



KARL FORSGAARD

Icicle Work Group threatens Wilderness

by Rick McGuire

The Alpine Lakes Wilderness continues under threat from rebuilding of old dams in the Icicle Creek watershed. Rebuilt dams will allow for a dramatic increase in the amount of water to be extracted from the Wilderness lakes.

Efforts are ongoing by the Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District (IPID), Chelan County, and the state of Washington to rebuild and enlarge dams in

ABOVE: ALPS Board member Thom Peters at Eightmile Lake dam.

the Wilderness. The Washington Department of Ecology’s “Office of the Columbia River” is pouring millions of dollars into an effort to enlarge the dams, enlarge the footprint of the lakes, and, most of all, increase the amount of water that can be taken from the Wilderness. Ecology and the County are co-conveners of the Icicle Work Group (IWG) to pursue this scheme.

The taxpayers of Washington state are underwriting these efforts to enlarge dams and lakes in a Wilderness area. Part of the reason

Continued on page 2

Also in this issue:

Forest Service limits camping at Blanca Lake	3
USFS action regarding Enchantments overuse	4
Massive development plans at Mission Ridge	5
Gold Creek Pond “restoration” ...	7
What is “Kittitas Conservation Trust”?	10
Miller river road washed out.....	11

Icicle Work Group threatens Wilderness

Continued from page 1

to rebuild the dams is to ensure they are safe and do not threaten property and lives downstream, something everyone supports. But on top of this is the goal of taking out more water to pave the way for more residential development in the Wenatchee valley. Both “domestic water supply” and “new home construction” are cited in documents (a State Environmental Policy Act - “SEPA” – checklist), released by Chelan County and the Washington Department of Ecology.

All kinds of documents, committees, and endless process exist to make this look like an effort to support orchards in the valley. Almost never mentioned is that IPID has sufficient water for orchards, and can and does sell water to developers. And if they get more water from the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the extra water will go not to orchards but to residential developments which, if history is any guide, will gradually supplant the orchards and turn the Wenatchee valley into yet another extension of suburbia.

The Alpine Lakes Wilderness will pay the price for this. IPID has recently backed off its claim that it should be able to construct roads to access the dams in the Wilderness. IPID continues to claim it has the “right” to increase the size of the dammed-up lakes, expanding its water extraction beyond precedent.

Because IPID has not been taking the amounts of water it claims it has a right to, there is a very good case to be made that IPID has “relinquished” its rights to increased levels of water withdrawal. The Department of Ecology is funding the dam replacements, and so far, all of the proposed designs for dam

replacement are larger than the existing dams, thus allowing for more water to be taken. Ecology claims it is not making any water rights determinations. But by paying for dams designed to take more water, Ecology is making a de facto determination that IPID has “rights” to water which it has not been taking.

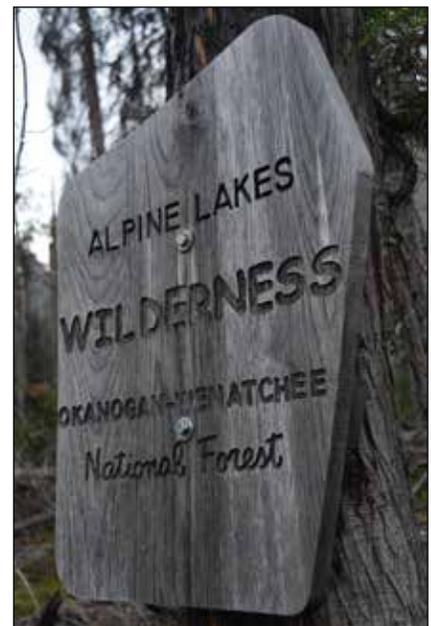
If the Icicle project is allowed to go ahead, it will result in unprecedented impacts inside the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. It will also help turn a wonderful valley of orchards into just more suburbia. It will degrade what makes the Wenatchee valley a pleasant place. Will that attractive valley just become yet another paved-over paradise? Will the Alpine Lakes Wilderness pay the price for all that?

Icicle process updates

As previously reported (*Alpine* 2019 issue No. 1), IPID provided 30% design drawings in January 2019 for the proposed new Eightmile dam, and said it would soon provide 60% drawings, but as of September 2020 that has not yet happened; the 30% drawings are still under discussion. IPID’s rented excavator is still sitting at the dam, in the wilderness, where it has been since May 2018.

In a July 3, 2019 letter to IPID, the U.S. Forest Service wrote that it had no authority to approve a dam elevation higher than 4671 feet, or a low outlet pipe elevation lower than 4648 feet. IPID proposes to make the new dam four feet higher than the current dam (it has been at 4667 feet since 1990), and make the low pipe many feet lower than it has ever been.

ALPS participated in a July 2019 “listening session” in Leavenworth with the USFS Regional Forester, other Forest Service personnel and IWG members. In July 2020, ALPS reminded the Forest Service that the dam design that would most simply reflect the relinquishment



KARL FORSGAARD

Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary sign on Eightmile Lake Trail.

of water rights would be a dam at the current elevation (4667 feet) and a low pipe no lower than the current elevation (4648 feet). Making the dam any higher, or the low pipe any lower, would allow the dam operator to store and extract water beyond the amount it has a right to. However, that baseline alternative design has been absent from IWG documentation thus far, including the current 30% drawings.

In March 2020, Ecology received bids from contractors to write a project-level EIS for Eightmile dam construction, while internally requesting \$1.5 million to pay for the EIS process; as of September 2020, the winning bidder had not yet been announced. A proposed timeline submitted to Ecology predicted it will take over a year to conduct project-level scoping and prepare the draft and final EIS, i.e., construction may not be feasible prior to the summer of 2022.

In 2019, Chelan County hired two facilitators. The facilitators interviewed IWG members and presented findings and recommendations at IWG’s

September 2019 meeting, including proposed revision of IWG operating rules; they also persuaded Icicle Creek Watershed Council to table its dispute resolution process regarding IWG process fouls.

In early 2020, the County's hired facilitators began a series of meetings with several conservation nonprofits regarding the Eightmile dam. ALPS asked one of the facilitators to stop describing himself as "neutral" on the Icicle, because he is heavily invested in the Yakima Workgroup and its Yakima Plan, and the Yakima Workgroup and Icicle Work Group are related in many significant ways.

To uphold wilderness values and to oppose expansion of the human footprint in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, ALPS has been preparing for years to litigate Eightmile dam issues, and has been paying its lawyers at the Bricklin & Newman law firm. ALPS has also been represented pro bono by Earthjustice and the Western Environmental Law Center on the Icicle matter. In 2019, ALPS added another coalition member, Wilderness Watch, to its attorney-client relationship regarding Icicle. ALPS is a tax-deductible 501c3 charitable organization; supporters can make tax-deductible donations to ALPS for the Icicle litigation fund.

Some of the old growth they missed in the Miller river valley.

Forest Service limits camping at Blanca Lake

The U.S. Forest Service is taking steps to implement a camping closure at scenic Blanca Lake, above the North Fork Skykomish.

Blanca Lake has long been a very attractive and popular hiking destination, and was overrun years ago. Overcrowding at the lake in the Henry Jackson Wilderness continues to worsen. Sanitation problems and littering have gotten out of control. Vandals have even painted murals on rocks. The crumbling away of the old logging road system and the rise of social media is concentrating ever higher levels of recreational use in fewer and fewer places. Some places, like Gothic Basin, Blanca Lake, and worst of all, the Enchantments, are being loved to death and destruction.

Hopefully the camping limitation at Blanca will have some effect in limiting the damage, if enforced. Camping will still be allowed at Virgin lake, a small

pothole on the North Fork - Troublesome creek divide ridge along the trail to Blanca. How this will effect the area around Virgin lake is a question ALPS raised in its comments to the Forest Service. ALPS recommended making the camping closure include the Virgin lake area as well. It may be that the Forest Service is just hoping that would be campers will find Virgin lake less attractive than Blanca itself.

Hopefully the Forest Service will be able to make the camping closure work, and close Virgin lake to camping if the problem simply moves there. The accessible beauty spots of the Cascades are being mobbed, but that still leaves 95% or more of the range a place where you'll see no one from one year to the next. But for the accessible beauty spots, it's now a case of, as Yogi Berra said, "no one goes there anymore, it's too crowded."



JIM SCARBOROUGH

USFS action regarding Enchantments overuse

July 2020

This continues the story of the crisis in the Enchantments, previously covered in the 2019 *Alpine* in an article of the same title. That article gives an accounting of the Forest Service's 1993 analysis of the problem, and subsequent Decision Notice of 'No Significant Impact'.

Since 2014, the Friends of the Enchantments ('Friends') have been presenting tabulated and pictorial evidence of gross overuse of the Enchantments terrain to the Forest Service, and requesting they implement a Day Use permit system, as the 1993 report recommends: "Areas may be added to the permit system if monitoring detects further resource damage or large increases in user pressure on pristine areas." The USFS' Oct. 2018 'Enchantments Permit Area Visitor Use Data Analysis 2007-2017' concluded that the Alpine Lakes Management Plan for the Enchantments was being violated 99% of the time in the Primitive areas, and 93% of the time in the semi-Primitive areas. As in 1993, no action is mandated. "Further assessment" is recommended.

In April 2019, Friends and ALPS petitioned the Forest Service to take effective action via a letter to Mike Williams, Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest (OWNF) Supervisor. We presented a chronological summary of the use and protections of the Enchantments. We recapped the 2013 spike in use, and the resulting damage observed in 2014. We presented the ecological data for how small overuse results in long-lasting, big impacts to the fragile landscape. The letter was copied to District Rangers, Rec Managers, Regional Managers, and our Congresspersons.



Quiet rainy day at Snow Lake trailhead..

In July 2019 the Forest Service responded by inviting ALPS, Friends, and a cross-section of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness (ALW) users to a discussion of the entire ALW. Glenn Casamassa, R6 Regional Forester presided. The meeting concluded with Mr. Casamassa recommending that we all form an 'Enchantments Coalition' and come to an 80% consensus for recommendation to the USFS. The acting OWNF super in July was Scott Tangeberg. I made sure he had copies of our 2016 and 2017 data and letters to hand off to his successor. He returned to California and has been succeeded by Kirstin Bail. She has experience with a heavy use area of Arizona known as Red Canyon. Erick Walker is the OWNF Deputy superintendent, and Suzanne Cable, the new Recreation Manager were very interested in our plea for help but could only wish us good luck forming a 'coalition'. Bryan Mulligan is the OWNF Public Services staff officer, and did not release minutes, charts, or a summary after the meeting.

The next week, July 29, 2019, OWNF staff released an

announcement of their intention to change public use/parking along Eightmile Road to alleviate an unsafe condition, to commence Sept. 3, 2019. This author drove along the Icicle in early 2020, and noted parking on both sides of the road, creating a one-lane, unsafe condition with no turnarounds. The Forest Service was contacted, and responded that the ticketing effort requires three rangers, and staffing is down due to Covid19, so they were unable to continue the program. OWNF is so short on staff, there are no climbing rangers this year. The six rangers they have do overnight enforcement. One ranger is posted at each (Snow and Colchuck) trailhead for education.

In Sept. 2019, OWNF printed a new flyer showing 'Alternate Trails' near Leavenworth to try to take some of the load off the Enchantments.

Our contact reported that Fiscal Year 2021 was planned to be the follow-up year to the Enchantments Permit Area Visitor Use Data Analysis report released in Oct. 2018, but that is now delayed due to lack of staff. One

Continued on page 9



Mission Ridge plans massive development

By Gus Bekker

'Stop' or 'significantly downsize' the proposed development.

In brief, those were the two options that resonated with the 60 outdoor recreationalists who gathered on March 5 at the Wenatchee Valley Museum for a community conversation about Mission Ridge's proposed plans to develop a village with a 4,000-person bed-base adjacent to the current ski area.

The meeting, sponsored by El Sendero Backcountry Ski and Snowshoe Club, was organized to help the club determine how it

could best represent the interests of backcountry enthusiasts who currently use the public lands around the ski area near Clara Lake, Mission Peak, Stemilt Basin, and Squilchuck Park. The conversation gave attendees the chance to voice or write down benefits, opportunities, concerns, and issues revolving around Mission Ridge's proposed development. Many more concerns than benefits arose during the two-hour meeting.

The recreational issues revolved around how a village with 4,000 pillows – a potential population center equal to the city of

Cashmere – would overpopulate and potentially ruin the recreation on the public lands adjacent to the ski area, create parking issues for the trails providing access to these areas, and eliminate snowshoe and ski routes on public lands that currently benefit Wenatchee citizens. Skiers in the audience noted the development barely adds to the skiable terrain, but would more than double the number of visitors skiing the same terrain. During non-winter months, residents and weekend warriors who would be mountain biking, hiking, and trail running

Continued on page 6

Mission Ridge

Continued from page 5



CHRIS BEKNER

Backcountry areas of Mission Ridge which will be harmed by Mission Ridge real estate development.

out of the village would seriously impact the migration, calving, and mating of the Colockum elk herd.

The non-recreational issues that surfaced were even more troubling. The wildfire issue was discussed – the proposed development not only increases the odds of wildfire but in the dry-forest environment a village of this size with only one access road (as proposed) could easily be a death trap during a catastrophic summer fire. Water was discussed – the water rights for the Squilchuck drainage are already tapped out and the summer needs of the resort would take water from those living down valley with senior rights. Some in the audience, who have seen how four-season resorts throughout the West have completely changed the face of the pre-existing community as affluent second-home owners escalate the cost of living, said the proposed development steps away from beneficial tourism into the domain of over-tourism. Traffic

issues, housing issues for locals and minimum-wage employees, sewage issues, and infrastructure costs borne by taxpayers during fires were among the other issues voiced.

Near the end of the meeting, a straw poll was taken to help El Sendero gauge the ultimate sentiments of those in the audience. Three-quarters of the audience felt there are so many problems that neither Chelan County nor the Forest Service should approve the current proposal. A quarter of the audience felt a drastically downsized village with a quarter or a third of the proposed bed base might be viable if it also made Mission Ridge more financially robust. No one in the audience expressed support for the development as it currently stands.

Unfortunately the development approach proposed by Mission Ridge management generates more problems than it solves:

1. The project is not a ski area expansion as touted but a real estate development belonging to Tamarack Saddle LLC. The development adds a paltry 20 acres of new novice terrain while adding permanent and temporary housing for over 4,000.
2. The development is surrounded by public lands and the threat of human caused wildfire threatens the development itself and the larger community down valley.
3. As now proposed the development violates the International Fire Code requiring at least two access roads into and out of the development.
4. The project plans to draw water from the upper reaches of the Squilchuck drainage. Squilchuck irrigation district already runs at a deficit in the summer meaning the existing water rights are already not fully met.
5. Traffic along the only access road, according to the proposals's own study, will increase five to six-fold. This will destroy the rural atmosphere of the Squilchuck drainage.

The meeting ended with club organizers emphasizing that the Mission Ridge development would forever change the character of the ski hill, the recreation on the surrounding public lands, and the complexion of the entire community. The moderator closed by encouraging participation in the process through public comment. El Sendero put together a guide to public comment for both USFS scoping comments and Chelan County Scoping comments. We

Continued on page 10



ROBERT MICKLEBURG

The “restoration” of Gold Creek

By Rick McGuire

Readers of *Alpine* will likely recall previous stories covering the “Yakima Integrated Plan” a gigantic scheme to secure additional subsidized water for agribusiness in the Yakima valley. Yakima Plan proponents claim it is “supported by everyone.” And with lavish funding from both state and Federal governments, boosters’ efforts to buy off everyone in sight have mostly, though not entirely, succeeded.

One small but quite harmful chapter of the Yakima Plan story is the “Gold Creek Valley Restoration” project to be undertaken under the auspices of the U.S. Forest Service. The Forest Service has sent out a notice that it is considering a project to fill in Gold Creek pond, east of

Snoqualmie Pass, supposedly to restore water flows in Gold Creek and help fish.

Gold Creek pond is not natural. It formed after the site was used as a gravel source for construction of Interstate 90. Usually when people use big machines to tear up and alter the earth, the results range from bad to awful. But on a very few occasions, something good comes from it. Gold Creek pond is one of those rare cases of happenstance.

Gold Creek pond may never be featured in a calendar of scenic wonders, but it has an accessible beauty of its own. In the decades since the gravel extraction ended, water has filled the depression, trees have grown up, plants and birds have come back, and

the pond has become quite an attraction. An ADA accessible, paved trail goes around it. Gold Creek pond is especially popular among what have been called non-traditional outdoor visitors. People who are new to the United States and who may not be very familiar with where to go to experience nature seem especially drawn to it. People who have difficulty in escaping the city often manage to find it, and seem to enjoy it immensely. Families with young children are always seen there. Old people like it, many of whom can be seen walking slowly around the

Continued on page 8

ABOVE: Gold Creek Pond in the Spring.

Cold Creek Pond

Continued on page 7

pond, perhaps remembering the days when they ran up and down the surrounding mountains.

Gold Creek pond is a nice place, beloved by many. It provides a way for a large and diverse number of people to connect with nature, even if it is an artificial addition to the landscape. In terms of hours of enjoyment delivered per acre, it may top the list in the Cascades.

All of this is now threatened by the Forest Service and the imperatives of the Yakima Plan. The deep pocketed proponents of the Plan are always looking for ways to improve its image. The Plan proposes to enlarge Bumping Lake and thus drown a significant acreage of old growth forest. It

proposes to draw down the water level of Lake Kachess far below what has occurred in the past, turning much of it into a mudflat for much of the year. All of this is to take more water from the Yakima watershed.

Other places use irrigation water much more effectively than the Yakima valley. Places like Israel, Portugal, South Africa, Australia and others produce much more food per unit of water, and far, far more economic value per unit of water. But in the Yakima watershed, agriculture seems stuck in the 19th century. Wasteful overhead sprinklers throw water at low value crops such as hay. Conservation is rejected out of hand. The Yakima Plan is designed to further entrench the status quo. It is the opposite of free enterprise and

innovation. It would make the old central planners of the Soviet Union proud.

It looks as though Gold Creek pond is to be sacrificed for this wastefulness. Because the Bumping Lake, Kachess Lake, and other parts of the Plan are so obviously, undeniably harmful, the Plan supporters are desperately looking for ways to apply green lipstick. They cannot hide the fact that the Kachess pumping station will lower down that lake to levels lethal to bull trout there. A project to supposedly “help” bull trout at Gold Creek has been cooked up to divert attention away from what they are doing to Kachess. It is “restoration” in name only, a destructive project pushed by bureaucracies that want to look green in order to keep

Continued on page 10



ROBERT MECKENBURG

Enjoying the view at Gold Creek Pond.

the money flowing in. Money is there, in plenty. The Washington Department of Ecology's "Office of the Columbia River" is richly funded, and Federal agencies such as the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and others, have the full printing press of the U.S. government behind them.

That money, 14 to 18 million dollars of it (almost guaranteed to go much higher), will be spent on a project to maintain about 50 fish, a project with virtually no chance of success. The Yakima Plan supporters have seized upon the fact that parts of Gold Creek go underground in summer, trapping some fish in diminishing pools. They blame the Gold Creek pond for the creek going dry despite the fact that the dry bed section of Gold Creek begins 1.25 miles away from, and 70 feet above the pond. There are pictures from as long ago as 1936, long before Gold Creek pond existed, showing a dry bed of Gold Creek.

The population of bull trout they claim will be saved does face other, real world, threats. The fish are trapped by the dam at Keechelus reservoir. The drawdown of that reservoir cuts off another part of Gold Creek, downstream of the pond, from reaching the reservoir for about 130 days out of the year. That is conveniently ignored by the project proponents.

Something between 50,000 and 100,000 dump truck loads of material will be required to refill Gold Creek pond. Even those most involved in pushing the project, the Kittitas Conservation Trust and their contractor, Natural Systems Design, admit that completely refilling the pond may not do anything to change the underground flowing reach of the Gold Creek.

So here we have a proposal, with practically no chance of



ROBERT MECKENBURG

Gold Creek Pond in winter.

success, to spend \$400,000 per fish and destroy one of the most popular attractions in the Cascades. Why? To greenwash the Yakima Plan, and keep various bureaucracies, "non-profit" NGOs and for-profit private contractors on the gravy train. We live in a time when words have lost their meaning. "Restoration" is used to describe every kind of destructive project, from logging to mining and now the end of Gold Creek pond. We are long past the point where the word restoration should set off alarm bells everywhere.

So-called science is routinely cherry picked, and sometimes downright falsified, for whatever agenda serves the interests of those who stand to gain. "Information" is found everywhere, even as truth gets ever scarcer. The Yakima Plan, and this part of it, are outright frauds on the the public. A few will benefit by getting more cheap water while Gold Creek pond and multiple other places in the Cascades pay the price.

For more info on this destructive project, see the "Friends of Gold Creek Pond" website, <https://www.facebook.com/savegoldcreekpond/>.

Enchantments overuse

Continued from page 4

can only hope that the budget will carry over, and staff will be available in Fiscal Year 2022. There is a plan to release a new email inviting all the same ALW users to another meeting like the one in July 2019. It is hoped that this Fall/Winter, the OWNF will release a User Management proposal that will elicit responses from these groups.

And so the crisis goes on. Will massive overuse and resource degradation simply be the "new normal" for the Enchantments? ALPS and Friends of the Enchantments are not giving up on addressing the problem. Day use needs to be regulated and limited if the Enchantments are to survive.

—Natalie Williams

What is “Kittitas Conservation Trust”?

A nonprofit organization called Kittitas Conservation Trust appears to be one of the main proponents pushing the “restoration” project at Gold Creek. Who, and what are they?

The term nonprofit calls to mind images of dedicated individuals working for a worthy cause on a shoestring, maybe behind old surplus desks in some barely heated, low rent basement office. But not all “nonprofits” fit that picture. Anytime there is a huge, well funded project like the Yakima Integrated Plan, armies of consultants always follow, looking for business in designing, planning, managing, and selling the product to the public. KCT’s role in the Yakima Plan appears to be to come up with projects to make the Plan look more environmentally friendly.

According to KCT’s website, the organization was formed to provide mitigation for the huge Suncadia development near CleElum. The website also lists a number of river restoration projects completed since 2002 in the upper Yakima River basin.

Most of those were likely good projects, by themselves. But KCT’s website says little about what the bigger picture was behind them, or what the tradeoffs may have been.

In recent years, a whole industry has sprung up in “environmental mitigation.” A well funded but destructive project hires these firms, both for-profit and non-profit, to do various kinds of good deeds, often rather small ones. Cameras roll, tours are led, and stories generated about how great these projects are. Attention is diverted away from whatever the real project is. It’s a sensible strategy.

Occasionally the mitigation projects become harmful in themselves. The Yakima Plan projects are undeniably hurting bull trout in the Yakima basin, especially at Lake Kachess. Since there are only three places where bull trout are barely hanging on in the Yakima basin, there wasn’t much choice in locating a bull trout mitigation project. Gold Creek was chosen. Money was spent, then more and more money. Perhaps they found themselves in

so deep that there was no turning back, even as it became apparent that this mitigation project would do nothing to help bull trout, but could still be spun for PR.

It is often hard to tell the difference between for-profit and non-profit entities. The non-profit model can actually be the more lucrative of the two. It would be interesting to know more about the Kittitas Conservation Trust. What is their budget? How much are their employees paid, both in salaries and other kinds of compensation? Where does their money come from? The Bureau of Reclamation? Where does it all go?

“Transparency” is a term we often hear. KCT’s website is opaque about finances. There are plenty of pictures of various projects, but very little about who pays for it all. Maybe someday they will add a section about their funding, throwing light on the backstories behind those attractive images.

Mission Ridge

Continued from page 6

were encouraged to see later that the County received 74 meaningful comment letters pointing out code violations, and harm to the environment, neighborhood, ski experience and community.

This development will permanently impact Wenatchee’s future and that future should not represent just the values of vocal business interests – it should represent the values of the entire community.

Since this article was written Chelan County has issued a determination of significance for the proposed development triggering SEPA review, and issued a 30-day public comment period which Tamarack Saddle LLC objected to (wanting only a 21-day comment period). The proposed road to access the private development, which must be constructed on National Forest land, is undergoing NEPA review. In addition, Tamarack Saddle has filed a claim against Chelan County for damages in an amount just over seven million dollars.

—Gus Bekker is an ALPS board member and also president of El Sendero Backcountry Ski and Snowshoe Club.

Miller river road washed out

Yet another of the logging roads in the Alpine Lakes area has washed out.

The upstream approach to the Miller river road bridge over the east fork of the Miller has been partially washed away. Construction of the road, and previous logging pushed a creek out of its natural bed. The new creek channel crosses the Miller road. A culvert was installed to carry the creek water under the road, but it failed as nearly all culverts do. This sent water down along the Miller road to the bridge, where it carried away a large portion of the fill material on the upstream side of the bridge.

The Miller road was constructed in 1961. Four large clearcuts were laid out in the choicest spots, the trees were cut, but the rest of the valley has largely escaped logging. As Cascades river valleys go, the Miller still has quite a bit of old growth forest.

At one time there were grand plans to build the road past Lake Dorothy and over a pass to Snoqualmie lake and link up with the Middle Fork Snoqualmie road. This was part of a Forest Service scheme to build “recreation” roads in an effort to head off designation of the North Cascades National Park. Once it became clear that the Park would be limited in extent, the plans were abandoned and few of these roads were ever finished.

Like all Cascades logging roads, the Miller road was constructed on the cheap, without proper drainage, and with fill material consisting of stumps and whatever dirt was at hand. It’s amazing it has lasted as long as it has. It’s



RICK MCGUIRE

unclear what the Forest Service plans are for this washout. The road is signed as closed and dangerous, but there are only lightweight barricades which get moved aside. High clearance vehicles can still navigate what is left of the road. Whatever happens, it will only be a matter of time till another storm sends more of the road down into the river.

Approach to East Fork Miller River bridge.



alps

alpine lakes protection society
PO Box 27646
Seattle, WA 98165

Non Profit
US Postage
PAID
Seattle WA
Permit 1445

ALPS Officers & Trustees:

President: Rick McGuire
Secretary: Natalie Williams
Treasurer: Frank Swart

Board Members:

Gus Bekker
Kevin Geraghty
Rick McGuire

Thom Peters
Charlie Raymond
Frank Swart
Natalie Williams



ROBERT MECKLENBURG

Gold Creek Pond.

The newsletter of the Alpine Lakes Protection Society (ALPS). ALPS is dedicated to protection of the Alpine Lakes area in Washington's Cascades.

Editor: Rick McGuire
Layout: Pat Hutson

To join ALPS or renew membership, send \$15 to:

Alpine Lakes Protection Society
PO Box 27646
Seattle, WA 98165

For information, send email to:
alpinelakes.info@gmail.com