

NORTHWEST OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION
NOWA FIELD NOTES

NOWA NEWS SEPTEMBER 2014



The Palouse, WA, Keith Szafranski photo

NOWA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH
JOB OPENING
CRAFT IMPROVEMENT
MEMBER NEWS
SUPPORTING MEMBER NEWS

NORTHWEST OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION

NOWA News September 2014

www.northwest-outdoor-writers-association.org

Nowa Newsletter Editor

Chuck Robbins
199 Antelope Dr.
Dillon, MT 59725
Phone: 406-683-9785
Email: crobb@bresnan.net

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Nowa Headquarters

Kyla Merwin
Executive Director
NW Outdoor Writers Association
P.O. Box 2625
Wenatchee, WA 98807
541-815-1010
nowa@kmc-media.com



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



...Michel Herzen photo

IN LOVE WITH THE IMAGE

Ever since I've been in the imaging business, whether it be engineering based or communications related, I've been using what is now called *standard-definition* imaging equipment. It was not that long ago I first heard the term *high-definition*. Of course it was related to the new broadcast television standards.

It took over ten years for these new standards to be ironed out, but when it was, there was revolution in the field of television broadcasting and video production. Even when I retired from State University of New York in 2003, standard-def was still the norm. However now, to stay competitive in this field, adoption of these new standards, as well as related equipment acquisitions, is absolutely necessary.

The same occurred in the area of still photography. To be competitive, one currently needs at least a 12 megapixel digital SLR with RAW capability. Not that not having these capabilities precludes great, good, or even usable images; it is now expected.

So, here we are, in the age of high-def / 4K video and full 35mm video and still image sensors. Has content changed? Not really. Ansell Adams certainly shot some unbelievably beautiful nature images on black & white film with what is presently considered an antique camera. Arther "WeeGee" Fellig took some fantastic human interest photographs with an old Speed Graphic cut-film camera. And who can argue with the important films captured on the "old technology" of Orson Wells, Alfred Hitchcock, and Fritz Lang?

My point...it is not the equipment. Mind you, I have the latest and greatest; well, at least within one generation. But it is the mind of the person behind the viewfinder that makes the image great. Learn about the craft. Never stop experimenting and exploring. Never stop being in love with the image. Selling is an afterthought... it is just a possible (and good) consequence of the creative processes and outcomes.



...Greg Gulbrandsen



...Imperial Bull Bugling, Keith Szafranski photo

NOWA Website: Members Only

Our webmaster, Scott Richmond, has added a "Members Only" section to NOWA's Website. The user name is NOWA and the password is bradner. You will find archives of NOWA's newsletter in the Members Only section at this link: <http://www.northwest-outdoor-writers-association.org/memberOnly/memberOnly.php>

The password will change on an annual basis, and you will be sent the new password each year with your renewal.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE & JOB DESCRIPTION

THANK YOU

I've been avoiding the writing of this letter for a few weeks now. I have news: I've been offered a full-time position in Portland, Oregon as the e-commerce and marketing manager for Pacific Recreational Products. So I will be turning over the role and privilege of NOWA's executive directorship to someone else by the end of this year. Sigh. That wasn't easy to say.

Looking back over the past two years, I see many things completed that I feel good about, but so many more left undone.

Looking forward, I appeal to our membership to increase your involvement as NOWA takes yet another leap into the future. If you're not already on one of NOWA's committees, please join one. (You'll find a complete list of committees, goals and volunteer job descriptions in the Membership Directory). You don't have to be a board member to do valuable committee work.

Speaking of the Membership Directory, you will receive an email version and hard copy in the mail before the end of September. It was my hope to have the Directory in your hands by now, but recent changes came swift and all consuming.

In very, very good news: The Outdoor Writers Association of California has opened the doors of their annual conference to all NOWA members – for the OWAC membership price (\$125 including lodging). The conference will take place this year at the Howonquet Lodge in Smith River, California – less than ten minutes from the Oregon border and near the Pacific Coast. This event is coming up fast – September 14-16, so you'll have to make your plans right away. The total price of the conference – including events, workshops and two night's lodging is \$125. Register for the conference online here: <http://owac.org/conference-registration/>

As I wrap up this letter, my thanks go out to my personal cheering squad, who were supportive and encouraging when I took over the reigns of this position and navigated the ongoing twists and turns. They are: Laurel Brauns, Duane Dunganon, John Kruse, Gary Lewis, Scott Marchant, Mike McKenna and Peter Schroeder. I also knew I could always count on Supporting Members, Vickie Gardener from Alpen Optics, Scott Brown from Chrysler/Ram and Bill Brassard from the National Shooting Sports Foundation. From the bottom of my heart, thank you all - thank you thank you thank you.

I will continue to be an active NOWA member, and I look forward to seeing you all at next year's annual conference in Richland, Washington.

...Kyla

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION

Manage the administration, communications, and financial affairs of the Northwest Outdoor Writers Association (NOWA). Provide administrative support for the NOWA President and Board of Directors. Carry out policies and procedures as set by the NOWA Board of Directors.

• **Administrative Responsibilities**

- Membership database
- Applications for new members and member renewals
- NOWA Conference assistance
- NOWA Conference site selection assistance
- NOWA Annual Meeting

• **Communications Responsibilities**

- Promote NOWA and represent its best interests
- NOWA publications oversight: newsletter and membership directory
- Actively recruit prospective NOWA members
- Cooperative professional relationships

• **Financial Responsibilities**

- Assumes the position of Secretary/Treasurer
- Develop an annual budget
- Process timely payment of invoices
- Collect annual membership dues and all other revenues.
- Provide accurate financial reports

• **Other Duties as Assigned**

Stipend: \$10,000 per year plus \$50 per month office equipment/software allowance

Deadline to Apply: November 15, 2014; Resumes to serve as applications.



42ND ANNUAL NOWA CONFERENCE

RICHLAND, WA

MAY 1-3, 2015

JOB OPENING/CRAFT IMPROVEMENT



...Alaskan moose, Keith Szafranski photo

WANTED: OUTDOORS EDITOR

The Fairbanks Daily News-Miner (<http://www.newsminer.com/features/outdoors/>) is looking for a skilled journalist to write about hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking, climbing, skiing, snowmobiling (snow-machining in Alaska speak), and the many other activities that draw people to the Last Frontier.

The Outdoors editor is responsible for the weekly Outdoors section, working with the page designer, as well as for providing stories throughout the week. Some general assignment reporting is also involved.

The News-Miner is a seven-day daily newspaper in the middle of Alaska's beautiful and rugged Interior. It is the second-largest newspaper in the largest state in the nation, and we cover a huge geographic range with a wide variety of stories.

E-mail a cover letter, resume and clips/links to Managing Editor Rod Boyce at editor@newsminer.com.

BLOW UP INERT WORDS

Because some publications pay (little) by the word, authors may fall for the temptation to fluff articles with inactive ingredients to add to their word length. This only backfires, because editors try to extract those impurities, so the authors end up with fewer words (and fewer dimes) than if they had packed that 1,500-word manuscript with active words and phrases. Other folks may wax wordy simply because they write the way they talk, and we all tend to babble. At least I don't see "ya know" at the beginning and end of every written line.



Before you send that next article to your editor, check your work for inert or inactive words that only serve to dilute the punch in your prose. I offer the following short list of dud words and phrases – all taken from a single article I received – as examples of inert ingredients:

Inert Words

- Somewhat (somewhat meaningless modifier)
- Quite (quite worthless modifier)
- Rather (rather pointless modifier)
- Very (very weak modifier; if it's very big, say enormous, gargantuan or whatever)
- Oftentimes (often is often enough)
- Personally, (we know "I" is first person)

Inert Phrases:

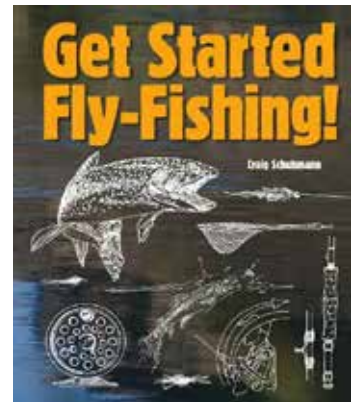
- Simply put (we sure hope it is)
- More often than not
- I have found that
- More so now than ever before
- To some degree
- In order to ("in order" is rarely in order)
- Believe me, (we'd sure like to)
- Once upon a time (OK, I added this one just to reward those who read this far, but it's much better to say: "A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...")

...Duane Dungannon

GETTING PUBLISHED

To date all three of my books, *Get Started Fly-Fishing* (Frank Amato Publications), *Moon Outdoors: Fishing Oregon* (Avalon Publications) and *Moon Outdoors: Pacific Northwest Fishing* (Avalon Publications) were "planned books" —the publisher had a book in mind, backed by market research, but no author to write it.

Publishers frequently provide these kinds of opportunities, either advertised or unadvertised; such as the day I strolled into Amato Publications looking to buy a book. While talking to the receptionist I noticed an older man sitting in the back and asked if that was Frank Amato. She said yes, and I made a b-line to introduce myself.



CRAFT IMPROVEMENT/QUERY CALL

During our conversation I mentioned *Fishing Oregon* and tossed out several book ideas. He requested I send the book and email the ideas in the form of proposals. Six agonizing weeks passed before I heard anything.

“Impressed” with my book, he “liked” the proposals, but doubtful would make any money. After all, a *History of Fly Fishing in the Klamath Basin* would be fun to write, but had a narrow market. Instead, “what I really need is a complete basic fly fishing guide,” something he hadn’t published since, *Curtis Creek Manifesto* (1972). We came to an agreement, signed a contract and over the next 8 months I wrote *Get Started Fly-Fishing*.

My publishing experience has been very traditional, working with publishers, under contracts, and prearranged writing assignments. Other than writing the text and providing a lot of photographs, I had very little to do with the design and layout of *Get Started Fly-Fishing*. Though I had the pleasure of working with the illustrator, Dave Hall, seeing the book through its various planning stages and providing input along the way. Amato Publications handled marketing, PR, sales and distribution.

As you can see, the traditional approach to publishing is not dead. Plenty of opportunities exist if you are willing to work for them and keep your options open. I’d like to say publishers have been beating down my door to get my words into print; to the contrary, I’ve had to ask for every publishing opportunity that has come my way. And, at least in the beginning, most publishing opportunities have been coupled with fortuitous circumstances; *Getting Started Fly-Fishing* is a good example. Since then I’ve used my in at Amato Publications to market ideas to *Fly Fishing and Tying Journal*. *Northwest Fly Fishing* rejected a feature query but asked if I would, instead, write a short article for the Guide Flies column.

In the beginning I used my first book as a calling card to market myself to other publishers. Now I use my entire resume of publishing. In a way it’s a lot like our credit scores. If your credit score shows a history of creditors who trust you, new creditors are more inclined to take an interest. In order to earn that credit you have to understand publishers and what they expect from writers. It often has very little to do with the writing. Editors want someone who is organized, can follow direction, meet deadlines, provide well researched and accurate material and understands the publisher’s needs. This last point should not be overlooked. For what editor is going to turn down an idea perfectly tailored to their needs? It’s relationship building and trust is a big factor. Earn their trust and you begin to build a relationship that pays dividends down the road.

...Craig Schuhmann

QUERY CALL

Oregon Hunter, the membership publication of the Oregon Hunters Association (www.oregonhunters.org), is looking for a few good articles to fill needs in early 2015. Feel free to suggest other topics, issues, themes, or just good stories. We want to entertain as much as educate and inform. Humor is always needed, and not just in humor columns. Please query by **Sept. 5**. Please don’t send photos at this time; just tell us what you can offer. No need to query for humor; just send ‘em if you got ‘em.



To query or request guidelines, email editor and NOWA member Duane Dungannon: dd@oregonhunters.org

JAN/FEB: Article Deadline: Nov. 1

- Features (1,000-1,200 words; \$100-125) - Possible topics: waterfowl, chukar, predators, or “off-season” less timely topics
- Oregon Afield - Possible topics: predators, waterfowl, valley quail, chukar (no snows, Mt quail, coast ducks, or forest grouse). (300-400 words; \$50 each)
- Bowhunting (650-750 words; \$75)
- Young guns (650-750 words; \$75)
- Humor (650-750 words; \$75)

MAR/APR: Article Deadline: Jan. 1.

- Features (1,000-1,200 words; \$100-125) - Possible topics: turkey, bear, varmints, spring geese, trophy hunts to plan for.
- Oregon Afield - Possible topics: Any of the above feature topics or ? (300-400 words; \$50 each)
- Bowhunting (650-750 words; \$75)
- Young guns (650-750 words; \$75)
- Humor (650-750 words; \$75)

MAY/JUNE: Article Deadline: March 1.

- Features (1,000-1,200 words; \$100-125) - Possible topics: spring bear, late turkey, special/trophy hunts, hunting/habitat issues, varmints
- Oregon Afield - Possible topics: Any of the above feature topics or ? (300-400 words; \$50 each)
- Bowhunting (650-750 words; \$75)
- Young guns (650-750 words; \$75)
- Humor (650-750 words; \$75)



...Chub Eastman with grizzly

CHUB EASTMAN PASSES

Avid sportsman and outdoorsman, Chub Eastman died peacefully in his sleep at home on Aug. 3, 2014.

Chub was born on Oct. 11, 1940, in Colfax, Wash., to Sam and Lesta Eastman. He grew up in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Chub spent many happy summers at their resort in Lake Ronan, MT. He graduated from Coeur d'Alene High School in 1958 where he played varsity football, basketball and baseball.

Chub joined the Marines and was stationed at Twentynine Palms, CA., where he shot on the Marine Rifle Team. He was very proud to have been a Marine, and credits the Marines with shaping his future life.

Chub married Sharron Kunz Rogers and they had two daughters, Kelly and Darsi. He attended North Idaho College and majored in business.

Chub owned a sporting goods store in Polson, MT., in the 1960s, and then married Nona Eastman. They moved to Maui to manage the Kahana Sunset Resort where Chub enjoyed diving and spear fishing.

In the late 1970s, Chub moved to Denver, CO., to become a salesman for Winchester and covered the western states. During this time he was a competitive trap shooter, winning many awards and was on the 1976 ATA World Record Handicap 27yd Squad.

In 1980 Chub joined Leupold & Stevens as their sales manager, and traveled all over the country. He went to work for Nosler in the late 1980s as their vice president of sales.

In 1993, Chub married Gloria Twyman and they had 21 happy years together.

Chub retired in 2002 and became a field editor for Sports Afield Magazine writing their rifle column. His knowledge of firearms was phenomenal.

Chub's passions enabled him to travel and hunt all over the world, and to utilize his love of photography. This helped him become one of the most entertaining storytellers you could ever meet. Chub also loved riding motorcycles, and he and Gloria were able to take numerous trips around the country with their friends for many years.

Chub lived a very rich and full life. He was generous and caring, enjoying a wide circle of friends.

Chub is survived by his spouse, Gloria; daughters Kelly Wirth (Rob) and Darsi Eastman; granddaughters Alia Wirth Deffer (Matt), Nicole Carter (Will), Jesse Wirth, Haley Perry and Taylor Perry; great-grandchildren Greison Deffer and Vera Deffer; brother Terry Eastman (Diane); two nieces, a nephew, and numerous great-nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to the NRA Whittington Center or to the Shriners.

Chub was an enthusiastic bear hunter and was active in helping wounded veterans get a chance to heal on adventures in the forests of British Columbia. He was also a competitor with a love for big-bore rifles. Over the last 10 years he competed in several big bore/double rifle competitions.

Chub was a longtime member of NOWA and served a term on NOWA's board of directors. He made it a priority to attend every conference and especially enjoyed going to the Wallace, ID., and Polson, MT., conferences.

...Gary Lewis

SCOTT LINDEN OUTDOORS



WIN! A \$500 Cabela's dog gear shopping spree, Mossberg over-under shotgun, SportDOG e-collar or tons of other gear. For more go to www.scottlindenoutdoors.com/wingshootingusa/

SUPPORTING MEMBER NEWS



Click [BASS PRO SHOP](#) for more

BOAT US

Win \$10,000

Are you an armchair inventor with a better way to keep boaters, sailors and anglers afloat? The BoatUS Foundation, along with the Personal Floatation Device Manufacturers Association (PFDMA) and the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), have teamed up to seek out the newest technologies and design ideas with the “Innovation in Life Jacket Design Competition” which kicks off today. “We believe there are some creative folks out there that can help us rethink a 100-year-old design with fresh, out-of-the-box ideas,” said BoatUS Foundation President Chris Edmonston. A \$10,000 cash award goes to the winning designer and inventors have until April 15, 2015 to submit their idea to www.BoatUS.org/design.



Entries that embrace new technologies and non-traditional thinking are being encouraged from individuals or groups, such as high school science clubs, collegiate design programs or even boat and fishing clubs. There are no rules regarding types of materials to be used or whether the design meets any current US standards. Entries can be as simple as hand-drawn theoretical designs to working prototypes.

The entries will be judged based on four criteria: wearability, reliability, cost and innovation. “Wearability” relates to the level of comfort. “Reliability” will take into account the chances for potential failure, while “cost” will look at the affordability of the design. “Innovation” will take into account originality or the utilization of new technologies. Additionally, the BoatUS Foundation will post entries on their website and Facebook page for public voting. The winner will be announced at the September 2015 International Boat Builders Exhibition and Conference in Louisville, Kentucky and additional cash prizes are offered for second and third place. For more information or to enter visit www.BoatUS.org/design.

BUSHNELL



...in a test of skill and equipment, Team Bushnell Tactical Pros Jon Lester (left) and Clark Kennedy took on a field of competitors and the Virginia Mountains before securing the win at the second annual Bang Steel Long Range Precision Match.

Held on July 26, 2014 near Wytheville, Va., the Bang Steel Long Range Precision Match took 18 two-person teams through a challenging eight-stage course of fire. Jon and Clark elected to shoot the .308 class and the duo not only won the individual classification but also won the overall classification.



Jon paired his Accuracy International AT with a Bushnell Elite Tactical 4.5-30x 50mm XRS while Clark chose his JP Rifles LRP-07 topped with an Elite Tactical 3.5-21x 50mm HDMMR to connect with targets spread across the mountainous terrain. Both shooters were able to use the rifle and scope combination along with Elite Tactical 8-40x 60mm Lightweight Modular Spotting Scope to identify and engage targets from 400 to 1,005 yards.

For more information about Bushnell Tactical and its complete line of professional-grade optics, visit <http://www.bushnell.com/tactical>. Every product in the Elite Tactical series is not only covered by the Bushnell limited lifetime warranty, the entire product line is also backed with the new one-year, no-risk Bushnell Bulletproof Guarantee. The 100-percent money-back guarantee is valid up until one year from the original date of purchase.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

RICHLAND, WA

MAY 1-3, 2015

SUPPORTING MEMBER NEWS

BACKCOUNTRY HUNTERS & ANGLERS

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers recently released its Sportsman's Pledge in an attempt to garner signatures and comments from sportsmen and women who support keeping public lands in public hands. In recent months there has been a push by a number of western state legislators, and federal elected officials to transfer ownership of federal public lands to state control. Their logic is that the federal government is not living up to expectations with regards to the management of those lands and that the states could do a better job. It is no secret that without federal funding, the states would be unable to manage the newly acquired federal lands, firefighting costs alone would bankrupt the states, and they would be forced to sell them off to the highest bidder.



“Backcountry Hunters & Anglers is adamantly opposed to the transfer/sale of our federal public lands and has released this pledge to illustrate to state and federal legislators that the sportsman's community depends on federal public lands for access to hunting and fishing,” said Land Tawney, Executive Director of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers. “Additionally, the economies and livelihoods of hundreds of western communities depend on keeping public lands public.”

The Sportsman's Pledge can be found on Backcountry Hunters & Anglers' website at www.backcountryhunters.org. One must simply click on the “Sportsman's Pledge” on the right side of the screen to leave a signature and a comment.

MACK'S LURE

Mack's Lure, based in Wenatchee, WA has been producing world famous fishing lures since 1969. Best known for their “Wedding Ring®” spinner and patented “Smile Blade©”, the company's focus is on producing innovative products coupled with outstanding customer service. Extensively field tested, all Mack's Lures are proven fish catchers before they are brought to market.



In the Pacific Northwest Mack's are the “go to” lures for Trout and Kokanee. In the Mid-West walleye anglers give the Smile Blade® spinners rave reviews. Mack's Lure holds state records in Washington, Idaho, Nevada, California, and Oregon for Walleye, Kokanee and Northern Pike.

The Smile Blade® is an ultra light, in-line, offset mylar spinner blade. It can be fished in front of virtually any type of fishing lure on the market. Due to its light weight construction, this spinner can be trolled at less than 1/4mph and still creates a frenzied attraction in the water.

The original Wedding Ring© spinner is hand-tied on a monofilament line giving it greater action in the water than lures made with wire. The highest quality rhinestone diamonds create a brilliant reflection that captivates Kokanee, Trout, Perch, Walleye and many other game fish.

“A Legacy of Innovation Since 1969,” Mack's Lure listens to fishermen and thus creates quality products that effectively and consistently catch fish. In addition to their famous Wedding Ring® and Smile Blade® spinners, they produce products ranging from ultra light weight attractors to dodgers and jigs to spoons.

Mack's Lure sponsors many events throughout the year and has 45 Pro Staff and 65 fishing guides around the United States and Canada. For more go to: www.mackslure.com

NAVIONICS



Navionics [Hike & Bike](#) is the perfect app for tracking your outdoor activities, and it's free! Beginners and experts alike can use Hike & Bike to record and view tracks on the map, review results, measure performance and share tracks and photos with friends and family.

The tracking console includes:

- speed, distance, time, elevation and vertical
- position with satellite or terrain overlay
- altitude and speed graphs
- geotagged photos, videos and markers
- Facebook, Twitter or Email sharing

Monitor your performance over time and compare current tracks to previous ones to improve on past records, help achieve performance goals or simply to have a record of an enjoyable outing.

Download [Hike & Bike](#) today for free!

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION

Elk Hunting: A Thinking Man's Game

It's possible to wander out in the woods and blunder into elk, but if that's your principal strategy, then you're probably not destined for great success as an elk hunter. Consistent luck requires premeditation.



Anticipating, planning and preparing. Even visualizing the encounter before it happens.

That's the boiled-down advice from America's ultimate pool of elk-hunting buddies.

Now with a record 203,000 members, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation is a 30-year conservation workforce of hunters, volunteers, donors, outfitters and partners from across the hunting industry. It's a network that branches high, wide and awesome. Put any two individuals together, and the talk will invariably turn to hunting adventures in far-flung corners of elk country. As a lifelong hunter himself, now seven years on the job as the RMEF president and CEO, David Allen is nothing if not well counseled on elk hunting.

"If you ask me for one takeaway, I'd say successful elk hunting is mostly about being smart," said Allen. "Elk hunting tests your body, of course, but it's really a thinking man's game. More than any other North American game species, hunting elk – especially with a bow – tests your mind. The people I know who consistently kill elk are those whose brains can foresee and manage multiple challenges all at the same time."

Put another way, "First, you have to be able to think like an elk. Then, second, you have to be able to think several steps ahead of it," he added.

Allen said it's a skill learned from experience.

"It starts with knowing where to find elk. It's not random. They're usually in a location for a reason. Solving that problem is the first step to a good hunt," he said. "Once you've located elk, then you must consider all the elements that might keep you from getting close. At the top of that list are the elk's senses: sight, sound, smell. You have to figure out how to approach, how to keep yourself concealed, how to predict wind, how to use terrain and cover, how to get to where the animal is going rather than where it's been, how to outthink an animal that's always alert, always aware, all the time."

Stalks can take hours. A strong mind is required to help a hunter stay focused.

Screw it up, and your next test is figuring out where elk go after they're blown out. On a large and wild landscape, this can be the biggest mind-game of all.

But, Allen said, "The ability to adapt to fluid situations is just another mental hallmark of successful elk hunters, and another part of the challenge that makes elk hunting so fun."

Media Contacts: Mark Holyoak, 406-523-3481, mholyoak@rmef.org; Steve Wagner, 405-364-3433, steve@blucheroncomm.com

THEODORE ROOSEVELT CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP



...photo courtesy BLM

Failure to prepare for wildfire season with adequate federal funding is akin to skipping a flu shot. The flu is unpleasant and sometimes dangerous, so why not stop by the pharmacy, pay \$14.99, and significantly reduce the risk of catching the virus?

Much like the flu vaccine, cheap and effective programs can help mitigate the dangers and costs associated with wildfires. Unfortunately, the federal government has not invested enough into such programs as a result of a practice known as "fire borrowing." As a result, forests across the United States are more prone to wildfire.

Wildfire suppression costs are drawn from the U.S. Forest Service budget, the same pool of money that is responsible for funding wildfire prevention and forest health programs. But as wildfires grow in frequency and severity, so does the cost of putting them out. Congress, however, has steadfastly refused to increase funding for the Forest Service, forcing the agency to "borrow" funds from fire prevention accounts and forest health programs to cover suppression costs.

That's a lot like saying, "I can't afford the flu vaccine because I spent so much money on NyQuil."

Doesn't make a lot of sense, does it?

SUPPORTING MEMBER NEWS/RICHLAND, WA PHOTOS

Healthy forests are far less susceptible to wildfires, but programs meant to reduce hazardous fuels buildup and treat unhealthy ecosystems are shortchanged by fire borrowing. Consequently, huge amounts of fire-prone materials are building up on national forests across the West.



Conservation Dollars are Being Burned

The practice of fire borrowing means that the Forest Service and other land management agencies do not have the resources necessary to effectively manage existing forestry management, wildlife conservation, and wildfire prevention programs.

Current spending levels for suppression activities are no longer sustainable and land management agencies need a more stable budget strategy to effectively manage existing programs and resume congressionally mandated activities.

Shifting excess fire suppression costs away from the Forest Service budget would enable the agency to return to a state of budgetary stability.

These budgetary changes would restore appropriated dollars and congressional interest programs vital to wildlife conservation and wildfire prevention.



Each year, wildfires are becoming more common and increasing in size and severity – and the costs of fighting them are also on the rise. In 1985, wildfire suppression cost about \$240 million. In 2012, that number increased to \$1.7 billion. While our warming climate, drought and increased development along fire-prone areas contribute to increased wildfire frequency and cost, a major factor is Congress’ refusal to adapt to the growing threat. By taking needed dollars from forestry management and fire prevention programs, appropriators are not investing enough in proven, and much less costly, wildfire “vaccines.”

But a sensible solution seems to be emerging at last. The Wildfire Disaster Funding Act (H.R.3992 in the House and S.1875 in the Senate) was introduced to Congress earlier this year. This bill would enable America’s most catastrophic wildfires to be classified as natural disasters, enabling severe wildfire suppression funds to be drawn from federal emergency accounts – and ending the practice of “fire borrowing” once and for all.

By making commonsense changes to the source of suppression funding, the Wildfire Disaster Funding Act would restore hundreds of millions of dollars to programs designed for wildfire prevention and forest health. This would result in fewer catastrophic wildfires, healthier forests and wildlife habitat, and it would save billions of federal dollars in the long term.



...photos courtesy Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau

Media Contact: Katie McKalip, 406-240-9262, kmckalip@trcp.org



NOWA's Mentoring Committee matches members who possess expertise in an area of outdoor communications with members wanting guidance in that area. If you have skills and knowledge you're willing to share with another NOWA member, or you seek mentoring in a particular aspect of outdoor communications, contact Duane Dungannon

mvp@ccountry.net

Would you like someone to look at your next article before you send it?

Or would you be willing to do that for someone in need of feedback?

Don't be shy about asking for help, and don't sell yourself short about what you can offer. Even NOWA board members are asking for mentors, and we know we have newcomers with wicked awesome skills such as:

- Query Writing • Video Editing • Outdoor Photography •
- Article Feedback •
- Help With Software • Book Publishing • Building a Website
- Finding a Good Brew Pub at the next NOWA Conference •

You joined NOWA to network with other professional

NOWA MENTORING PROGRAM

NOWA Mentoring Program

NOWA's new mentoring program aims to match members in need of help with members who have expertise in that area. Here's a great opportunity to share what we know.

Offer to Mentor Other NOWA Members

I, _____, am willing to offer to mentor NOWA members in the following area(s):

- _____ Query writing
- _____ Article writing
- _____ Article proofreading/editing
- _____ Photography
- _____ Marketing images
- _____ Book publishing
- _____ Book marketing
- _____ Website development
- _____ Filming
- _____ Radio broadcasting
- _____ Television broadcasting
- _____ Video production
- _____ Software help — specific program(s): _____
- _____ Other: _____

Request for Mentoring

I would like to receive help from NOWA members in the following area(s):

- _____ Query writing
- _____ Article writing
- _____ Article proofreading/editing
- _____ Photography
- _____ Marketing images
- _____ Book publishing
- _____ Book marketing
- _____ Website development
- _____ Filming
- _____ Radio broadcasting
- _____ Television broadcasting
- _____ Video production
- _____ Software help — specific program(s): _____
- _____ Other: _____

Please return to Mentoring Program Chair Duane Dungannon, mvp@ccountry.net