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HOME

Who is *Cascadia Times*?

The *Cascadia Times* web site asks the question, “Who is Cascadia Times?” At the request of the Northwest Mining Association, **Environomics** attempted to find out.

To understand *Cascadia Times*, one should begin to understand Andy Kerr.

Today, Mr. Kerr is a contributing writer to *Cascadia Times*, as well as a founder of (and a member of the board of directors of) Alternatives to Growth Oregon (AGO). According to his AGO biography:

Andy Kerr spent two decades with the Oregon Natural Resources Council, the organization best known for having brought you the Northern Spotted Owl.¹

More than bringing the spotted owl, Andy Kerr brings a well-articulated, thought-provoking philosophy to the environmental and socio-economic discussion of the future of the Northwest. His vision was spelled out in some detail in a Sept. 11, 1994 column in the *Oregonian*. There he wrote:

We’ve ended the dreaded communism; we must now end the dreaded capitalism. Environmentalists can more safely criticize capitalism now that communism is dead. We can urge a new order, not just be perceived as advocating the alternative of communism. Both were and are unsustainable; both were and are environmentally destructive; both were and are unjust.²

Mr. Kerr acknowledged that ending the “dreaded capitalism” will take enormous change.

Many people fear that to do what environmentalists seek immediately will be the end of the world as they know it. These fears are well founded. We do want to end the world as we know it, but only the bad parts.³

Moreover, he was clear that making the world a better place for the rest of the species will require a substantial reduction in the population of his species.

We have 6 billion on Earth and 3 million in Oregon today. Scientists have calculated that if [we] want to sustain the northern industrial lifestyle worldwide, albeit using less resources more efficiently, as I’ve outlined, we can sustain 2 billion on earth and 1 million in Oregon.⁴

For business people, probably the most important– and perhaps most difficult to comprehend - aspect of Mr. Kerr’s vision is the patience he prescribes.

The re-wilding of the Greater Oregon Ecosystem will take at least 75 years as projected by The Wildlands Project, but more likely 100 years ... Cutting our consumption by 75 percent is a very reasonable and relatively easily obtainable goal ... It shouldn’t take a hundred years to make the change, but we’ll take it if we need it.⁵

The 100-year clock is ticking. And implementing a vision that reduces the population by two-thirds, reduces consumption by three-fourths, and kicks man and his trappings out of most of the land mass (re-wilding), requires many things. Those include a structure of organizations to carry out various tasks, substantial sums of money, and a mouthpiece to repeat and legitimize the message.

One such mouthpiece is *Cascadia Times*, a Portland based newspaper that describes itself as “Independent.” Independent of what, it doesn’t say.

Cascadia Times is heavily dependent, however, on the left end of the environmental movement, and its Board of Directors, Advisory Board, and its writers and contributors are major players in the grant-driven Environmental Conflict Industry.

We understand the *Cascadia* story, “Poison in Salmon Country,” contains several inaccurate and/or misleading statements. We leave the necessary steps regarding those to Northwest Mining Association and Hecla Mining.

The Mission and Founders

In this report, **Environomics** focuses on some of the people and organizations behind *Cascadia Times*. Start with its stated mission:

The Pacific Northwest, the region that extends from Northern California through Oregon, Washington and British Columbia to Alaska, and inland to Idaho and Montana, is a region whose identity and character have been formed by its natural environment. The region's natural resources have been the traditional mainstays of the region's economy, and the source of its quality of life. *Cascadia Times* was created to foster a broad public understanding of the natural environment of the Pacific Northwest, and the forces of politics, economics, science and community life that influence policies that affect it, as the region changes and adapts to new environmental and economic conditions.

Cascadia Times aims to be a responsive and responsible publication providing the Pacific Northwest with in-depth coverage of environmental and natural resource issues. *Cascadia Times* uses the tools of investigative journalism to produce accurate, fair and timely articles that examine and expose public policies which foster unsustainable depletion or degradation of the region's natural resources, as well as articles that explore activities in the region which foster conservation and sustainable use of those resources.⁶

The man who wrote the “accurate, fair and timely” article “Poison in Salmon Country” was Mr. Paul Koberstein. Mr. Koberstein was in on the ground floor of building *Cascadia Times*.

Cascadia Times was founded in 1995 by award-winning journalists Paul Koberstein and Kathie Durbin, along with Robin Klein. Paul began his career in Wisconsin, and was a reporter for *The Oregonian* from 1981 through 1992. He won numerous state, regional and national journalism awards, including the top prize for investigative reporting from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association in 1986, 1988 and 1991. He is the co-author of [The Clean Water Act: An Owner's Manual](#) (River Network 1999).⁷

Mr. Koberstein is inarguably a strong investigator, a very good writer and a savvy environmental journalist. His exit from *The Oregonian* apparently was a bit rocky, and likely centered on his views of journalistic fairness. A brief story in the *Washington Free Press* indicates Mr. Koberstein's coverage of Hanford issues was not considered accurate and fair by everyone.

Paul Koberstein, former environmental reporter for the *Oregonian*, told *Spy* that he lost his job following his last big expose' on Hanford. "Westinghouse lobbied vigorously to have me discredited," said Koberstein.⁸

Cascadia Times Research Foundation

So two important elements are in place – Andy Kerr's vision of a re-wilded Northwest, and Paul Koberstein's investigative journalism skills. But it still takes money and infrastructure to change a big corner of the world.

Cascadia Times Publishing Co. is a private entity, and thus little information is readily available beyond the fact that Robin Klein is the Registrant and Paul Koberstein is the Secretary. However, Cascadia Times Research Fund is a non-profit corporation, and therefore more information is divulged. For example, this Research Fund receives grants from anti-mining foundations.

They include:

Lazar Foundation, Oregon

While information on the amount of money the Lazar Foundation has granted the Research Fund isn't readily available, the newspaper's web site says this: "*Cascadia Times* would like to thank the Lazar Foundation for a generous contribution to the Cascadia Times Research Fund for support of research on marine ecosystems.

Northwest Fund for the Environment, Washington

1999 - \$10,000 for "Investigative Journalism for the Pacific Northwest Environment"

1998 - \$7,000 for "Support for Investigative Reporting on environmental issues affecting Washington."

1997 - \$5,000 for "Environmental Issues Affecting the State of Washington: Financial Support"

1997 - \$5,000 for "Support for Research & Coverage of Washington issues"

William C. Kenney Watershed Protection Foundation, California

1999 - \$10,000 for "Water in the West."

Those grant amounts are relatively modest in today's world of the multi-millions foundations bestowed on the various branches of the environmentalist industry. But they also show the beginnings of a pattern.

That pattern is amplified and begins to fill in when one looks at the Board of Directors of Cascadia Times Research Fund, which held its incorporation meeting in June 1998.

As of Oct. 25, 1999, those board members were listed as:

- Ken Margolis, River Network, President
- Mary Wood, University of Oregon School of Law, Vice President
- Ian Gill, Ecotrust Canada
- Chris Peters, Seventh Generation Fund
- Nancy Newell
- Pamela Brown
- Dave Cooke, Treasurer
- Nancy E. Duhnkrack
- Peter M. Lavigne⁹

The people listed above are official members of the Board of Directors of the non-profit organization named the Cascadia Times Research Fund. Listed immediately below are the members of the Board of Advisors of *Cascadia Times*, the newspaper itself.

- Ken Margolis, River Network, Portland. *
- Mary Wood, University of Oregon School of Law, Eugene. *
- Ian Gill, Ecotrust, Vancouver, British Columbia. *
- Christopher Peters, Seventh Generation Fund, Arcata, Calif.*
- Peter Bahouth, Turner Foundation, Atlanta.
- Marshall Mayer, Desktop Assistance, Missoula.
- Charles Wilkinson, University of Colorado School of Law, Boulder.
- Ellen Chu, Northwest Environment Watch, Seattle.
- Sylvia Ward, Northern Alaska Environmental Center, Fairbanks.
- Nancy Newell, Activist, Portland. *
- Susan Alexander, Public Media Center, San Francisco.
- Dr. James Karr, University of Washington, Seattle
- Pamela Brown, Portland Public Schools, Portland. *
- Michael Frome, Writer, Bellingham.
- David James Duncan, Writer, Lolo, Mont.
- Pat Ford, Activist, Boise.
- David Cooke, Certified Public Accountant, Vancouver, Wash.*
- Peter Lavigne, Watershed Consultant, Portland. *
- Catherine Stewart, Greenpeace, Vancouver, British Columbia.
- Jim Stratton, Alaska State Parks, Anchorage.¹⁰

* Indicates members who also serve on Cascadia Times Research Fund Board of Directors.

In the environmental activism industry, that's a powerful lineup. As we'll see, the Advisory Board includes the man who oversees the distribution of Ted Turner's nearly \$20 million in annual giving to environmental groups, the map maker for the environmentalist's roads on the Information Super Highway, and the man who laid the groundwork for the Interior Department's infamous, anti-mining millsite opinion.

The *Cascadia* web site says that the affiliations of the Advisory Board members are listed for identification purposes only. So noted. Below is a brief look at some of the key players behind *Cascadia Times*. This information is not intended to be all-inclusive, but rather to give the reader a well-rounded sense of the philosophical foundation on which *Cascadia Times*' reporting and advocacy rests.

Where applicable, the respective entries also contain information on some – but certainly not all - of the funding sources for their organizations. It's also noteworthy that many of these funding foundations listed below also provide substantial amounts of money for The Lands Council, Northern Plains Resource Council (which ran the anti-mining Initiative 122 in Montana), Okanogan Highlands Alliance, Mineral Policy Center, etc.

Organization Executives

The *Cascadia Times* Advisory Board is well populated with executives from other environmentalist organizations. This helps create some credibility, offers a web of support and ideas, and helps ensure that information and story ideas are readily available. The language in many of the organizations' descriptions of themselves and their staff members often resembles the Andy Kerr lexicon – bioregions, the conservation economy and so forth.

- Ken Margolis, River Network, Portland.

Mr. Ken Margolis heads up River Network, which serves as sort of an umbrella group for numerous river-centered environmental groups throughout the Northwest. It describes itself this way.

River Network was founded in 1988 with the conviction that the solutions to river degradation, like the problems, are primarily local. They must be created by citizen activists, valley by valley and stream by stream. We saw even then that the "top-down" approach could only go so far, that rivers needed a stronger constituency at the grassroots level. We dedicated ourselves to the mission of building citizen groups to speak out for rivers in every watershed across the country. We also believe that sometimes the only way to protect a river is to protect the land along it. We work with private land owners and public agencies to acquire and conserve critical riverlands.¹¹

As noted above, River Network was also the publisher of Paul Koberstein's book, of The Clean Water Act: An Owner's Manual.

River Network does well in the fundraising department. Its benefactors include the Turner Foundation, which is run by fellow advisory board member Peter Bahouth. Other particularly notable funders are the Lazar and Kenney foundations as well as the Northwest Fund for the Environment, all of which contribute to Cascadia Times Research Fund.

Turner Foundation

1998 - \$50,000

For support of the State Clean Water Organizing Initiative, designed to help organizers at the state and local levels to secure cleaner, healthier waters by making better use of the Clean Water Act.

1997 - \$40,000 (listed as River Watch Network)

1996 - \$20,000 (listed as River Watch Network)

Bullitt Foundation, Washington

1999 - \$25,000

George Gund Foundation, Ohio

1999 - \$58,000

1998 - \$63,000

1997 - \$60,000

1996 - \$75,000

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

1996 - \$70,000

W.C. Kenney Watershed Protection Foundation

1999 - \$15,000

1998 - \$10,000

Lazar Foundation, Oregon

1997 - \$5,000

1995 - \$13,000 (\$10,000 to River Network in Portland, and \$3,000 to Montana River Action Network via River Network)

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Michigan

1999 - \$200,000 (over two years)

To provide technical assistance to groups working to conserve rivers and watersheds, to train them in the use of the Clean Water Act to protect and restore rivers, to provide small training grants to groups, and to implement new programs.

Northwest Fund for the Environment, Washington.

1999 - \$12,500

1998 - \$8,000

David and Lucile Packard Foundation, California

1999 - \$1,564,000

Acquisition of an easement on Simmons Ranch, a 2,724-acre riparian parcel in the Big Chico Creek watershed.

Weeden Foundation, New York

1999 - \$20,000

1998 - \$20,000

1997 - \$10,000

Wilburforce Foundation, Washington

1997: \$20,000 for River Legacy Project

1995: \$10,000 for Development of new sources of funding

- **Ian Gill, Ecotrust, Vancouver, British Columbia.**

Ecotrust describes itself this way:

Ecotrust is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building a conservation economy along North America's rain forest coast, the region from San Francisco to Anchorage. We work in both urban and rural areas to support conservation entrepreneurs whose work improves environmental, economic, and social conditions. Measuring our accomplishments by changes in behavior throughout the bioregion, we believe that our work is of vital relevance outside of our region as well.¹²

According to his Ecotrust biography:

Ian Gill is the founding executive director of Ecotrust Canada. Prior to joining Ecotrust Canada in November 1994, Mr. Gill was a writer-broadcaster with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. In his seven years as a television reporter with the CBC, Mr. Gill specialized in land-use, environment and resource issues. His television documentaries won numerous local and international awards. Mr. Gill also spent seven years as a senior reporter and editor with The Vancouver Sun. He is a fellow of *Journalistes en Europe* (1986-87), and contributes frequent articles and commentary to magazines, newspapers, and radio programs. Mr. Gill is a director of Shorebank Enterprise Pacific, the Clayoquot Biosphere Project, and the Nanakila Institute. He is a member of the advisory board of the *Cascadia Times* newspaper, and of the Forestry Advisory Council at the University of B.C. Mr. Gill is

also Chair of Management Group for Ecotrust / Ecotrust Canada. He is the author of Hiking on the Edge: Canada's West Coast Trail, and Haida Gwaii: Journeys Through the Queen Charlotte Islands.¹³

Ecotrust's funding sources include:

Turner Foundation, Georgia

1998 - \$15,000

1997 - \$30,000

1996 - \$10,000

Brainerd Foundation

2000 - \$20,000

Bullitt Foundation, Washington

1999 - \$40,000

1999 - \$40,000 (to Ecotrust U.S.)

Ford Foundation, New York

1999 - \$450,000 (over two years)

To promote sustainable development in the Pacific Northwest

1997 - \$2 million (over 15 years)

To promote conservation-based development in the U.S. Pacific Northwest

1997 - \$375,000

To promote conservation-based development in the U.S. Pacific Northwest

1997 - \$30,000

To prepare a business plan to help a banking institution that supports environmentally sound business development

1995 - \$275,000

To establish a regional banking institution to support environmentally sound business development

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, California

1996 - \$500,000

For general support and support of affiliated organizations in the Pacific Northwest.

Lazar Foundation, Oregon

1995 - \$1,000

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Michigan

1995 - \$150,000

1996 - \$125,000

Northwest Fund for the Environment

1997 - \$10,000

Pew Charitable Trusts, Pennsylvania

1995 - \$50,000

Weeden Foundation, New York

1999 - \$10,000

Wilburforce Foundation, Washington

1999: \$45,000 for a Scientific Assessment of the Heiltsuk Territory

1998: \$20,000 for support of the Aboriginal Mapping Network and for GIS mapping

1997: \$50,000 for B.C. Conservation Mapping Consortium

1995: \$40,000 for Support for Canadian GIS Consortium

- Christopher Peters, Seventh Generation Fund, Arcata, Calif.

Mr. Peters is Executive Director of the Seventh Generation Fund is a nonprofit organization that focuses on Native American issues, particularly those environmental. The fund, which obtains grants and then re-grants much of the money, describes its relevant program this way:

The Native Environmental Initiative component focuses on grassroots frontline work protecting reservation ecosystems, advocating integrated approaches to cultural preservation, and highlighting Indigenous ecological knowledge.

Most of our support in this component is directed to Native environmental struggles and projects engaged in direct actions for holistic recovery of aboriginal territories and ecosystem health.¹⁴

Seventh Generation's funders include:

Turner Foundation, Georgia
1998 - \$10,000
1997 - \$75,000
1996 - \$35,000

Educational Foundation of America, Connecticut
1997 - \$35,000

Foundation for Deep Ecology, California
1998 - \$10,000

Lannan Foundation, New Mexico
1997 - \$85,000
1996 - \$110,000

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Michigan
1998 - \$240,000
1997 - \$240,000
1996 - \$240,000

Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation, New York
1999 - \$20,000
1997 - 70,000
1996 - \$20,000

Public Welfare Foundation, Washington D.C.
1997 - \$60,000
1996 - \$75,000

- Peter Bahouth, Turner Foundation, Atlanta.

Mr. Bahouth is the Executive Director of the (Ted) Turner Foundation, which now dispenses approximately \$20 million in grants to environmental groups annually. He is also the former head of Greenpeace USA.

A 1995 article in the *Chronicle of Philanthropy* was synthesized in *Environment Writer*, which said.

"Frustrated with mainstream environmental groups" who Turner and [Jane] Fonda are described as having "lost touch with the every day concerns of most Americans," the Turner Foundation is expected to focus primarily on environmental and population issues, with grassroots groups likely to be the primary recipients. "We support tree huggers," Turner is quoted as saying. "People who can barely afford to buy hiking boots."

Former Greenpeace USA head Peter Bahouth, executive director of the Turner Foundation, is quoted as saying, "The environmental movement's in transition. Obviously, there's a lot of money in the big national groups. There's not that much money going to the smaller groups.... There's an attitude: We're the big national experts, and we'll take care of the environmental work. Well, that's not where solutions are going to come from. Local people have to respond to these issues in their gut."¹⁵

- Marshall Mayer, Desktop Assistance, Missoula.

Most business people, including those involved in providing natural resources, know little or nothing about either Mr. Marshall Mayer or Desktop Assistance. Yet Desktop has had a profound impact on virtually every mining and timber company in the West.

Desktop was started in 1990 to help environmental groups “tech up” and gain an electronic advantage over the entities they are trying to stymie. Desktop has been wildly successful.

Essentially Desktop serves three main functions for the conflict industry. First, it offers GIS services to help environmentalists attack projects from that technical realm. Second, it develops software for environmental groups to use in various campaigns – including specialized software designed to coordinate environmentalists’ political campaigns to help the candidates they like get elected. Third, Desktop serves as the central post to coordinate comments on EIS’s, roadless moratoriums and the like. Desktop has a database of some 400,000 people in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming alone that it can simply send out a pre-fabricated email and generate thousands and thousands of responses for public comment on federal agency documents.

Desktop is also tuned into the funding sources.

Turner Foundation

1998 - \$5,000

1996 - \$21,000

Beldon Fund, New York

1997 - \$30,000

1996 - \$10,000

Brainerd Foundation

1998 - \$20,000

1997 - \$20,000

1996 - \$20,000

1995 - \$15,000

Northwest Fund for the Environment
1997 - \$150,000
To establish a regional banking institution to support environmentally sound business development

Bullitt Foundation, Washington
1998 - \$30,000
1996 - \$20,000

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, California
1997 - \$300,000 (over two years)
1996 - \$46,350

Lazar Foundation, Oregon
1996 - \$8,000
1995 - \$8,000

Pew Charitable Trusts, Pennsylvania
1996 - \$45,000
For a technical-assistance project designed to expand, improve, and integrate the use of information and communication technologies by regional and national forest-protection coalitions.

Wilburforce Foundation, Washington
1998: \$30,000
1997: \$30,000

- **Ellen Chu, Northwest Environment Watch, Seattle.**

This organization, much like Andy Kerr, places heavy emphasis on sustainability – particularly as they define it. The group describes itself this way:

Northwest Environment Watch (NEW) is an independent, not-for-profit research and publishing organization. NEW's mission is to foster a sustainable economy and way of life in the Pacific Northwest, defined as the watersheds of rivers flowing into the Pacific through the largest rainforest outside the tropics. Supported by memberships and private contributions, NEW publishes action-oriented books designed to inform Northwesterners--and others--with important decisions to make.¹⁶

According to her NEW bio, Ms. Chu is “editorial director, oversees NEW book production and grant writing. She has edited books, magazines and newsletters, including NEW publications, for two decades. She holds degrees from the Universities of California and Paris. A mother of two young children, she trys [sic] to spend the little free time she has getting her kids outdoors for a hike or cross country ski trip.”¹⁷

Northwest Environment Watch's funding includes:

Turner Foundation, Georgia

1998 - \$15,000

1997 - \$15,000

1996 - \$20,000

Ford Foundation, New York

1998 - \$100,000

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

1996 - \$40,000

Lazar Foundation, Oregon

1997 - \$10,000

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Illinois

1997 - \$60,000

Nathan Cummings Foundation, New York

2000 - \$120,000 (over two years)

Weeden Foundation, New York

2000 - \$25,000

1998 - \$25,000

Wilburforce Foundation, Washington

1998: \$5,000

1997: \$15,000

- **Sylvia Ward, Northern Alaska Environmental Center, Fairbanks.**

Ms. Ward is the Center's Executive Director. The Center works on several environmental issues, with its main focus on stopping drilling in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge.

Brainerd Foundation, Washington

2000- \$1,500

1999 - \$20,000

1999 - \$3,000

1999 - \$20,000

Lazar Foundation, Oregon

1996 - \$2,500

1995 - \$8,000

Wilburforce Foundation, Washington

1998: \$30,000

1997: \$40,000

1996: \$26,000

- **Susan Alexander, Public Media Center, San Francisco.**

The Public Media Center offers services to a wide variety of non-profit clients. For example, in 1995 the Center received nearly \$4 million in grants from the California Wellness Foundation "For a public-education project to increase awareness of the merits, background, and consequences of Proposition 188,

the California Uniform Tobacco Control Act.” The Center also has received notable grants to support its training on AIDS, family planning and uninsured citizens.¹⁸

This March, however, the Center received a \$100,000 grant from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation in New Jersey “For the Dodge Environmental Technical Assistance Program, which trains the foundation's environmental-grant recipients in public relations.”¹⁹ Like most foundations, the Dodge Foundation wants to make certain its investment are supported and successful, and media training for its grant recipients is a key tool in attaining that goal.

ACADEMICS

It is critical for any movement – environmentalist or otherwise – to have strong ties to academia. Public polling shows that people tend to view university professors as better-informed, less biased, and less apt to bend to money and pressure, as compared to many other segments of society.

- Mary Wood, University of Oregon School of Law, Eugene.

Ms. Wood’s biography at the University is as follows.

Wood, J.D., associate professor. B.A. summa cum laude, 1984 (Phi Beta Kappa) Washington (Seattle); J.D., 1987, Stanford. Washington bar, 1989; Oregon bar, 1990. While at Stanford, Wood served as a project editor of the Stanford Environmental Law Journal. After graduating, Wood clerked on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals for Judge Proctor Hug, Jr. She then practiced environmental and natural resources law with the law firm of Perkins Coie in the Seattle and Portland offices. Just before joining the faculty in 1992, Wood served as special counsel to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, representing the agency in the Endangered Species Act Proceedings for the Northern spotted owl before the Exemption Committee. She teaches Indian Law, Public Land Law, Hazardous Waste Law, and Wildlife Law. She also publishes in environmental law and Indian law. Wood recently received the university's Ersted Award for Distinguished Teaching. She is a native Oregonian and enjoys tennis, backpacking, cross-country skiing, and bicycling.²⁰

- Charles Wilkinson, University of Colorado School of Law, Boulder.

Mr. Wilkinson’s bio as a law professor at the University of Colorado speaks for itself.

Charles Wilkinson, the Moses Lasky Professor of Law at the University of Colorado, graduated from Stanford Law School and practiced with private firms in Phoenix and San Francisco and then with the Native American Rights Fund. In 1975, Wilkinson joined the Oregon law faculty. He visited at the Michigan and Minnesota law schools before moving to Colorado in 1987. The University of Colorado has named him Distinguished Professor, one of 20 in the state-wide system.

[W]ilkinson has received teaching awards from his students at the Oregon, Michigan, and Colorado law schools. The Universities of Colorado and Oregon have given him their highest awards for leadership, scholarship, and teaching. In 1990, the National Wildlife Federation presented him with its National Conservation Award. In 1992, in its 10-year anniversary issue, *Outside Magazine* named him one of 15 "People to Watch," calling him "the West's leading authority on natural resources law." He has served on several boards, including The Wilderness Society, Northern Lights Institute, and the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado.

Over the years, Wilkinson has taken on many special assignments for the Departments of Interior, Agriculture, and Justice. He served as special counsel to the Interior Department with respect to

the drafting of the Presidential Proclamation, signed by President Clinton in September, 1996, establishing the Grand-Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah. He served as an expert witness for the United States, in the Snake River Basin Adjudication (Idaho), in support of federal reserved water rights in the national forests. He is acting as facilitator in negotiations between the National Park Service and the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe concerning a tribal land base in Death Valley National Park. In December 1997 Agriculture Secretary Glickman appointed him a member of the Committee of Scientists, which is charged with reviewing the Forest Service planning regulations.²¹

In other words, Mr. Wilkinson, who helped Interior Solicitor John Leshy develop the millsite decision, who is a former member of the Wilderness Society Board of Directors, who penned the Escalante Grand Staircase monument declaration, is a member of the newspaper's Advisory Board.

- **Dr. James Karr, University of Washington, Seattle.**

Dr. Karr is a professor of fisheries and zoology at the University of Washington, and as such was named to the federal government's Hanford Advisory Board, the group that was named to develop the master plan for the nuclear reservation's cleanup.²²

He is also co-author of the book, Restoring Life in Running Waters: Better Biological Monitoring. His co-author is Ms. Ellen Chu of Northwest Environment Watch, who is also on the *Cascadia Times* Advisory Board with Dr. Karr. It is notable that the publisher of the book is Island Press. That is the publishing house of the Center for Resource Economics, a non-profit organization that receives huge sums of grant money from foundations that fund the environmental movement.

- **Peter Lavigne, Watershed Consultant, Portland.**

While Mr. Lavigne is a member of the newspaper's Advisory Board, and was the inaugural President of the Education Fund, neither lists his affiliation beyond "Watershed Consultant."

The director of the watershed-management professional program at Portland State University is named Peter Lavigne.²³ Mr. Lavigne has also written for River Network on watershed issues.²⁴

- **Pamela Brown, Portland Public Schools, Portland.**

Lazar Foundation
1996 - \$4,000

WRITERS

The Advisory Board itself includes some of the northwest's most significant environmentalist authors and writers, and other writers of note are contributors to the newspaper.

- **David James Duncan, Writer, Lolo, Mont.**

Mr. Duncan is a relatively well-known novelist, having written the books The Brothers K and The River Why. With regard to mining, Mr. Duncan's largest impact was his guest opinion article in the April 12, 1997 issue of the *New York Times* voicing his opposition to the McDonald Gold Project. Mr. Duncan's piece essentially was a more eloquent version of the Mineral Policy Center's 1872 Mining Law rhetoric.

Excerpts include:

- But thanks to a new American gold rush, the Blackfoot is facing a grave threat. While mining corporations enjoy a bonanza, we taxpayers subsidize the industry and pay billions to clean up the mess left behind.
- The Phelps Dodge Corporation of Arizona, in a joint venture with a Colorado company, Canyon Resources, wants to mine gold at McDonald Meadows, an eight-square mile site on the upper Blackfoot. Phelps Dodge plans to use trainloads of explosives to turn a riverside butte where elk are now calving into a hole more than a mile in diameter and as deep as the World Trade Center is tall.
- To glean tiny gold flecks from the ore, the company proposes stacking it twice the height of the Statue of Liberty over an area larger than New York's Central Park, and pouring billions of gallons of cyanide-laced water in a technique known as heap-leach gold mining.
- In Summitville, Colo., where the climate is similar, a now-bankrupt Canadian company, Galactic Resources Inc., opened a cyanide heap-leach gold mine in 1986. The plastic containment system ruptured, spewing millions of gallons of poison, killing all life in the Alamosa River and seriously damaging much of the upper Rio Grande. Cleanup has cost taxpayers \$150 million and the Alamosa remains lifeless.
- Gold mining, by contrast, is of little economic benefit to the state. But it is of great benefit to mining companies, thanks to the 1872 Mining Law, under which companies can stake claims on Federal land for no more than \$5 an acre. They also pay no royalties on the billions of dollars worth of minerals they mine each year. The Canadian-owned American Barrick Resources, for example, paid \$9,765 for 1,949 acres in Elko, Nev., in 1994 and is expected to mine \$10 billion worth of gold there.

- **Michael Frome, Writer, Bellingham.**

Mr. Frome is a member of the Society of American Travel Writers' National Parks Initiative Committee.²⁵ A successful author, Frome has, like Mr. Koberstein, left jobs amid controversy.

Frome, who was axed by *American Forests* magazine in 1971 and *Field and Stream* magazine in 1974 for being too strident and controversial, has now been dismissed by *Defenders* magazine as a regular columnist.²⁶

Defenders is the magazine of Defenders of Wildlife organization.

Mr. Duncan's opinion piece had two notable effects. It helped to nationalize the McDonald Gold Project issue, and it served as an endorsement of opposition to the mine by a powerful newspaper.

Other Writers

In addition to Mr. Kerr, several other writers – who are not on any affiliated board – are listed by *Cascadia Times* as contributors. They include Richard Manning of Missoula and Alan Durning of Seattle.

Dick Manning is a former *Missoulian* reporter and author of various books, including One Round River: The Curse of Gold and the Fight for the Blackfoot.

A review of the book says this:

As he describes the grassroots resistance to mining, Manning makes it clear where he stands. "I haven't the slightest interest in providing balance to this story," he says, for along the embattled river and its environs he still finds a stunning, regenerative natural world one that mining, he believes, would destroy, perhaps forever. It is Manning's special talent to raise landscapes--grasslands, headwaters--to exalted status through prose that is ardent and uncompromising: "How can you ask me to trade clean rivers and my mountains for your Rolex watch?"²⁷

Alan Durning runs Northwest Environment Watch, the same organization of Ms. Chu, listed above as a member of the Cascadia Times Advisory Board. His bio states Mr. Durning is:

"[E]xecutive director, returned home to Seattle to help found Northwest Environment Watch. At NEW he has written Green-Collar Jobs (1999), Tax Shift (1998), Misplaced Blame: The Real Roots of Population Growth (1997), This Place on Earth (1996), The Car and the City (1996), and co-authored Stuff: The Secret Lives of Everyday Things (1997). Alan was a senior researcher at Worldwatch Institute in Washington, D.C., where he studied the human dimensions of sustainability. Previously, he wrote the award-winning book How Much Is Enough? The Consumer Society and the Future of the Earth along with chapters in seven *State of the World* reports and articles in hundreds of other publications. A sought-after speaker, he has lectured at the White House, major universities, and conferences on five continents. He lives with his wife and children in Seattle."²⁸

ACTIVISTS

As you recall, Messrs. Turner and Bahouth of the Turner Foundation have made clear the importance of working with smaller, on-the-ground, and at times more radical, organizations. Somebody has to be the foot soldiers.

- Catherine Stewart, Greenpeace, Vancouver, British Columbia.

Greenpeace is the well-known, relatively radical environmental organization.

Turner Foundation

1998 - \$10,000
1997 - \$40,000
1996 - \$40,000

Brainerd Foundation

2000 - \$45,000

To support negotiations between British Columbia's conservation community, provincial government and coastal logging industry to develop an ecosystem-based land use plan for the province's coastal rainforest; and, to support Greenpeace's efforts to bring market pressure to bear on these negotiations.

Wilburforce Foundation

1997: \$2,000 for Broken Promises Campaign newspaper ads

Other subjects

The type of story done about Hecla's Grouse Creek Operation the norm, not the exception for *Cascadia Times*.

Willamette Industries, the wood products company, was the subject of similar "accurate, fair and timely articles" in a series titled "Willamette Industry's dirty air triggers federal prosecution." Oil companies were given comparable treatment in "Raiding Alaska: BP-ARCO merger threatens Arctic environment."

Not surprisingly, *Cascadia Times* has written generally favorable articles on some subjects, including the Clinton Roadless Initiative, and it has painted its view of the dam breaching issue. It has also delved into mining issues previously, with a Special Mining Issue titled "Mountains of Treasure, Rivers of Sorrow." The newspaper also has devoted articles to the region's Congressional delegations, as well as "Politics, Polluters and Campaign Contributions."

Summary

Cascadia Times is an organ of the environmentalist industry, closely tied to those with Andy Kerr's vision of re-wilding the Northwest. It consists of two organizations – a private newspaper and an affiliated nonprofit research foundation – that are both overseen by boards of directors. Those boards are populated with environmentalists who share that same vision. It is clear that the newspaper has an anti-business, anti-mining agenda, and its work can hardly be considered unbiased journalism.

¹ Andy Kerr, biography for Alternatives to Growth Oregon. Web site accessed May 14, 2000.

² Andy Kerr, "ONRC's executive director outlines 100-year plan for state," *Oregonian*, Sept. 11, 1994.

³ Andy Kerr, "ONRC's executive director outlines 100-year plan for state," *Oregonian*, Sept. 11, 1994.

⁴ Andy Kerr, "ONRC's executive director outlines 100-year plan for state," *Oregonian*, Sept. 11, 1994.

⁵ Andy Kerr, "ONRC's executive director outlines 100-year plan for state," *Oregonian*, Sept. 11, 1994.

⁶ "Who is Cascadia Times?" Web site accessed May 10, 2000.

⁷ "Who is Cascadia Times?" Web site accessed May 10, 2000.

⁸ "Contaminated Broadcasting System," *Washington Free Press*, July/August, 1996, Seattle.

⁹ Cascadia Times Research Fund, attachment to 1998 Form CT-12, Charitable Activities Section, Oregon Department of Justice.

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- ¹⁰ “Who is Cascadia Times?” Web site accessed May 10, 2000.
- ¹¹ “About River Network.” Web site accessed May 10, 2000.
- ¹² “Building a Conservation Community,” Ecotrust web site accessed May 16, 2000
- ¹³ Ian Gill, Staff Biographies, Ecotrust Canada. Web site accessed May 10, 2000
- ¹⁴ “Native Environmental Initiative,” Seventh Generation Fund web site, accessed May 16, 2000.
- ¹⁵ *Environment Writer*, National Safety Council, June 25, 1997.
- ¹⁶ Northwest Environment Watch. Web site accessed May 16, 2000.
- ¹⁷ Ellen Chu biography, “Northwest Environment Watch Staff.” Web site accessed May 10, 2000.
- ¹⁸ Public Media Center, *Chronicle of Philanthropy* database search.
- ¹⁹ Public Media Center, *Chronicle of Philanthropy* database search.
- ²⁰ Professor Mary C. Wood, School of Law, University of Oregon. Web site accessed May 9, 2000.
- ²¹ Charles Wilkinson, Distinguished University Professor biography, University of Colorado. Web site accessed May 9, 2000.
- ²² John Stang, “Members of new Hanford advisory panel named,” *Tri-City Herald*,” Aug. 14, 1998
- ²³ Patty Wentz, “Cutting through the CRP,” *Willamette Week*, Nov. 17, 1999.
- ²⁴ “Watershed Approaches.” River Network web site, accessed May 16, 2000.
- ²⁵ “Mission Statement,” Society of American Travel Writers. Web site accessed May 9, 2000.
- ²⁶ “*Defenders Magazine Fires Fiery Writer*,” *High Country News*, April 19 1993.
- ²⁷ From Kirkus Reviews, Nov. 1, 1997 (accessed at Amazon.com).
- ²⁸ Alan Durning biography, “Northwest Environment Watch Staff.” Web site accessed May 10, 2000.