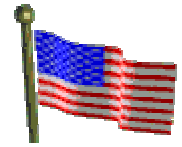


The Naked Fish



We Remember.

We dare to print the naked truth!

SWM Fees UP Capital Projects DOWN

As the bickering continues in King County's fight to live within its means, lame duck Councilperson Louise Miller has come up with one way to help balance the budget. She has introduced Ordinance 2001-0502.2 to increase Surface Water Management fees from \$85.02 to \$102.

According to an August 25, 1983, article in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, King County's Surface Water Management Division and its attendant fees were the brainchild of Former County Executive Randy Revelle. May Valley neighbor Paul Thiry Jr. had captured the executive's attention about the flooding problems in May Valley. Most of the flooding problems were caused by development and the increased runoff it causes. The idea was to charge all landowners (developed or not) in unincorporated King County a small fee to be used to mitigate the flooding problems in the low areas.

The concept probably made sense at the time but the execution has been abysmal. Instead of mitigation of flooding we got staff. A quote from Ms. Miller's proposed ordinance that quotes the original ordinance 7590 from 1986 states, "(i)t is the finding of the county that the most cost effective and beneficial approach to surface water management is through preventative actions and protection of the natural drainage system. In approaching surface water management problems the surface water

management program shall give priority to methods which provide protection or enhancement of the natural drainage system over means which primarily involve construction." The decree was to spend the money on prevention and protection and that required staff and regulation, not flood control projects.

We certainly got the staff. In 2000, County Council members asked Surface Water Management (which had changed its name to Water and Land Resources Division - WLR) to account for the \$186,000,000 they had collected to that point. 67% had gone for staff with the remaining 33% buying trucks and equipment,

(Continued on page 2)



WLR Champion - Council Member Louise Miller

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SWM Fees UP ↑ Projects DOWN ↓

(Continued from page 1)

paying for consultants, and projects. In response to the ensuing hue and cry, they promised to strive for 50% for projects. With the increased fee imposed by Ms. Miller's ordinance, \$4,658,443 will be spent for Capital Improvement Projects. We don't yet know the 2002 budget for WLR but using the 2001 total of \$35.7 million gives us a split of 87% for staff and 13% for projects. [Editor's Note: The 2002 budget just passed allocates \$38.9 million to WLR so the split is really 88%-12%] So they get a pat on the back via a 20% fee increase for even poorer performance. Wonderful legacy you leave us, Ms. Miller.

We certainly got the regulations. The County took Nancy Reagan's

"Just Say No!" program to heart. No! You can't walk across the ditch. No! You can't pull a weed without a clearing permit. No! You can't maintain your ditch. No! You can't try to save your buildings by filling. No! We can't put Tibbets Creek back where it belongs. No! You can't build a house unless you give us half your land. No! No! No!

12% OF SWM BUDGET FOR REAL PROJECTS!

WLR's staff of 290 can't figure out how to say "Yes. You can pull a noxious weed out of your ditch." DDES's staff of 365 just says No! [Editor's Note: The 2002 budget just passed increases WLR

employee's to 346 and reduces DDES employees to 337]

Fifteen years and 290 WLR employees later the flooding is worse. The fish are gone. Erosion in the lower canyon is rampant. And Ms. Miller's new ordinance says "The council's initial requirements for the surface water management program have been validated by current scientific studies demonstrating that conservation and maintenance of forestland and open space contribute to the proper management of surface water quality and quantity." Pull your head out of the silt Ms. Miller and have a look at May Valley where it all started. We have been violated not validated.

Reflections by Laurel McFarland

Over the past year the residents of May Valley have met, formed the May Valley Environmental Council and become active participants in the democratic process.

We hear political campaigns that trumpet "grass roots" support, but we are the grass roots of our community. We are informed, we research, we listen and we make up our minds based on the facts. We also make our decisions based on the fact that we are citizens of the United States of America. One man, one vote means that all who choose to may participate. We own our land and we protect and care for it. We speak freely and publish our own newspaper.

We have fought battles in the past year and have faced people and organizations with opposing view-

points. They too have the freedom to participate and to express their ideas.

When President Bush talks about defending America he is not only talking about preventing another physical attack. He is defending our right to a free and open society where words and ideas prevail over guns and intimidation.

Read Online @ www.maycreek.com

AMENDMENT I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

State DNR Handbook Agrees With MVEC

MVEC technical staff recently discovered a handbook on wetlands put out by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. The cover page and one interior page were scanned and appear below.

The paragraph and the chart point out how wetlands work as a sponge

by soaking up water during storm flows and then releasing it slowly to get ready for the next storm. If the wetland is already full then no storage is provided and the peak flow passes on downstream. That is why erosion has increased at Brouard's as the ditch has filled up.

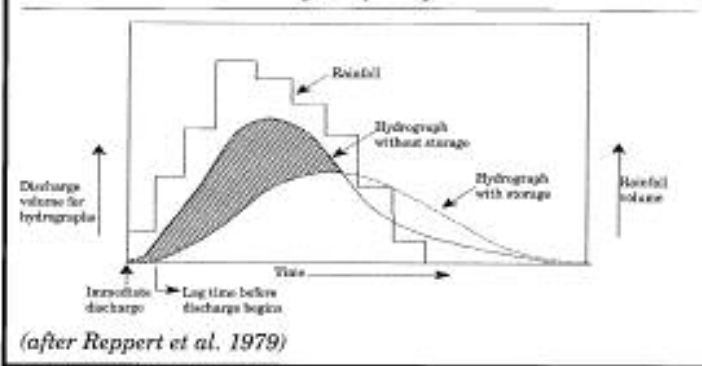
MVEC technical staff has presented

this argument countless times to everyone who would listen and some who only pretended to listen. Most of the bureaucrats act like we are nuts when we bring the subject up. It is nice to finally have a government publication on our side for a change. Now if we could only get someone at DNR or DDES to read it we might have more success.

Recognizing Wetlands

I Stormwater detention and seasonal streamflow maintenance. Wetlands have a sponge-like capacity to hold water, and are very important in some areas for slowing down storm water and helping to maintain streamflows during seasonal low flow periods (Fig.4). The wetland absorbs flood waters and then releases them slowly through its outflow, attenuating the flood peak and thus minimizing flooding downstream.

Figure 4: Flood hydrographs for watersheds with and without wetland storage capacity



RECOGNIZING WETLANDS

AND WETLAND INDICATOR PLANTS ON FOREST LANDS IN WASHINGTON

By Richard Bigley and Sabra Hall
June 2000



OCT 2000

Is It Junk Science or Memorex?

A freshman at Eagle Rock Junior High won first prize at the Greater Idaho Falls Science Fair on April 26. He was attempting to show how conditioned we have become to alarmists practicing junk science and spreading fear of everything in our environment. In his project he urged people to sign a petition demanding strict control or total elimination of the chemical "dihydrogen monoxide."

And for plenty of good reasons, since it can:

- Cause excessive sweating and vomiting.
- It is a major component in acid rain.
- It can cause severe burns in its gaseous state.
- Accidental inhalation can kill you.
- It contributes to erosion.
- It decreases effectiveness of automobile brakes.
- It has been found in tumors of terminal cancer patients.

He asked 50 people if they supported a ban of the chemical.

43 = YES
6 = UNDECIDED
1 = DON'T BE SILLY

If you don't know what the one who said, "Don't be silly!" knew, see page 11.

Critter Report by Mick Zevart

Did you know a fisher, a member of the weasel family resembling a very large mink, was a "killer of fish?" I first heard about this animal from a fishing story during a fishing trip up in the high Cascades above Salmon La Sac. This was a pack in trip for the opening of fishing season, back in 1946 or 1947.

My uncle, who had returned from the military after World War II, got together with some of his old buddies from Cle Elum High School, who also had come home from the war. They packed into Fish or Pete Lake. I remember



hearing about the trout they caught, which had been under the ice all winter. They were all about a foot long, but really skinny for lack of food. The fish they caught were buried in a snow bank to keep them from spoiling. When they woke up the next morning, they found a small hole in the snow and all the fish were gone. "This had to have been done by a fisher," was the remark of one of the fishing pals, who had trapped for furs during his last year in school.

Several weeks ago my neighbor Doug Bandelin and I were talking over the fence, and I brought up the word "fisher" and his reply was "killer of fish," and I agreed. This was a good definition for this nasty varmint.

After a week or so thinking about the fisher, "killer of fish," I called a Canadian wildlife biologist to see what he knew about this oversized weasel-type creature. By the way, I met this biologist, whose name is Jim Hawkings, while he was still at wildlife major at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, back in 1980 or 1981. We were on the first banding and neck collaring project of Tule geese, in the Big River drainage system, Cook Inlet, Alaska. This project was to prove the Tule goose was a subspecies of the Greater White Fronted goose family (*Anser albifrons elgasii*). Now we will get off the subject of the geese and back to that nasty fisher.

Several days after that conversation on the phone, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources faxed me some literature. This material was on the fisher (*Martes pennanti*), and I quote from it:

The fisher is a member of the weasel family, resembling a very large mink. Males weigh 10 to 14 pounds, twice the size of females. The fur of a fisher is a grizzled dark brown and approaches blackish on the rump and tail. Fishers are extremely agile and active predators. Excellent tree climbers, they can out climb marten and red squirrels. They prey upon snowshoe hare, mice, squirrels, and

porcupines. In fact, the fisher seems to be the only north woods predator that seeks out the porcupine. It flips the porcupine onto its back and bites at its soft throat and belly, usually avoiding its long, sharp quills. Fishers will also eat insects and berries.

Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Chordata
Class:	Mammalia
Order:	Carnivora
Family:	Mustelidae
Subfamily:	Mustelinae
Genus:	Martes
Species:	Martes Pennanti

After reading the material from the Minnesota D.N.R. on fishers, I realized my neighbor was referring to another kind of fisher, "killer of fish." After some thinking, I realized Doug had thrown me a curve and I missed on the first swing. Yes, I did recognize the other fisher, "killer of fish."

Back in the spring of 1990, after several months of retirement from the City of Renton, I thought I would get involved with some of the neighborhood problems. Having been involved with water drainage while with the city, I would take on a blockage in Cabbage Creek, several hundred feet down the road from my house. It seems one of my old neighbors and the county couldn't agree on who was responsible for old woody debris in the stream. I found it to be a pain in the — in the lower May Creek Canyon when I was storm water foreman for Renton. It caused more slides and washouts,

(Continued on page 5)

Critter Report

(Continued from page 4)

causing channel changes in the creek. [The material removed from the mouth of May Creek by the Corps of Engineers is not valley loam, peat or topsoil, but sand, rock, and hardpan clay washed out by runoff within the canyon itself.] It seems no one would accept the responsibility for woody debris, and when the first rains came, so did the leaves, and they blocked the flow, causing the banks to wash out and change the flow of water, out through my neighbor's pasture and down to the ditch. Things stayed that way for several years.

Up until that time we hadn't seen salmon in the creek for several years. The first thing I did about this blockage was to call King County. The same people who later told us not to bother the beaver that were flooding several backyards told me that this was a salmon spawning stream and to call the Department of Fisheries.

After a week or two of phone tag down in Olympia, I was sent some kid they had holed up in some office over in Issaquah...I had asked for help, and they sent me some kid to raise. After I explained the problem and had a lengthy discussion with him about the lack of salmon, the young gentleman advised me that his job was so stressful, and asked whether I knew anyone, in politics or otherwise, who could help me tackle this job on my own. It seemed he didn't want to get involved.

After an answer like that I was dumbfounded. I went through phone numbers of people with whom I had worked flooding and

pollution problems, and called Water Quality Metro. A gal there by the name of Barbara Badger helped solve the problem. That September King County came out and cleaned up the mess. [A few years earlier they had replaced the 36" concrete culvert crossing the road in front of Mrs. Coxon's with a 52x57" squashed pipe.] Anyway, at the end of November 1990, when the salmon returned to spawn, there were three spawnable fish, two males and one female, and one jack



male. There wasn't another salmon seen at spawning time again in the upper spawning beds of Cabbage Creek until 1996, when we ignored the threats and demands of Surface Water Management to leave the beaver alone.

After the late Dennis Kirkpatrick made the right phone call to the right person, we hired a trapper to take out the nuisance beaver. This was paid for by the property owners and a collection from upper valley neighbors. Agent Suda, Department of Wildlife, gave us verbal permission to take out the dams. That November I saw 17 spawnable silvers from Mrs. Buckley's backyard up to the driveway of Beckmann Farm. The next year I saw only seven, and since then I haven't seen any fish in upper Cabbage Creek. I have heard

of a few spawning at the mouth of Cabbage Creek, where it washes gravel into the May Creek ditch.

The trappings of 1996 missed a few beaver, and those beaver rebuilt the dams. During the summer of 2000 King County said there was money in the Basin Plan to trap the beaver and remove the dams. As I was one of the "good old boys," they asked me to obtain permission from the landowners to allow the county to come onto their land and check for signs of beaver habitation and dams to be removed. Some landowners accused me of being in bed with King County; and, because the county ultimately did not remove the dams, these folks had bad feelings toward me.

Rod McFarland, Kathy Jones and I held a show-and-tell. We escorted the basin steward at that time, a couple of gentlemen from the county, and a little fellow who reminded me of the kid sent out eleven years ago to handle the blocked-up Cabbage Creek. This fellow's name was Fisher, and he refused to grant the county a permit to remove the dams. This college-trained biologist, along with Rod McFarland and the county people, stood up to his butt in weeds and mud in the septic drain field of Julianne Bruce. He said, and I quote, "This is prime habitat for coho."

Well, this willow-choked, mud-filled ditch proved it wasn't prime habitat when the county did their last sampling, where the spawning beds at the old Muncie place, someday to become Pioneer Park, were cleaned out. An article in the

(Continued on page 11)

Once upon a time there was a basin plan
A plan that was good for the people; good for the land

Yet what this plan needed was an engineer man
The kind who knew men and fish go hand in hand

Then all our dreams were put on a train
The train pulled out singing this refrain

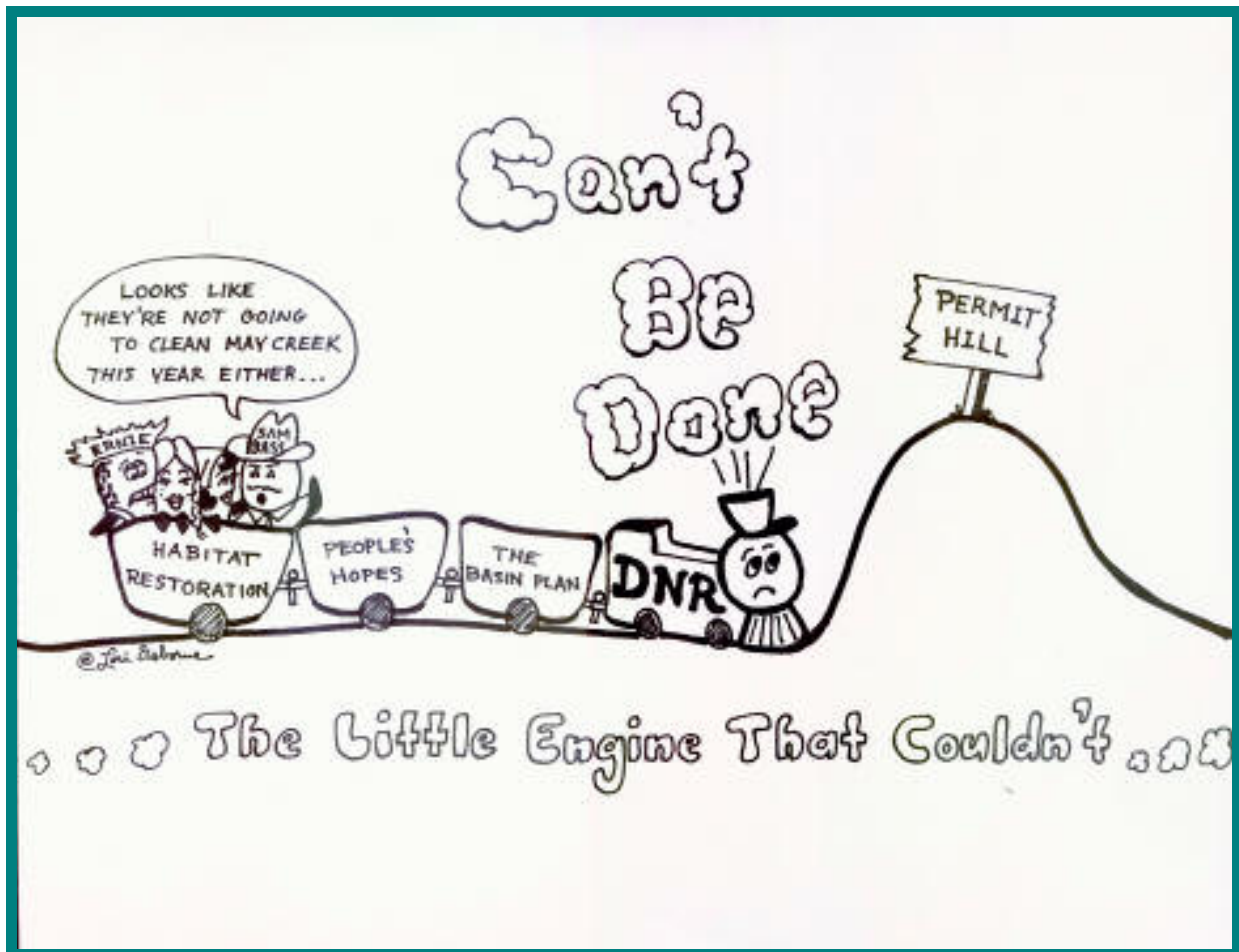
Can't be done
Can't be done
Can't be done

I heard the song and asked what the hell
DNR had told me all would be swell
And then I saw him, our engineer boy
Driving our train of failing joy

The little engineer who couldn't was in the cab
We all looked glum and got quite sad

The DNR engine was taking us fast
Into the swamps of tragedy past
No lesson was learned ; no restitution planned
All they wanted was
More land
More land
More land

Reggie Hopper 2001



Humans Without Resources Part 6 by Rodney McFarland

The first five articles in this series have been aimed squarely at thinking people. It has been my intention to present a view of the issues seldom seen or heard.

It is difficult for thinking folks to make intelligent

decisions when only presented with one view. As pointed out in the last article of this series, control of land use is the major battle being waged in the name of salmon. At a recent public hearing on the Snohomish Basin Near Term Action Agenda, a young lady representing the Tulalip tribe said that if we folks who live near the waters of this country thought about it enough we would give up our land. One of my neighbors responded that he had thought about it at length and he wasn't about to give up his land. She said that was okay, his heirs would think about it and give it up. As a thinking human, that should scare the hell out of you.

Human use of waterways and the adjacent lands is a major part of what has allowed us to develop the civilization we currently have. Use of those resources has always been the smart thing to do. Had our ancestors tried to make it by living on and using only the resources of the hills, we might be the species facing extinction. Would the salmon come to our aid? To advocate abandoning the floodplains shows a lack of understanding of human needs. The low, flat, floodplains are where the good soil is. It's there because it washed off the hills. Trying to feed the current population of the world by farming only the hills would doom billions to death. Perhaps she thinks that salmon would be so plentiful that we could feed every-

one just with fish. Until we evolve to using something besides plants as our primary food perhaps we should be a little more understand-

If you won't give up your land, your heirs will!

ing of the farmers along the waterways. Perhaps we should put a little more thought into it before we dismantle this civilization's use of these resources.

Searching for the Moral Position

After many hours meeting with folks on the other side of these issues, it became apparent that those promoting their vision of a bicycle in every condo, two salmon in every pot and my land as open space often react with righteous indignation when any part of their vision is questioned. They seem to be seriously offended that the questioner does not recognize all the hard work (usually paid for by taxes) that the visionary is doing on behalf of nature. They obviously believe that they have the moral high ground and anyone who does not agree is seriously bereft of character. They think we are all doomed if they do not control how I use my land.

There are three ways to control what happens on a parcel of land.

You can own it by acquiring it from its current owner so that you can manage it as you see fit (**Ownership**). You can persuade the current owner of the wisdom of your vision so that he manages the land according to that vision

(**Evangelism**). Or you can enlist civil government to force the current owner to manage to your vision (**Coercion**).

The method currently in vogue is Coercion. Bright, earnest folks who are firmly convinced that their vision is the only correct vision have insisted that government at all levels use maximum authority to enforce their vision. The fact that many of them can also make their living via donations gleaned from promoting their vision or working for the governments involved is frosting on the cake. The inevitable conflict arises when government force is used on those who don't share the vision but own the land. That is particularly worrisome in a country built on the twin pillars of personal freedom and private property. Had America been built on the basis of central control (monarchy, dictatorship, socialism, ulema) of the land, I doubt my ancestors would have come here much less fought the Revolution as my wife's ancestors did.

Even if I shared their vision, which I do not, I can not see their method of attaining it as the moral high ground. It takes no character whatsoever to force your will on an unwilling victim. Leave that to the

rapists and murderers. Yes, we collectively force our will on rapists and murderers but do we really want to put otherwise honorable landowners into that category? The will of the majority must respect the

**Ownership
Evangelism
Coercion
Which is the moral way?**

(Continued on page 9)



Dear Ernie

Dear Ernie: Who's the cute young lady we have been seeing you with? A Fan

Dear Fan: That is my new girl friend, Sally. Isn't she adorable? Bert introduced us and we hit it right off. I talked the editor into putting her picture in this issue so I could show off a little!

Dear Ernie: How many new Surface Water Management staffers do we get with the new budget? Tom Taxpayer

Dear Tom: 56 to bring the total to 346.

Dear Ernie: How many of them can say it is OK to clean the ditch? Tom Taxpayer

Dear Tom: 0 but 346 of them can tell you why you can't maintain your ditch.

Dear Ernie: What do you want for Christmas? Santa's Helper

Dear Santa's Helper: My house cleaned!



Dear Ernie: How should I serve salmon? Walt Waiter

Dear Walt: Wear an apron, set his plate down gently, and smile.

Dear Ernie: Are you going to Hawaii for the winter? Steve Snowbird

Dear Steve: No! I have to stay and help protect May Creek Ditch from the bureaucrats.



Join the May Valley Environmental Council for just \$40 per year. You'll receive The Naked Fish, MVEC's monthly newsletter where we dare to print the naked truth! You'll learn the real science about salmon and their habitat, and read special features that affect your life in King County.

Meetings are held every Monday night at 7 PM at Leonard's Grill at the corner of 164th Ave SE and Renton-Issaquah Road (SR-900).

New information is added to our website, www.maycreek.com, every month including photos of MVEC sponsored events.

Just leave your name, address, phone and email address on our message phone (425-656-9401) and a board member will confirm your application.

Humans Without Resources Part 5

(Continued from page 7)

rights of the minority, which include property rights—at least that used to be the theory behind the Bill of Rights.

Much of the current conflict would be resolved if the visionaries had enough strength of conviction to discontinue the use of force and resort to the second method of control. Evangelism is a traditional method for true believers to gain converts. I am all for habitat evangelism as long as you don't force me to believe at the point of a gun. A well-grounded and thoughtfully presented argument will win many converts who will manage their property to achieve your vision. I, of course reserve the right to refute your vision or propose my own. Talking-the-talk is the middle moral ground.

The real moral high ground requires personal action—walking-the-walk. If you are concerned about salmon habitat, buy some and do with it whatever you think is right. I don't mean have the government buy it, either. You buy it. The government already owns half the land in the western United States. They don't own the bottomlands though, as that went to the homesteaders as inducement to settle out here. The grandparents of today's visionaries knew what resources humans needed.

If you know what should be done on my land, get some of your own and do it there. If what your neighbor is doing to his land causes you to lose sleep at night, buy it. Pay him more than it is worth and take control. If you can't afford to do what you think is right for his property, he probably can't either. It is immoral (not to mention a viola-

tion of the Fifth Amendment) to force him to bear the cost via government regulation. If you want open space, buy some. My open space stops at my property boundary and yours should too.

The visionaries that have read this far are probably dismissing ownership and evangelism as methods of controlling land use as impractical idealistic fantasies that would doom most of the animal kingdom to extinction. An earlier article covered the inability of force via the Endangered Species Act to recover any listed species. Since 1937, one private organization has been responsible for more wildlife habitat and wetlands restoration than all the governments put together. Their approach has always been based on good science used to talk landowners into using their suggested management practices augmented with

If you are concerned about salmon habitat, buy some and do with it whatever you think is right.

direct purchases of crucial habitat. They are non-confrontational and litigate only to enforce contracts. They do not promote regulation. They are not taxpayer funded. They have been very successful in moving toward their goals and have built a tremendous organization. If you haven't guessed already, I am speaking about Ducks Unlimited. If you really care about salmon, perhaps you should start Salmon Unlimited and put your own money where you want me to put mine.

To be fair I must point out that

there are some taxpayer funded programs to help those who voluntarily give up the use of their land. Skagit County gave its farmers until November 7 to decide if they wanted to participate in the state's Conservation Reserve Easement Program which pays farmers \$10 per acre per year. By signing up by the 7th farmers can get an additional \$40 from Skagit County. The \$50 probably won't even pay the taxes on an acre but it sure beats the alternative. On November 27, 200-foot buffers go into effect with no compensation.

Many of the visionaries think that the moral course of action that I should take is to get the hell off my land and move to a high-rise on a hill in the city. Anyone attempting to live outside the urban growth boundary will be regulated and harassed until they see the wisdom of moving into the cities. All rural land can then be returned to the state it was in post-glacial and pre-human and the fish can use the resources of that land. The eco nuts term it the "Wilding of the West." The vision gets a little hazy when you try to see from where the food, clothing, and shelter for the city dwellers will come since the farmers cause even more problems than the loggers and ranchers do. I guess we will just exist on that wonderful feeling we get as we hike or bicycle through the pristine open space swamp. I wonder how we will take that sustenance back to the aged and the infirm and those unable to hike or bike. Rural cleansing makes as much sense as sawing off the limb you are sitting on.

Ownership as a route to land use control is the only one that incorpo-

(Continued on page 10)

Humans Without Resources Part 5

(Continued from page 9)

rates economic factors. It is amazing how visions change if visionaries must use their own money. All those moral, feel-good ideas that make so much sense if someone else is paying suddenly aren't worth the sacrifice if they must come out of the visionaries' personal budget. That, of course, is why politicians love regulation. They can take credit for all kinds of good-sounding programs without having to come up with the money to pay for them. The scary part is that many of their constituents think it is

okay, as long as the regulations don't affect them personally.

If after reading these articles you still firmly believe that habitat restoration is the way to go, please, please take the moral high ground and restore your own property and let me do what I think best with mine. If you already own some property that the visionaries are trying hard to control, take heart. You are not alone and you are not the bad guy. You must simply stand with your like-minded neighbors and tell the visionaries to go take

care of their own land. Just as they band together to force us to their vision, we can band together to force them to leave us alone. We have every right to the resources of our land; that is what our property deeds commit government to. They are not our moral superiors. It is not the moral position to chant "Four legs (or fins) good, Two legs bad!" as did the sheep in George Orwell's Animal Farm.

**"Four legs (or fins) good,
Two legs bad!"**



How's a girl supposed to find a buried bone now!
Jones' Back Yard 11/01/01

This Month's Letter by Douglas Bandelin

How can I begin? What could I say to convey what I believe, what I feel?

I sat at the table at the beginning, when no one listened. I sat at the table when a few heard and said we were not crazy, not evil destroyers of prime habitat. I sat at the table at the pinnacle, when law was changed.

I was there when Sims came and proclaimed this will not go on, must not go on, this injustice to the few, the weak of the valley. I was there, and I heard. I rejoiced, cried, and laughed.

Now I am here as well, and I hear

that nothing has changed, that all of last year did not happen. The man talking to me, the man that the county sent, does not believe that Tibbetts Creek was diverted. Nor does he believe there is a rock below 148th. He, this man the county sent, also wasn't there when Nancy Hansen said, "No trees in the riparian way."

This man, the temporary basin steward, also didn't hear Sims when he said, "Clean the ditch." Nor did he, the temporary basin steward, read the Basin Plan where it said that reducing flooding is a priority. No, no, this fellow, this little engineer that couldn't, is still asking what we want, and then saying,

"No, no, no!"

Ah, the irony of it all. Twelve months ago I sat across from an intransigent basin steward, and twelve months later I am at the same place.

I can only marvel at the fact that everyone higher up the chain says, "Clean the ditch," and still the engineer says "No!" I marvel and wonder, "Where is the problem? What is the obstruction? What must be removed?" Then I realize the basin steward is the primary obstruction in the May Creek ditch. He must be removed if the project is to continue.

Critter Report

(Continued from page 5)

paper stated that they found three silvers, or coho; three cutthroat; a couple sculpin; and, at the second spot, one silver, three cutthroat, twenty sculpin, and twenty sticklebacks. After reading it, a client of mine who is a Fisheries biologist, had this to say: "This article proves the quality of the water in the ditch, by the number of food fish to the number of scrap fish. And those half dozen silvers would have a one in a million chance to make it back in three years to spawn."

My great grandkids won't be able to catch seventeen- and eighteen-inch cutthroat trout out of the ditch, like my kids and my neighbors' kids did. But they'll be able to tie a worm on a piece of string and catch a bullhead, as long as they don't wade in the water.

After a short period of deliberation, I agreed there is a fisher, killer of fish. This had to be Fisher (*L. Rattay marte pennanti*), one who is paid with taxpayer monies to kill our fish and ruin our land and our lives.



L. Rattay marte pennanti

Is It Junk Science or Memorex?

Answer to the article on Page 3

The title of his prize-winning project was, "How Gullible Are We?" He feels the conclusion is obvious since "dihydrogen monoxide" is H₂O, better known as water.

A Message from the President



“We are still flooding,” says MVEC President Rick Spence.

With this last week’s rain, May Valley is again flooding. With Surface Water Management merging with Department of Natural Resources, we want to know where the \$200 million has gone? DNR has spent millions for facilities, for increased personnel, for who knows what—but not for flooding! How can an agency be called Surface Water Management when, clearly, the surface water is not being managed—it’s being directed specifically towards the valleys. The Carnation Valley is flooding, the Snoqualmie Valley is flooding, May Valley is flooding. We’d like Louise Miller to come to May Valley and tell

us how the \$186,000 million collected in surface water management fees has benefited May Valley.

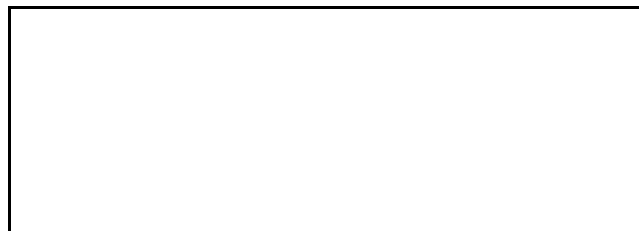
But let’s not forget the Basin Plan. So far the County has spent over \$300,000 for the property we’re now calling Pioneer Park and another \$350,000 of federal money for the non-functioning, and totally unnecessary, fish ladder at Creek 291A.

As the waters rise, so do the SWM fees to pay for even more staff to tell us why we must live with the flooding. It is time for King County government to find its integrity and spend the money on something useful or quit collecting it!

*The Naked Fish, published monthly by
May Valley Environmental Council
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