer with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, confirmed our suspicions. No mother black bear would allow a cub that young to be seen; she must be an orphan, Carr told us. Her only chance for survival was to catch her and feed her goat's milk until he could come to get her.

We had that chance on Friday morning.

My husband found the cub in the garage and was able to catch her as she tried to climb a tree. We put her in a cat carrier and took her to Snow Valley Academy where I teach. Several phone calls from the school produced goat's milk and a large dog kennel. The children came to school that day to find a baby bear on the front porch. They watched in awe as I fed her goat's milk from a bottle. They showed their respect and compassion for our visitor by being very still when she was out of her cage. They spoke in whispers. They named her Honey.

The hardest thing I had to teach that day was why Honey had no mother.

Honey's mother was a big black sow we had watched in our meadow every spring for more than ten years. Rarely would we catch

a glimpse of her new cubs, but every other year we could follow the growth of her family when we spotted her yearlings.

This year she was killed by a local hunter in the legal spring bear hunting season. An added insult was that this sow was shot as an entry in a contest at a local tavern. Thirty bears were killed for this event, each entrant hoping to win the prize—a rifle. How many were sows?



MOTHERLESS CUB. Teacher Martha Lindquist hugs the orphan black bear cub, Honey, before state officials transport her to a wildlife re-hab center. Honey's mother was killed during the spring bear hunt, touching off a flood of protest letters to IDFG Commissioner Dick Hansen. (Photo: courtesy M.Lindquist).

Honey's mother won the prize and was barbecued.

The hunting of sows with cubs is prohibited by law but often a hunter will not see the cubs because they have been trained by their mother to hide. It was reported that Honey had two siblings; one may have been picked up by a logger, the other was never found.

Spring bear hunting season was closed in the Priest River drainage from 1976-1986. It was re-opened with the stipulation

that neither hounds or baited traps be used. Why was it reopened?

We took care of Honey for four days. On Saturday, Don Carr said we could try feeding her dogfood and sliced apples with her goat's milk. Honey loved it and no longer had the patience for a bottle. She lapped up her food from a bowl.

The children of Snow Valley and I have a hard time understanding a hunting season that would allow the possibility of orphan cubs. A cub Honey's size, 12-18 pounds, cannot fend for itself. It will dehydrate quickly or starve and is easy prey for other animals.

Our questions led us to write Mr. Dick Hansen, the IDFG commissioner for our district. The children's letters reflected their anger and confusion. I asked Mr. Hansen to use his position to limit bear hunting to the fall season.

On Monday, Honey was again at Snow Valley Academy awaiting the arrival of Don Carr. The kids knew she would be leaving that day for the wildlife rehabilitation center near Hayden Lake. They knew she needed to be raised as wild as possible so that she could survive when returned to her natural habitat. They knew that, even though we cared so much for Honey, we couldn't provide for her as well as others.

That didn't make it any easier to see her go.

Don Carr will try to insure that Honey is released back into our area next spring. Perhaps some of the schoolchildren can be there when she's released. We hope that others feel as strongly as we do about eliminating the spring bear hunting season. We hope they will write IDFG.

We'd like to see Honey released into a somewhat saner world.

South Gold Road System Labeled "Disaster"

Last June 13, Selkirk-Priest Basin Association Chairman Barry Rosenberg and Director David Hunt toured the Hatchery Trail area with Priest Lake Ranger Al Collotzi and timber planner Lloyd Rentfro. The purpose of the tour was to decide whether the area should be released from roadless consideration and be brought under timber management.

Everything started out fine.

But when the group agreed to take Rosenberg's suggestion and look at the newly-constructed South Gold Road system nearby, things changed.

Roads built on highly erosive soils, which are predominant in the area, can result in excessive sedimentation which negatively impact fisheries habitat in the area's streams.

"And that is exactly what happened," Rosenberg said. "The roadbuilding project is a disaster; there is evidence that a great deal of sediment was transported into Gold Creek

and then most likely moved downstream to the Hughes Fork and Upper Priest River."

Bands of sediment up to 40 feet wide and 300 feet long were distributed in the woods below one newly-constructed road. At the crest of a hill above Gold Creek, piles of sediment up to a foot deep were found.

"The South Gold sale was designed and planned in 1981 when there was little attention paid to the multiple-use concept," Rosenberg said.

"Water quality and fisheries habitat were subservient to timber production

even when such important fishery streams as Gold Creek, Hughes Fork and the Upper River could be severely impacted," he added.

ported into affected streams," he concluded.

Rosenberg returned two days later and confirmed his initial assessment. He noticed

several road failures, one of which buried the outlet of a culvert at a live stream crossing.

Collotzi, concerned about the situation, quickly mobilized an interdisciplinary team composed of a fisheries biologist, hydrologist, wildlife biologist and road engineer. He instructed them to assess the damage and come up with a plan to mitigate the situation.

Meanwhile, Rosenberg put his concerns in a formal letter to Collotzi, sending copies to Idaho Panhandle National Forest Supervisor Bill Morden and Speaker of the House Tom Foley. The letter requested immediate action be taken to rectify the current and future situation—if any effective methods existed—and that funding be provided for the work.

Speaker Foley responded in a letter to Rosenberg that he had contacted appropriate officials at the Forest Service urging them to carefully consider Rosenberg's suggestions.

No written response from Ranger Collotzi had been received at press time but, in a conversation with Collotzi, Rosenberg was told that Morden visited the site and has committed funds for a mitigation project which, he said, is being designed.

SPBA is monitoring the situation.



FISHERIES DEGRADATION. SPBA Chairman Barry Rosenberg inspects a road failure on a steep cutbank in the Gold Creek Timber Sale area. Roadbuilding is the primary cause of fish- and egg-killing sediment. (Photo: SPBA-D.Hunt).

“...sediment was transported into Gold Creek and then ... to the Upper Priest River.”

“With all 259 acres of the sale being clearcut, the resultant water yields will most likely increase the amount of sediment trans-

State Outlines Parks Expansion at Priest Lake

Larry Townsend, director of Priest Lake State Parks, recently outlined to SPBA director David Hunt the \$4.7 million Idaho Parks and Recreation development/expansion plan.

That plan was developed to facilitate the goals of the Priest Lake State Parks, which includes: 1) providing a quality destination park of regional significance, 2) preserving the region's natural and historic heritage for the enjoyment of present and future generations, 3) fulfilling a portion of the state's recreation needs and 4) enhancing the regional economy.

The development plan addresses three campground units—Dickensheet, Indian Cr. and Lionhead. Significant changes will be made at each.

"These campgrounds are in public ownership and it is a comparatively clean industry," Townsend said.

"We recognize that Priest Lake can support a limited number of people but we feel that through increased efficiency and reduced impacts we can expand our Priest Lake units and simultaneously increase use."

The general direction of the plan is to phase out camping at the Dickensheet campground, expand Indian Creek campground as an RV facility and expand Lionhead campground as a tents-only facility.

At Indian Creek, a central sewer system will be installed and a new entrance station will be built. The present 92 campsites will be eradicated and the shoreline area will become a day-use area. As many as 190 new individual campsites will be established. Three group camps are also proposed, serving up to 50 tenters at one, 15 RV's at another, and 50 people at a third, dormitory-like, year round facility.

Proposals for the Lionhead campground include a new entrance station with living quarters and new vault toilets. But the major change is the addition of four group-camp areas serving between 45 and 69 people each. Two of these group camps would be dormitory facilities.

With the development of Priest Lake State Park comes the opportunity for many more people to recreate and enjoy Priest Lake.

Daily use of the East Shore road is

expected to increase as the four-phase plan is implemented. Idaho Parks and Recreation has continuously recommended that some type of arrangement—preferably paving—be worked out for maintenance or improvement of the seven miles of gravel road from Cavanaugh Bay to the Indian Creek unit.

SPBA is encouraged by the state's commitment to upgrade public recreational facilities at Priest Lake but is concerned about the lack of a public input process for a project of this magnitude and has scheduled a discussion of the situation at its next board meeting.

"We're Only Stewards of the Land"

Dr. Loel Fenwick and his wife, Olsen, own 400 acres on Priest Lake. It's a developer's dream.

But Loel Fenwick is not a developer; he's guided by a different vision—an extraordinary respect for life.

Loel is a retired obstetrician; he has brought many lives into the world. And nurturing life is his vision for the Priest Lake property.

He wants to create a natural reserve.

Loel grew up in the Zululand region of South Africa where his father administered several game preserves.

The appreciation he gained for wildlife as a young man growing up on African game preserves has grown into a personal environmental consciousness over the years.

After leaving South Africa, Loel came to America and completed an Ob-Gyn residency in Spokane. His professional experiences in the delivery room and his creative imagination led to the invention of the birthing chair. The success of that invention, among others, has allowed him to pursue his vision.

The Fenwicks' plans for a natural reserve include preserving the natural state of the land for the enjoyment of his family and the public and reversing the impacts from past logging practices (Diamond International owned the land previously). They also plan to build a home on the property.

But there's one primary objective to accomplish before their vision becomes reality.

The 400 acres is bisected by the Steamboat Bay Road. The reserve cannot be properly created or managed in two pieces.

To solve this problem, Loel has proposed building a new road, at his expense, around the perimeter of the reserve, deeding the new road to the county, and vacating the existing road. The existing road was originally a private road that has been maintained by the county.

Loel's plans for the reserve and new road appear to dovetail nicely with the desires of Priest Lake residents.

The recent Priest Lake questionnaire, designed to gauge the community's feelings about the direction of the lake's future, showed that an overwhelming number favored maintaining and preserving the lake's high natural and aesthetic values. Ninety percent of respondents thought it was important to preserve the lake's natural character.

The Fenwicks' commitment to recognizing, sustaining and restoring the natural qualities of Priest Lake reflect a deep philosophy toward the environment.

"We are only stewards of the land," Loel said.

Stream Segments of Concern Nominated

After years of contentious dispute, often exacerbated by the spectre of federal intervention, the state of Idaho finally has begun the process of implementing its own anti-degradation plan.

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Environmental Quality has completed a statewide series of Basin Area Meetings, each designed to identify streams and lakes of importance to Idaho residents in six designated drainage basins.

The last meeting, held July 25 in Coeur d'Alene, allowed private citizens of the Panhandle Basin to question officials involved in the process and submit their Stream Segments of Concern nominations.

IDHW's Ken Dunn presided as hearing officer at Coeur d'Alene.

Members and directors of SPBA nominated 10 segments.

If selected by the Governor's Technical Advisory Committee as deserving of special attention, the nominated segments would be afforded higher levels of protection against non-point source pollution (NPS).

The basic aim of the anti-degradation plan is to identify NPS pollution problems in the state—pollution from timber harvest activities, mining and agriculture—and establish Best Management Practices (BMPs) designed to preserve "beneficial uses" of water. Beneficial uses include drinking water supplies, irrigation, fisheries and recreational use, among others.

Implementation of the anti-degradation agreement, part of a Non-Point Source Assessment and a Non-Point Source Management Plan, is required under the federal Water Quality Act (formerly the Clean Water Act).

Without the state's own plan, EPA would impose one of its making on the state. Idaho narrowly avoided imposition of EPA's plan during the wrangling over a state plan.

As required by the federal act, Idaho's Non-Point Source Assessment has been completed. Relevant to the Selkirk Basin, the NPSA report concluded the following:

- Non-point sources pollute Idaho waters more than point sources.
- NPS have a "major impact" on Idaho waters.
- Logging activities are the most sig-

nificant NPS in the northern part of Idaho.

- 75 percent of the streams assessed in the Panhandle region are impacted by NPS.

- NPS in the Panhandle area has resulted in "widespread stream sedimentation" which kills aquatic insects and fish.

"Although I'm pleased with the creation of an anti-degradation plan, its apparent weaknesses are cause for concern," SPBA Chairman Barry Rosenberg said.

"It doesn't address the treatment of tributaries of the selected streams, does not guarantee that all selected streams will be monitored, nor does it provide safeguards to non-selected streams other than BMPs, which are not site-specific and whose application has not been proved to maintain or enhance water quality."

Those streams nominated by individuals representing SPBA include: Trapper Cr.; Floss Cr.; Granite Cr.; Lion Cr.; Two Mouth Cr.; Indian Cr.; Horton Cr.; Hunt Cr. and the Upper Priest River. In addition, SPBA nominated Upper Priest Lake and Priest Lake for special designation as "Outstanding Resource Waters".

But nominations alone do not guarantee selection or enhanced levels of protection.

Dunn explained that the Advisory

Committee will review each nomination and will select nominated segments "by consensus." Asked what criteria the committee would use for the selection process, he replied that no criteria have been established.

"It's purposefully vague because no one has gone through this process before," he said.

He defined "consensus" as unanimous agreement. If any of the numerous committee members—representatives of mining, timber, farming and environmental groups—oppose selection (or rejection) of a nominated segment, the decision will go to Idaho Governor Cecil Andrus for final resolution.

The Water Quality Bureau of IDHW's Division of Environmental Quality acknowledged in its status report for the Panhandle Basin that the upper reaches of the Priest River and tributaries of Priest Lake are impacted by forest practice activities and that salmonid (trout) spawning is "potentially at risk."

"Sediment and nutrients are the primary pollutants," the report states.

Lamb Creek, Binarch Creek and the East River were singled out as having pollutant levels which would not support, or only partially support, trout spawning and cold water biota.

SPBA Offers Film Segment to IDFG

A 20-minute 8mm motion picture of a large boar Selkirk grizzly bear, made by the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association, has been offered to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game as part of its proposed bear identification program.

SPBA Director David Boswell, who filmed the bear at 200 yards chasing Columbia Ground Squirrels and foraging through a low-elevation meadow, said the group is making the offer as a gesture of its support for mandatory bear identification classes.

If adopted and implemented, the classes could help reduce alarming levels of grizzly bear killings in the U.S. Selkirk Mountains.

"We don't have any idea what kind of program the department plans but we thought the film might be helpful if they intend to

show hunters actual situations of a Selkirk bear in its natural habitat doing what grizzlies bears do," Boswell said.

"The film could be spliced into a training film which requires those attending the classes to make quick identifications and spot decisions about whether its a black bear or not, or whether to shoot or not," he added.

Boswell said the offer will be presented as a supplement to the group's testimony before the IDFG Commission made on July 25, 1989 in Sandpoint.

At that hearing, SPBA expressed its concerns about the bear and presented the commission with its 7-point plan to stem illegal mortalities.

The group recommended immediate action to save the bear from what it called "acute danger of imminent extirpation" and is asking all those concerned to write IDFG supporting its plan to halt the killings.

Addresses are listed in the Letter Drop.

Successful Appeals Reducing Impacts

Concern for environmental impacts prompted Barry Rosenberg and David Boswell, directors of the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association, to intervene in the administration of two Priest Lake District timber sales, resulting in dramatic modifications to both.

The Pelke-West Branch Sale, scheduled to produce 3.2 million board feet from the Upper West Branch drainage, was officially modified in March to reduce harvest volume by 70 percent. Rosenberg appealed the sale citing potential adverse impacts to salmonid spawning habitat and excessive sedimentation.

IPNF timber sale officials ultimately agreed with SPBA's appeal arguments regarding the impacts and lowered volumes to accommodate other resource values.

"The battle to make timber harvest

“... appellants unearthed evidence of document destruction (and) manipulation of computer model data...”

projects in the Selkirk Basin conform to multiple-use concerns is a long way from over but our constant vigilance and readiness to act where injurious sales are indicated is paying off.” Barry Rosenberg, chairman of SPBA, said.

A second sale, the Butch Creek Timber Sale, was completely withdrawn from the harvest schedule in May.

On that project, SPBA chairman Rosenberg and director David Boswell plodded through the entire administrative appeal process for two-and-a-half years before prevailing on their petition for cancellation.

The sale, in the Lower West Branch drainage, was scheduled to yield 10 million board feet of timber from an area which computer models showed to be in a severe state of degradation.

In the course of 30 months of the appeal, the appellants unearthed evidence of document destruction, manipulation of computer model data, renunciation of established IPNF guidelines and agency reliance on erroneous scientific theory. The evidence

indicated violations of federal law.

“These appeals took a lot of time and nobody likes to wade through them but we think our points have been made,” Boswell said.

“The new management at Priest

Lake appears to have responded positively by giving other forest resource concerns more consideration in their timber management activities,” he added.

Comprehensive Plan

Continued from page 1.

opment for increasing public needs.

The concept is designed to preclude scattered commercial development in areas where natural values are high while providing adequate services for the entire Priest Lake community.

SPBA Director Jules Gindraux, a member of the drafting committee, praised the plan.

“The plan has been thoughtfully constructed to meet the long-term needs of the lake and the people who value it,” he said. “It took a year’s arduous study and it’s a damn good plan.”

But not all members of the drafting committee are pleased.

Committeeman Ray Greene, Idaho Department of Lands Priest Lake Area Supervisor, in a terse letter to Bonner County commissioners and planning officials, objected to the plan’s land designations for “no commercial development” in specific areas where his agency conducts timber harvests.

Greene, citing the Idaho Constitution, asserted that restrictive zoning would severely limit the potential income of the state public school endowment and that the plan’s recommended designations were violative of section 67-6528 of the 1975 Local Planning Act.

He admonished the commissioners to “be very careful” when zoning private lands, asking them pointedly in his letter if they were willing to pay for any losses to the endowment fund resulting from adverse zoning regulations.

Greene also objected to the public input process used in gauging public sentiment about the lake’s future asserting that 75 percent of the responses to the county’s questionnaire were non-residents.

“This type of input is an insult to the residents of the State of Idaho,” he wrote, adding that it created a biased approach to

land use planning.

But Ron Campbell, Associate Bonner County Planner, disputed Greene’s analysis of the public input process.

“Regardless of where they lived, whether year-around or seasonal residents, the opinions were generally the same,” he said. “It’s a pretty overwhelming response; I’m real comfortable with the profile of the community we have.”

Barring any litigation, Campbell indicated the plan could be adopted within two months. But he added that litigation appeared almost certain.

The Priest Lake plan was the first chosen as part of the Bonner County Comprehensive Plan because of the sensitive nature of the area. It will serve as a model for future segments of the county’s overall plan.

Although the current comprehensive plan generally recognizes the importance of protecting Priest Lake’s unique high quality, there is a need for more specific goals and objectives reflecting the public’s mandate for protecting the lake’s natural character, water quality, wildlife, recreational opportunities, community character, local economy, cultural resources and overall sense of place.

The draft of the new comprehensive plan has been thoroughly and responsibly developed to provide for the long term protection of these qualities. It is hoped that the essence of its intent will be left intact at final approval.

There will be public hearings—yet unannounced—for public input. Your attendance at the meeting or written comments in support of the plan will contribute to its approval.

Please address your comments to :
Bonner County Commissioners
c/o Bonner County Courthouse
Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

Visual Quality Guidelines Lowered

Note: The following is an SPBA editorial analysis of visual quality in the Priest River Basin.

Man does not live by bread alone.

Federal environmental laws recognize the importance of this old maxim by mandating forest managers to conduct harvest activities on public lands in a manner that preserves the aesthetic, natural and cultural aspects of our national heritage.

Forest planners have their own term for it—the visual resource—but most people call it scenic quality.

And it's forgotten status as a management concern is quickly disappearing. It's waking up. And it's shaping up as one of the most controversial forest issues, especially in the Priest River Basin where unsightly clearcuts have been appearing recently along highways and lakeshores.

Seen any lately?

Well, get ready for a lot more!

Standards for managing the visual resource on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest have been quietly eviscerated over the past few years. Planners apparently couldn't find a way to meet the visual quality objectives (VQOs) established in 1980 (under the National Forest Management Act's mandate to inventory all resources) and still meet timber harvest volumes.

So they gutted them.

The so-called 1980 "benchmark" VQOs were supposed to reflect the public's visual expectation—a measurement of what people desired and preferred in scenic quality. But planners did not include the public when benchmark VQOs were established on the IPNF. Instead, they decided for the public.

Then, in 1986, they apparently decided that the benchmarks were a bit too rigid for timber cutting purposes. So they changed the criteria. This time planners arbitrarily lowered the public's concern for scenic quality (the sensitivity level) and lumped a few VQOs together to ease the constraints on timber harvest.

The result? Protection of scenic quality on about half the Kaniksu National Forest has been almost completely removed. And even where it hasn't been,

managers seem indifferent about following guidelines.

Take for example Unit 15 on the East Lamb Timber Sale. Here, on Binarch Mountain along the Priest Lake Highway, a Partial Retention zone has been established. This objective calls for management activities to remain "visually subordinate" to the landscape. The practical translation: harvest activities should relate to the surrounding forest. Clearcutting is virtually prohibited.

The least restrictive zone, Maximum Modification, allows management practices—usually clearcuts—to dominate the landscape but they're prohibited if they can be seen from a highway.

Clearcuts viewed from highways, then, are not consistent with any standard of scenic quality contemplated by the federal regulations.

So what's happened here? Good ques-

tion.

SPBA wrote a letter to officials at the Priest Lake Station several weeks ago asking for an explanation. At press time no reply had been received.

On the state side of the Priest Lake, the situation is worse.

The Coolin Mountain Sale is a case in point. Despite direct visibility from Priest Lake's most populous community, the state harvested most of the timber. Much of what was left blew over and was harvested later leaving the north slope of the mountain visibly scarred.

If federal guidelines for visual management of the area were applied, Coolin Mountain would be classified as a Retention zone, where harvest activities are not permitted to be "visually evident". Translation: if any harvest takes place at all it's not to be



SCENIC PRIEST LAKE I. Visible harvest scarring and roadcuts on Coolin Mountain greet residents' and visitors' eyes at Priest Lake's most populous community, Coolin. The state of Idaho asserts it has no charge to manage its lands for aesthetic or scenic values. (Photo: SPBA-D.Hunt).

seen.

The state, however, has no visual management system and does not apply federal standards.

The Selkirk-Priest Basin Association monitors the condition of scenic quality on both state and federal lands around Priest Lake.

The pressing question seems to be: When will the public's sense of shock and outrage set in?

Members have already complained about the East Lamb and Coolin Mountain sales and the group's directors have asked officials for an explanation. SPBA also wrote a detailed analysis of existing concerns with visual resource planning for the IPNF Forest Plan appeal.

The best medicine, says David Boswell, a director of the group, is direct correspondence with the responsible officials.

"Politicians and managers respond to letters from concerned citizens; that fact was amply demonstrated by the enormous response we generated to the Upper Priest old growth issue which resulted in protection of the resource," he said.

"If people value scenic quality, the best thing to do is say so in a letter to those in the responsible position. Without people's express concerns, more unsightly harvests in sensitive viewing areas are a virtual certainty."

For the convenience of SPBA members and our readers, the names and addresses of these officials are listed in the The Letter Drop elsewhere in this issue of Sightlines.

Tax-Deductible Status Given SPBA

The U.S. Internal Revenue Service has notified the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association that its application for status as a tax-deductible, charitable organization has been accepted.

All contributions to SPBA are deductible on the donor's personal income taxes retroactive to December 21, 1987.

The state of Idaho granted the organization tax-deductible status when it became chartered on the same date.

Contributors are urged to consult with their tax advisors regarding requirements for itemized tax deductions on personal income tax forms.



SCENIC PRIEST LAKE II. The bald spot in the middle of this picture is Unit 15 on the East Lamb Timber Sale. Golfers view this clearcut from the first tee at Priest Lake Golf Course. Unit 15 is also visible from Highway 57, just beyond the powerlines in the background. More cuts are slated in this foreground viewing area. (Photo: SPBA D.Boswell).

Golf Course

Continued from page 5.

they were going to pay for improvements to the East Shore Road," he said.

"They didn't specify how these problems were going to be addressed. We objected to that."

Following denial of the permits, Barbieri filed a Large Scale Planned Unit Development Conceptual Plan with the county (see related articles elsewhere in this issue of Sightlines).

That plan purports to address SPBA's concerns that the first plan failed to adequately reveal the developer's ultimate development goals.

But Egolf said there are still unanswered questions.

"I understand that they've filed for a more comprehensive planned unit development but that it only addresses about half of the company's property," he said.

"SPBA will certainly take a hard look at it but I don't want to speculate on its deficiencies until I've had a chance to review it thoroughly."

"I would, however, encourage all those with an opinion to express it to county officials because this issue is a long way from settled," he added.

The names and addresses of those officials can be found in "The Letter Drop" on page 5.

Upgrading your computer?

**Why not donate your old equipment to SPBA.
Help the organization and get a tax deduction too!**

We need:

- CPU
- Monitor
- Keyboard
- Letter Quality Printer
- Hard Disk
- Software

Contact:

Barry Rosenberg 208-443-2529
or Dave Boswell 509-448-3020

Hazardous Waste Dump Revealed at Priest Lake Station

Forest Service officials at Priest Lake buried hazardous chemical compounds in the "boneyard" at the District Station and, nearly ten years after the dumping, the Environmental Protection Agency has ordered a cleanup.

The compounds, di-methyl arsenic acid and cacodylic acid, are the active ingredients in Silvator, a chemical agent formerly used to thin second-growth forests. They are listed as hazardous substances by EPA.

Silvator was applied using a hypo-hatchet, an instrument which injects deadly compounds into the cambium layer of trees when an operator strikes it.

Investigators say they expect to find several of the hatchets, a metal 55-gallon drum of Silvator and another 150 gallons of the compound in plastic, quart containers when they excavate the site sometime next year.

The "boneyard", at the north end of the station, abuts Kalispell Creek. Officials will not know if the substances have contaminated the creek until the site is uncovered but tests of the station's drinking water supply—from a deep well—have been conducted.

The results of those tests were not known at press time.

If the compounds have leaked, cleanup efforts would be expanded to include removal and disposal of the contaminated soils around the dump.

Discovery of the dump was made following inquiries by the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association, which had received numerous, unconfirmed reports of the burial last year.

According to those reports, workers were in frequent contact with the compounds and were not provided protective clothing. The Forest Service sent the workers to Yakima for regular testing and, when unacceptably high levels of the compound were detected in their bloodstreams, the chemical thinning program was abandoned. The compounds were then stored in the paint shed at the Priest Lake Station until the order to dispose of them was handed down.

Initially, Bismark Meadows was selected as a disposal site but workers refused to bury the substances there when water streamed into the burial pit. The next hole was dug at the boneyard.

According to USFS Environmental

Engineer Ed Kuetyer, a Preliminary Assessment of the dumpsite will be made by June 1, 1990. Part of that assessment will include soil sampling to determine if leaks have occurred.

Idaho Panhandle National Forests Supervisor Bill Morden said his office either never had records regarding the use and disposal of Silvator or the records have been destroyed.

"We don't have records here referring to activities of 15-20 years ago for these forests," he wrote in reply to a May 1989 SPBA inquiry.

But Kuetyer, who is coordinating

the cleanup for the USFS, said the dumping occurred about nine years ago.

"Nothing has been removed yet but the information I have is that it occurred in 1979 or 1980," he said.

Regulations for disposal of hazardous materials were significantly tightened in 1980 when the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act was passed. If the dump occurred after passage of the act, severe penalties could be imposed on violators by EPA.

Officials from EPA's Boise office and from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Environmental Quality will also be involved in the cleanup effort.

Priest Lake Watchdog Group Cites Pollution Sources

Note: This report was filed by R.G. Wright of the Priest Lake Self-Help Lake Monitoring Program.

When Priest Lake residents look for pollution sources in their lake, they need to look beyond the obvious activities along the shoreline.

In many cases activities occurring upstream from the lake are just as significant, or even more so, than those occurring at the lakeshore.

Proper and thorough protection requires examination of the entire watershed.

A lake's watershed is the area surrounding the lake which drains into it. Pollution can enter directly from the shoreline or by travelling down an inlet stream

Phosphorous, the most common form

of nutrient enrichment, is often found in association with human and animal wastes and fertilizers. It clings to soil particles which, when eroded, wash into the lake contributing to pollution. This form of pollution usually occurs indirectly—from activities beyond the lakeshore but within the lake's watershed.

Pollution is the result of cumulative impacts, however. Often, no single source—either direct or indirect—can be identified as the major cause of pollution.

The responsibility for maintaining water quality rests with individual property owners and commercial interests conducting activities within the lake's watershed.

Sooner or later, irresponsible conduct within a lake's entire watershed adversely impacts water quality.

Are You Polluting Priest Lake?

Direct Pollution sources

- improperly maintained or installed septic systems
- shoreline erosion
- erosion from shoreline construction
- lawn fertilizer
- bathing with soaps in the lake
- beach fire charcoal

Indirect Pollution sources

- agricultural runoff
- streambank erosion
- dirt road erosion
- effluent from waste water treatment facilities or industry
- faulty septic systems

SPBA In the News

Huckleberry Bay appeal Tuesday

By PAM NEWBERN
Staff writer

An appeal on a proposed Priest Lake development will focus on lot size and the placement of the area, said Lorin Morgan, Bonner County Commissioner.

SPBA discusses Lower Lime area and seeks input for management

While controversy mounts over Bonner County's proposed use of herbicides to control roadside noxious weeds, the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association (SPBA) is concerned over the apparent lack of public awareness of another program proposed by the U.S. Forest Service which also includes the use of herbicides to control noxious weeds, according to Jim Martin, a spokesman on herbicide issues for the SPBA.

"The SPBA is not convinced that the use of toxic herbicides are necessary to control the noxious weed situation."

—Jim Martin

The association feels that the Service has not made a sufficient effort to inform the public of its program.

According to the plan, the Priest Lake Ranger District will have more acres treated with herbicides than any other district in the Panhandle forests, Martin said. Of the 174 acres scheduled for treatment in the Priest Lake District, 122 acres will be treated with herbicides, while 50 acres will receive biological methods.

"This contrasts with the combined figures from the Bonner, Ferry and Sandpoint Ranger Districts," Martin said. "In those districts, 22 acres are slated for herbicide application, while 122 acres of weeds will be removed biologically."

Martin, a Nordranger, expressed his concern over the cumulative effects of herbicide use on the area's residents and its residents' use of the area.

UPPER PRIEST LAKE, Idaho — Barry Rosen, chairman of the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association, looked down from Hughes Ridge to a mile-wide valley with ancient trees at the northern end of Upper Priest Lake.

Despite the blue autumn sky and vivid blazes of orange and yellow aspens and maples in the surrounding mountains, Rosenberg came here Saturday not to backpack or sightsee, but to fight.

The battle: a recent U.S. Forest Service proposal to manage the Upper Priest Lake area which calls for clearcutting 10 percent of these ancient forests.

"In 100 years, this area will be a wasteland," Rosenberg said.

He has fought timber companies numerous times and has having potential blocked or scaled.

He is appalled by the "world's largest and the 100,000-acre" project, he said. "I can't conceive you're going to do that damage cause vast project," said Rosenberg in an interview Thursday.

Rosenberg said policy of clear-cut logging is not the answer.

Chairman of Selkirk association says media was not involved

the public of the U.S. Forest Service proposal. This was particularly important since the Forest Service said it would consider publishing their draft Forest Service put were le

appointed they would go out on their own when

Priest Lake talks bring agreement

Developer, opponents reach terms on subdivision to avoid a deadlock

By Dean Miller
Staff writer

SANDPOINT
Spokane Falls
Priest Lake

was we were getting in a situation, Horner was a lot of miscommunication and lack of trust on

By Marilyn Cork
Staff writer

Barry Rosenberg called

claims, him a 'talent' doesn't

method of financing the road improvement. Bonner County needs a specific plan from HBC which describes a committed source of financing the road improvement project. Are the local residents willing to provide the road improvement?

ayers would be by providing a developer reimbursement.

development the Co carefully d data w and ref record c eration e of th with

out d ef

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

of the old

Group wants permanent protection of Upper Priest old growth stand

Selkirk-Priest Basin Association Chairman Barry Rosenberg said he is pleased with the decision of the U.S. Forest Service not to consider cutting old growth forest in the Upper Priest River drainage preferred management plan.

Within weeks of the release of that document, over 550 letters and 250 petition signatures were sent to the Lake Ranger District.

stopped, we won't have a population," Hunt said.

"And in the final analysis," he adds, "whether the bear survives will be a matter of whether the people want it to."

He urged those concerned to write officials expressing their support for increased protection.

The names and addresses of those officials are published in *The Letter Drop*, on page 5 of this newsletter.

Alta. forestry plans scare Americans

By SCOTT MCKEEN
Journal Staff Writer

What he's seen of Alberta so far scares U.S. environmentalist Barry Rosenberg.

The Priest Lake, Idaho, resident can't believe the massive push the province is making into forestry development.

And he doesn't want to believe Albertans are willing to stand back and let it happen.

"I don't know if Albertans are willing to pay the price for this, or if they know they have to pay a price," said Rosenberg.

He was in Edmonton Thursday



He has fought timber companies numerous times and has having potential blocked or scaled.

He is appalled by the "world's largest and the 100,000-acre" project, he said. "I can't conceive you're going to do that damage cause vast project," said Rosenberg in an interview Thursday.

Rosenberg said policy of clear-cut logging is not the answer.

He has fought timber companies numerous times and has having potential blocked or scaled.

He is appalled by the "world's largest and the 100,000-acre" project, he said. "I can't conceive you're going to do that damage cause vast project," said Rosenberg in an interview Thursday.

Rosenberg said policy of clear-cut logging is not the answer.

He has fought timber companies numerous times and has having potential blocked or scaled.

He is appalled by the "world's largest and the 100,000-acre" project, he said. "I can't conceive you're going to do that damage cause vast project," said Rosenberg in an interview Thursday.

Rosenberg said policy of clear-cut logging is not the answer.

He has fought timber companies numerous times and has having potential blocked or scaled.

He is appalled by the "world's largest and the 100,000-acre" project, he said. "I can't conceive you're going to do that damage cause vast project," said Rosenberg in an interview Thursday.

Rosenberg said policy of clear-cut logging is not the answer.

He has fought timber companies numerous times and has having potential blocked or scaled.

He is appalled by the "world's largest and the 100,000-acre" project, he said. "I can't conceive you're going to do that damage cause vast project," said Rosenberg in an interview Thursday.

Rosenberg said policy of clear-cut logging is not the answer.

Grizzlies

Continued from page 7.

as they can be working with the resources they have. They know the situation is acute but they're having to rely on signs and volunteers; they don't have enough dedicated funds."

Hunt's apprehensions are underscored by some particularly illuminating statistics that have emerged from research conducted over the past five years:

- all five of the 11 radio-collared grizzlies found dead in the Selkirk Basin have been killed by illegal shootings—none died of other causes.
- only three females of breeding age are known to exist.
- human-induced mortality in the U.S. Selkirks is higher than in any other grizzly bear ecosystem.

"I know this: if illegal shootings aren't

SPBA needs you to support our efforts by becoming a voting member or contributor.

Our newsletter, funded entirely by membership contributions, keeps you informed of natural resource issues within the Priest River basin area and offers regular updates on the efforts SPBA has undertaken to promote sensible resource management. The environment belongs to us all and we belong to it. The environment gives to us all; now is the time to give something back.

Make a contribution; keep **Sightlines** coming regularly and keep abreast of the conservation and environmental issues that concern you.

Enroll me as a member of the Selkirk-Priest Basin Association.
Enclosed are my annual membership dues as checked below.

	Individual dues	Joint Dues
Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00
Senior or Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00	

To help more, I'm enclosing an additional contribution of:

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$ _____

Mail your dues and contributions to: SPBA, P.O. Box 181, Coolin, Idaho 83821

Dues and Contributions are Tax-Deductible

Mailing lists maintained by courtesy of Roy's Electronic Service, Coolin, Idaho.

Selkirk-Priest Basin Assc.
P.O. Box 181
Coolin, Idaho 83821

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit#2
Coolin, Id.