



The Conservation Alliance

www.conservationalliance.com

CONSERVATION ALLIANCE GRANTEE UPDATES: AUGUST 2007

(The Conservation Alliance has funded each of the following projects over the past 18 months)

Alaska Wilderness League

Beaufort Sea Protected from Oil Drilling... for Now: On August 15, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals



granted Alaska Wilderness League and other Native and conservation organizations' request that Shell Offshore halt all exploratory drilling activity in the Beaufort Sea just off of the Arctic Refuge until the court decides whether environmental harms were properly considered. The court ruling marked a victory for subsistence communities and marine wildlife including the polar bear and the endangered bowhead whale. The ruling also suggests that Shell's longer term plans of drilling in the Beaufort Sea might be in danger. For more

info, see: <http://www.alaskawild.org/alaskawild-update-265-august-16-2007/#more-360>

American Whitewater

Dillsboro Dam to be Removed: On July 19th, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)



released a decision that will allow the removal of Dillsboro Dam. The 12 foot tall and 310 foot long hydroelectric dam is located on the Tuckasegee River in Western North Carolina, and is a significant barrier to fish, mussels, and other aquatic organisms. It is also a barrier to paddlers, on an otherwise popular and accessible Class II river. With this nod of approval from FERC, dam removal could begin as early as January 2008, and should be completed within three years. American Whitewater played an important

role in participating in the FERC dam relicensing process that resulted in the decision to remove Dillsboro Dam. For more info, see:

http://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Article_view_articleid_29768_display_full

Arizona Wilderness Coalition

Tumacacori Highlands One Step Closer to Protection: On August 1, Representative Raul Grijalva



introduced legislation to permanently protect 85,000 acres in Southern Arizona's Tumacacori Highlands. This introduction is an important step toward final protection for the rolling hills, rugged canyons, and rare species habitat of the Tumacacori. The area, part of the Coronado National Forest, is just an hour's drive south of roughly one million people in metropolitan Tucson. Arizona Wilderness Coalition has played an instrumental role in building local support for the protection effort. For

more info, see: http://www.azwild.org/resources/tumacacori_bill.php

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society

Nahanni National Park Preserve Expansion Underway: On August 8, Canadian Prime Minister



Stephen Harper announced that the Canadian federal government has “withdrawn” more than 7 million acres from potential development to allow for the eventual expansion of Nahanni National Park Reserve. The park expansion process is scheduled to be completed by October 2008. CPAWS has led the effort to expand Nahanni from its current size of 1.2 million acres to include the entire Nahanni River watershed. For more info,

see: <http://cpaws.org/news/archive/2007/08/progress-on-protecting-nahanni.php>

Colorado Environmental Coalition

Rocky Mountain National Park Protections Move Forward: The Senate Subcommittee on National



Parks held a July 12 hearing on a bill that would protect as wilderness nearly 250,000 acres (94 percent) of Colorado’s Rocky Mountain National Park. CEC has led the effort to secure these protections, which enjoy broad support within Colorado and the outdoor industry. For more info, see:

http://ourcolorado.wsm.ga6.org/media-center/press-releases/pr_070514.html

Oregon Wild

Mount Hood Wilderness Makes Progress: The ongoing effort to protect wilderness and wild rivers

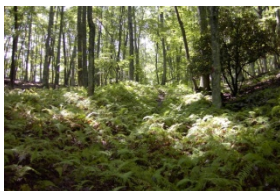


on Oregon’s Mount Hood took an important step forward on July 25 when protective legislation passed out of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The legislation now stands a good chance of clearing the entire Senate this Summer, and will then move to the House of Representatives. The legislation would secure Wilderness protection for 128,000 acres of public land and 81 miles of rivers on Mount Hood. For more info, see:

http://oregonwild.org/wilderness/mount_hood_wilderness_campaign/index.html

Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition

Virginia Forests Closer to Protection: Virginia Representative Rick Boucher’s (D) bill to protect



55,000 acres in the Jefferson National Forest as wilderness, wilderness study or national scenic areas was approved by the House Resources Committee during a June 28 mark-up session, and awaits action by the Agriculture Committee. Parts of the Appalachian Trail run through this area, which offers breathtaking views of the Blue Ridge, covered by old-growth trees and incised by clear streams. For more info, see:

http://www.safc.org/campaigns/va_wilderness_bill.php