



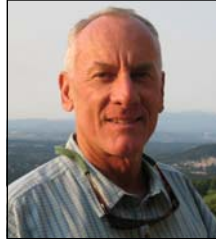
Molalla River Alliance

INTERIM REPORT: July 2008

July 23, 2008

Letter from the president

Dear Alliance Members,



I hope this finds you in good health and enjoying the great weather (finally!).

On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to provide the first of what will become an ongoing series of updates on the progress of your Molalla River Alliance. There has been exciting progress on many fronts. There remains much work to be done ... on many fronts.

I want to encourage your continuing support and participation. Please get involved with your committees. Listed on page two are the names and e-mail addresses of each committee's leader.

The efforts of the Alliance continue to attract growing and diverse support from numerous organizations, associations and individuals that share our goals and are willing to help. I strongly believe this will be a key to our success. So, if you are aware of other individuals, groups, or organizations that want to role up their sleeves with us, please introduce them to the MRA.

We look to broaden the expertise and diversity of skills of the Alliance. We will benefit greatly if we can attract the following as full-time members: (1) scientist / biologist; (2) public relations specialist; (3) fund raiser / grant writer (4) university connection; (5) attorney; (6)

IT technician. If you are aware of individuals who might have the time, talent and dedication, please let me know.

And, some exciting news is the opening of the MRA office in downtown Molalla. See more inside and make sure to put the Open House date (Aug. 21st) on your calendars.

More exciting news! Read inside about how MRA members helped save a small girl's life on the River.

Finally, if there are questions you have or the need for additional information, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Thank you all for your great, great work!

Enclosed with this report please find the following:

Who We Are:

- Our Mission
- Our Goals
- Our Key Conservation Priorities
- Strategic Issues

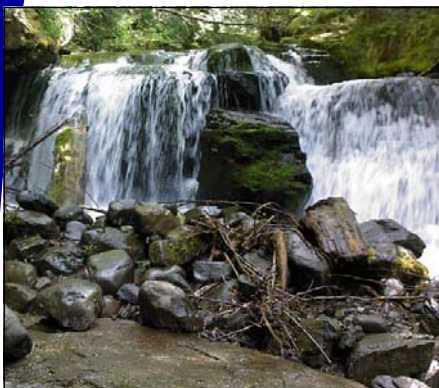
I encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with these for they are the most important words we will produce. They serve to state our purpose, ethics and values, clarify our goals, and provide

guidance when confronted with tough issues. They are the principles which guide our collective efforts as the Molalla River Alliance and will be included on our web site.

Mike Moody
moody@teleport.com
 (503) 699-8704
 (503) 697-7233 (fax)

Save these dates

- Office Open House: Thursday Aug. 21
- MRA Meeting of Members: TBD



JNSJDE

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Who we are

The Molalla River Alliance is a non-profit, all-volunteer conservation group, comprised of more than 30 public and private, local, state and federal organizations, groups and individuals, dedicated to playing a leading role in protecting and preserving the water quality of the Molalla River and to sustaining the wildlife, fish and plants that inhabit its watershed.

Our foremost commitment is to the benefit and health of the River and its ecosystem for the consequential enjoyment by all people. For our efforts to be successful, we endorse an ecosystem-based management approach that considers the benefits to the River above those of any single species, activity, or group, including humans.



Our Mission

The Mission of the Molalla River Alliance is to safeguard, enhance and sustain the ecosystem and natural resources of the Molalla River for enjoyment and benefit of all people forever.

Our Goals

To promote efforts that preserve the water quality and biodiversity of the Molalla River and to protect and sustain the natural resources that inhabit its watershed

To promote a safe and healthy environment that encourages diverse enjoyment of the Molalla River Recreation Corridor including tourism and family-friendly activities

Our Key Conservation Priorities

The Molalla River Alliance will:

- Identify threats to the natural resources of the Molalla River and define abatement strategies
- Utilize ecosystem-based management plans which are measurable and favor long-term benefits;
- Protect, improve and manage habitats critical for breeding, spawning or nesting

- Engage multiple and diverse private and public stakeholders to forge collaborative, trust-based mutually beneficial partnerships
- Work with law enforcement partners to alleviate adverse effects of human activities on the River
- Distinguish cultural, economic and political influences which may contribute to threats to, or may enhance opportunities for, the Molalla River
- Promote increased public awareness of vital conservation issues affecting the Molalla River
- Share with others what we learn
- Implement plans which encourage accessibility and encourage day-use activities
- Increase law enforcement and patrols in the Corridor
- Support efforts to eliminate dumping, littering, vandalism, and drug use and underage drinking parties in the Corridor
- Improve communication systems for public health and safety;
- Maintain a substantial riparian zone along the Molalla River
- Eliminate motorized access to areas that are not manageable
- Pursue Wild and Scenic River status for the upper Molalla River

Strategic Issues

- Work with the BLM to create a comprehensive management plan for the Molalla River Recreation Corridor;
- Encourage management of the Corridor for recreation, water quality, and fish and wildlife
- Encourage the removal of dispersed camping areas and create and maintain full-service designated campground(s)
- Restrict camping between Molalla River Forest Road and the river to reduce adverse impacts to the riparian ecosystem

COMMITTEE LEADERS

Science: Tom Derry
tom@molalla.net

Law Enforcement/
Communications::

Bob Loucks

molallaretreat@molalla.net

Sgt. Gordon White

gordon@co.clackamas.or.us

Recreation: Bill Taylor

btaylor@molalla.net

Outreach/P.R.: John Atkins

atkins@molalla.net

COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Your Board believes the strength and diversity of the MRA will be enhanced by expanding the number of Board members. To that end, the Board of Directors agreed to expand the board by at least four members-at-large and will present this for a vote of the entire membership at our next meeting.

Also at the next general meeting, a proposal will be presented to stagger terms of the board to assure continuity and ease of transition.

TOURISM GRANTS

Thanks to John Atkins efforts, MRA applied for and received a \$3000 tourism grant to develop an MRA website and brochures. Great job, John!!

PRESENTATION TO SALMON STRONGHOLD

On June 19th, the MRA presented at the North American Salmon Stronghold Partnership meeting, a biological profile of the Molalla River and a summary of the conservation challenges and opportunities faced by the River. The Stronghold Partnership works to direct resources to river conservation efforts which promote fish-friendly land and water practices. They lend support to effective local and regional actions that will sustain fish populations.

Of key interest to the Stronghold are the widespread efforts by the Molalla River Alliance. Our work was very ably presented by board member Mark Schmidt.

We feel the Alliance fits the criteria of the Stronghold Partnership and will learn later this year if the Molalla River is to be included in the Stronghold.

OFFICE

The Alliance has entered into an agreement to share office space with other conservation groups with commitments to the Molalla River and surrounding area. It is intended that the office will become THE center of information and knowledge about the entire Molalla Recreation Corridor. Any organization involved with the River will be able to display their brochures, maps, books, etc. We are in the process of fixing/painting/cleaning it up.

The address is 103 S. Molalla Ave., Molalla.

We will be holding an **OPEN HOUSE** at our new offices on Thursday evening, **August 21st**. Put it on your calendar and we hope to see you there.

WEB SITE and BROCHURE

We are diligently working in earnest on the MRA website and brochures. Much of the copy has been completed and soon we will turn it over to a webmaster for construction. The website will also include links to all MRA-member organizations as well as information pertinent to tourism and education. If you want your group's web link included, please let Fran Taylor know at btaylor@molalla.net. Also, if any of you are interested in helping on these vital tools, please let Fran know.

WILD & SCENIC RIVER

The MRA is working with American Rivers to gain Wild & Scenic Recreation designation for the Molalla River. We are in the process of securing support from Clackamas County, numerous organizations and our U.S. Congressional delegates, including Senators Wyden and Smith, etc. Rep. Darlene Hooley, who will leave office in November, sees designation of the Molalla as part of her legacy and is a strong advocate. Congress adjourns September 26th, so, we have a very narrow window to present our case in this election year.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Thanks to the efforts of Bob Loucks and Sgt. Gordon White of the Molalla Police, law enforcement efforts have been stepped-up in the Corridor.

Coordinated patrols have been implemented in cooperation with Clackamas County Sheriff, Oregon State Police and BLM enforcement officers.

Two officers are now traveling in a car; heavy enforcement patrols on Friday nights and a rules and regulations flyer has been created that can be handed out to users in the Corridor. According to numerous comments, their efforts have seen a marked decline in vandalism, underage drinking and general criminal activity.

HAPPY ENDING!!

Also, on their very first weekend of expanded patrols, they played a critical role in saving the life of a 4-year-old girl who nearly drowned. Great job you guys!!

Special thanks to Gordon and his teams. Fantastic job!!





BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Our friends at BLM have been very busy in the Corridor, including expanding the camp hosts program to two full-time pairs; installing portable toilets in the Corridor on high-use weekends; replacing damaged signage, and supporting the Wild and Scenic status for the Molalla River. In addition, they have offered the Alliance a marvelous opportunity to provide key input in drafting the Management Plan for the Molalla Corridor. We very much appreciate the help of Cindy, Zack, Wade and Adam.

In addition, recently BLM biologists provided members of the Alliance with a comprehensive and very informative tour of the Corridor. Thank you, BLM!

MRA Partners

- American Rivers
- Back Country Horsemen
- BARK
- Bee Ranch
- Bureau of Land Management
- City of Molalla
- Friends of the Molalla
- Kaitlin Lovell, Bureau of Environmental Services / City of Portland
- Clackamas County Parks and Recreation
- Clackamas County Sheriff
- David Moskowitz, Confluence Consulting, LLC
- Andrea Salinas, Office of Congresswoman Darlene Hooley
- DEQ / Karen Williams
- Ecotrust
- Friends of the Molalla River
- Glen Avon Neighborhood Association
- Hamlet of Mulino
- Jo Anne Dolan, Lluvia Buena
- Mazamas
- Molalla Community Planning Organization
- Molalla Pioneer Newspaper
- Molalla Police Department
- Molalla Retreat
- Molalla RiverWatch
- Molalla River Anglers
- Native Fish Society
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- North American Salmon Stronghold Program
- Northwest Steelheaders
- Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW)
- Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)
- Oregon Equestrian Trails
- Oregon State Police
- Oregon Trout
- Oregon Wild
- Peachuck Lookout Advocacy Group
- Sierra Club
- South Clackamas Community Planning Organization
- Steven H. Smith Fisheries Consulting, Inc.
- Todos Juntos
- Trails End Campground
- Western Rivers
- Willamette Riverkeeper
- Individual Landowners and Neighbors



Photo captions

Page one upper left: Photo of Ogle Creek Falls taken in June 2008. Photo by Russell Bassett

Page one lower left: Jay Nicholas, North America Salmon Stronghold Partnership program manager, lands a Molalla River wild winter steelhead this winter. Photo by Mark Schmidt

Page one center: Photo of a sunrise over the Molalla River just below the confluence of the North Fork taken in 2006. Photo by Mark Schmidt

Page two: Photo of confluence of Lukens Creek with North Fork taken in 2005. Photo by Russell Bassett

Page three: Photo of the Main Fork in the Molalla River Recreation Corridor taken earlier this year. Photo by John Atkins

Page four top from left: BLM fish biologists Bob Ruediger and Joe Moreau discuss camping impacts in the Corridor with MRA Recreation Committee Chair Bill Taylor earlier this month. Photo by Russell Bassett

Page four bottom: A rafter enjoys one of the many recreation opportunities in the Corridor with her dog. Photo by Ryan Morgan

Wild and Scenic *Molalla River*



The beautifully scenic *Molalla River* originates in the Western Cascades, tumbling through private and public forests to the Willamette River. It supports a variety of ecosystems and provides many recreational opportunities as well as clean drinking water for the cities of Molalla and Canby.

Location

Clackamas County, Oregon

Proposed Length

21.3 miles

Proposed Classification

Recreational

Agency Manager

Public domain lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management acquired in a 1992 land trade



The *Molalla River's* Outstandingly Remarkable Values

Scenic: Deep clear pools, cascading whitewater, and lush forests provide recreation and enjoyment for the thousands of people who visit the *Molalla River* Recreation Corridor each year.

Recreation: The Corridor offers year-round recreational opportunities such as hiking, biking, horseback riding, fishing, kayaking, swimming, picnicking, nature watching, and photography in a rural area close to Molalla as well as surrounding Clackamas County and the Portland metropolitan area.

Geology: Ancient basalt formations characterize the geology of the canyon. The river cuts deeply into these formations creating narrow canyons and beautiful rock outcrops, vertical columns, horizontal post piles, and a spectacular and unusual columnar rosette formation that emerges like sunrays from the narrow canyon wall down into the crystal-clear water.

Cultural: Native Americans established a trail along the *Molalla River* now known as the "Historic Table Rock Trail". This trail was used to access huckleberry fields near Table Rock, and provided a key trade route with peoples across the Cascades in central and southern Oregon. Evidence of the trail's origins is provided by archeological sites found along the trail including Image Rock, a petroglyph boulder

Community: Wild and Scenic Recreation designation for the *Molalla River* has broad community support. The Molalla River Alliance is a non-profit coalition of more than 40 public and private, local, state, and federal organizations dedicated to playing a leading role in protecting and preserving the water quality of the *Molalla River* and to sustaining the wildlife, fish and plants that inhabit the watershed.

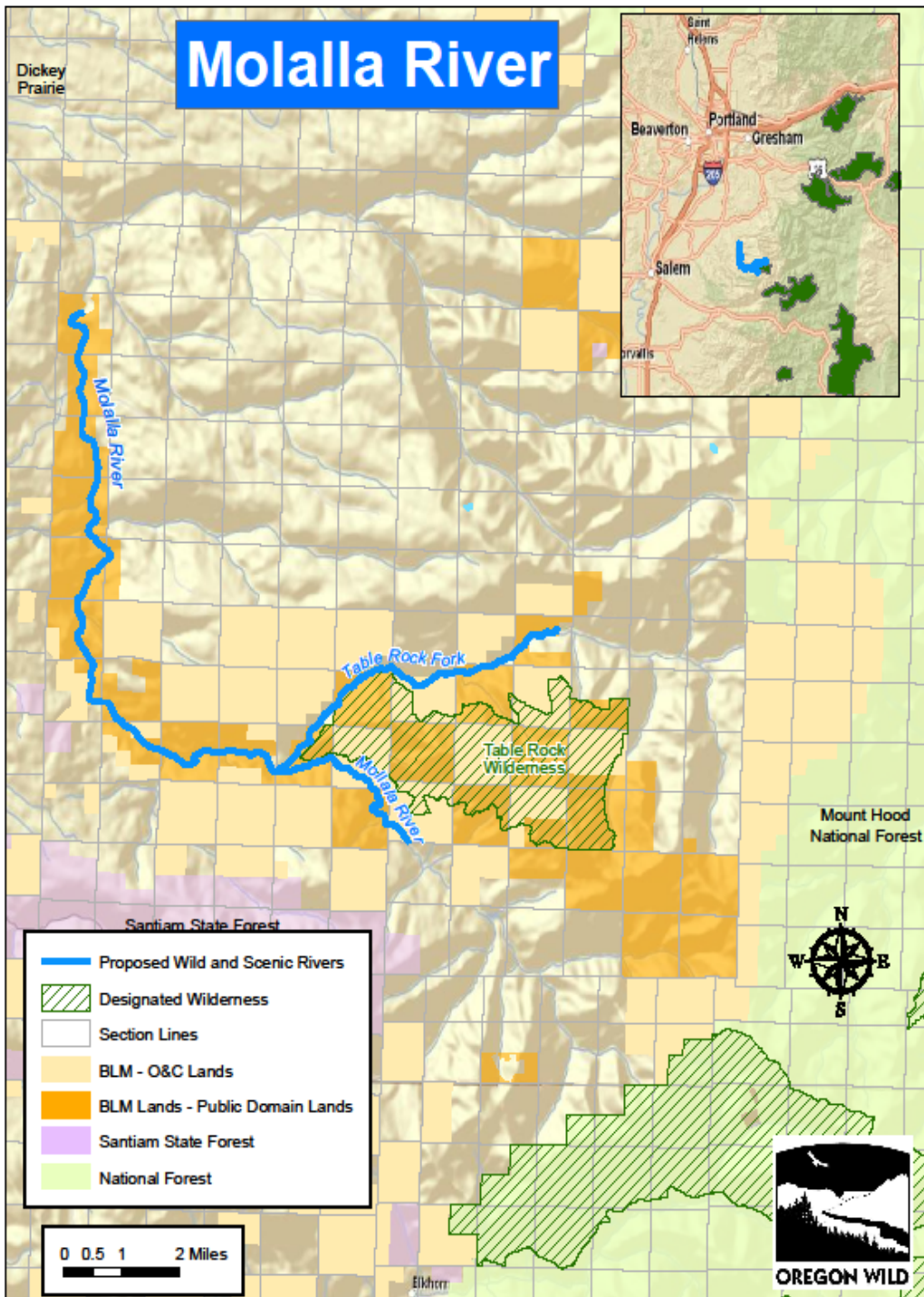
Protection of the upper *Molalla River* and its tributaries will protect and enhance the values provided by the river and bring needed economic benefits to the Molalla community.





Supporters of Wild and Scenic Designation for the Molalla River

- American Rivers
- BARK
- City of Molalla
- Kaitlin Lovell, Salmon Manager, Local Municipality
- City of Molalla
- Clackamas County Sheriff Craig Roberts
- Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation District
- David Moskowitz, Confluence Consulting, LLC
- Congresswoman Darlene Hooley
- Karen Williams, DEQ Basin Coordinator
- Ecotrust
- Friends of the Molalla River
- Glen Avon Neighborhood Association
- Hamlet of Mulino
- Jo Anne Dolan, Lluvia Buena
- Molalla Community Planning Organization
- Molalla Police Department
- Molalla Retreat
- Molalla River Alliance
- Molalla RiverWatch
- Northwest Steelheaders
- Native Fish Society
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Olalla Bee Ranch Club
- Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Oregon State Police
- Oregon Trout
- Oregon Wild
- Peachuck Lookouts
- Ryan Morgan, Todos Juntos
- Sierra Club
- South Clackamas Community Planning Organization
- Steven H. Smith Fisheries Consulting, Inc.
- Wild Salmon Center
- Willamette Riverkeeper
- Individual landowners and neighbors



Contact: MRA Board President Mike Moody at 6002 Jean Rd., Ste. 200. Lake Oswego, OR 97035. moody@teleport.com