

# Diamond Lake

## And a Summer Cloud Cap

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Diamond Lake and Mt. Thielson on a late August evening.

### President's Message....

One of my favorite early childhood memories is the excitement of riding in the back of my Dad's pickup (no seat belts required), heading for the cabin. As we drive higher up the mountain, the smell of the pines fills my nose and then.... There it is, the call of the Mountain Jay. You don't hear that in the valley! My brother would drift off to sleep, but not me. There were deer in those woods and I would watch closely, developing the hunters eye. Even the slightest movement would not escape me. Was that a raven or a hawk? Dad, Dad (pounding on the pickup window)... Stop, stop.... Dad, it's an EAGLE. My heart soared with that majestic bird and it still does!

What a privilege it is to be one of the scant 14+ thousand cabin owners to hold a Forest Service permit. We love our cabin and the friendships of our like-minded mountain neighbors who hearts are also warmed by the

call of the Stellar Jay. The serenity of our special 'Quiet Place' is being threatened by a changing world. 14,000 against the needs of several hundred million? We must remain united and focused on preserving the program and our relationships among neighboring cabin owners. We cannot let our differences divide us. It is sometimes difficult over the whap of fire helicopters dipping out of the lake, smoke stinging our eyes, neighboring remodels, and logging of cabin lots, to hear the call of the Jay or catch the silent flight of the eagle. But, they are still there, and so are we.

Toasting another memorable summer at the cabin,  
Larry Griffin  
Cabin #37

## Voting Results: Diamond Lake 2<sup>nd</sup> Appraisal

At the July DLHA board and membership meetings, the topic of conducting a second appraisal was discussed at considerable length. Bernie Kosola was asked to provide the argument for and CW Smith the argument against the second appraisal. Then it was decided by the board that voting by mail would provide the greatest opportunity for everyone to vote.

Mailed to every cabin owner was an information pamphlet with for and against statements, a ballot, and a return envelope. Every mailed envelope contained the DLHA membership status of the cabin owner. The return envelopes containing the ballots had to be postmarked by July 31, and the voter needed to be a current member with dues paid for the 2009-2010 membership year or include their dues payment with their ballot.

An email was sent out to the tract on Aug. 4, 2009, reporting the result of the vote. Since then valid ballot(s) were received and due(s) payments did not clear the bank. These items resulted in a slight change of the voting result. The final results are:

59% of the cabin owners voted. The final tally for the two measures included on the ballot were:

1: Do you support pursuing a second appraisal?

44% Yes

56% No

2: Shall the members of DLHA direct the Board to pursue a second appraisal?

47% Yes

53% No

The motions are defeated.

In addition, DLHA President, Larry Griffin included the following note to the membership:

I want to thank all of you who have given so much to make this process a fair and open debate. Both sides have had the opportunity to present their case and all of us have been given the chance to cast our individual vote. We have participated in the one event that has made us such a great Nation and separates America from the rest of the world... The Secret Ballot.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to the Appraisal Committee and in particular to Bernie Kosola, for the personal dedication he has demonstrated. We are without a doubt, the best-informed Association in the country. Everyone on the appraisal committee needs to be proud of their accomplishments. At this time we will be tabling the committee to allow those that choose to participate in a new appraisal to do so as individuals. The board will reconvene the committee as necessary to guide us through the next official Forest Service appraisal.

## Second Appraisal Status

The group pursuing the second appraisal conducted the inspection of the three typical lots on Sept. 23 with Glen Crouch as the contracted appraiser and Jeff Osmundson, the Forest Service Review Appraiser. No results are available.

## C2 Finalizes & Presents Fee Proposal

This past August, National Forest Homeowners (NFH) and Cabin Coalition 2 (C2) finalized a permit fee determination method that C2 recommends as a solution to the CUFFA appraisal method currently in place. The research and review process was difficult and required compromises from all participants. Many ideas and approaches to the problem have been weighed and discussed. The internal and external dialogue has been challenging. However, feedback on the two fee models from cabin owners across the country has been very helpful and informative to the final proposal.

The information compiled from the fee model feedback, the field discussion think tanks and C2 research has led us to conclude that an appraisal-based fee determination system remains problematic. Adjusting either the appraisal itself or the 5% multiplier currently in use, to a level that solves the problem of excessive fees in certain areas would result in fees that are unreasonably low in other areas. A multi-tiered multiplier might be able to overcome this difficulty, but the fees would remain fluid and uncertainty would persist. The subjective nature of the appraisal process, combined with the difficulty of the appraisal assignment, renders a truly objective determination of the value of the use difficult to attain. Inconsistency and unfairness would be the inevitable result.

For these and other reasons, we have developed an alternative approach, named the User Fee/Transfer Fee, that we believe is workable, more predictable and would provide affordable fees for decades to come. If implemented, the potential loss of cabins due to unreasonably high fees currently facing some cabin owners would be averted. Also, we can demonstrate that, during these challenging financial times, our proposal will meet what is called "budget neutrality". This means that current federal revenues from permit fees will be maintained and moderate revenue projections met. This is a critical prerequisite to Congressional consideration of a solution. In addition, this method will result in administrative savings to the Forest Service. The sustainability of the Program also is greatly enhanced with a system that brings certainty to permit fees.

At the end of Sept., C2 returned to Washington, D.C. to present the User Fee/Transfer Fee proposal to our senators, representatives and the Forest Service, presenting the proposal 18 times over three days. In summary, C2 and the proposal were well received, encouraged to move ahead with drafting legislation and continuing to work our home state politicians to develop co-sponsors for the new bill.

Meanwhile, a moratorium to freeze permit fees was attached to the Senate Appropriations Bill. By the time the moratorium passed through the House, it was no longer a freeze,

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## DLHA News

Continued from page 2....

but a cap on a fee increase of 25% above last year's permit fee. At Diamond Lake, permit bills will not be impacted by the moratorium since they will increase only the amount of the IPD, set at 1.016% for next year. In other tract locations where high appraisals are in the implementation period, the moratorium may help some cabin owners. But, more significantly, the one year moratorium now sets the scene for a replacement of CUFFA by granting C2 a timeframe to draft and finalize legislation.

So, we have some breathing room to implement a better solution. In fact, of those cabin owners completing the NFH Sales Data and Appraisal Survey, 92.7% support replacing CUFFA with the User Fee/Transfer Fee proposal. Our initial draft that formalizes the proposal into legislation is nearing completion. Our next step is to find a bill sponsor or co-sponsor(s) and Senator Wyden would be ideal.

So stay tuned and continue your support when announcements are emailed to you or by providing needed financial support when NFH sends letters.

Thank you,  
Sharon Karr - C2 Representative - DLHA

To stay current on C2 activities, read the updates provided at:  
[www.oregonforesthowners.com/OFHA\\_C2\\_Updates.html](http://www.oregonforesthowners.com/OFHA_C2_Updates.html)

Or on the NFH Blog at:

<http://nationalforesthowners.org/leadership/>

### Annual Meeting Report - July 4, 2009

The meeting started off with a terrific flyover by two F15 Eagle fighter jets over Diamond Lake.

Bill Gamble, the new Diamond Lake District Ranger was first on the agenda. He guaranteed us he plans to stay around; reviewed the D-Bug status and the importance of monitoring invasive species. Robin Duarte reviewed the tree removal process (see article on page 8), lot inspections are in progress, no cabin rentals allowed and how many appraisal reports were requested and permits that are not returned.

Ryan Dippel with ODFW provided a great fishing report and encouraged comments to be turned in for the Diamond Lake Management Plan. Dave Loomis followed with his DLHA Commissioner Report and an update on invasive species and the new bill that makes introduction a class C felony.

A generous segment of time was devoted to the DLHA appraisal review, sharing results with the membership and describing the options including acceptance of the first appraisal or working toward a second appraisal, resulting in a presentation for by Bernie Kosola and against by CW Smith. A vote will be conducted by mail. See *Voting Results* on page 2 for more information.

### DLHA Board Update

Karla Roady (#9) has retired from the DLHA board. Please join the board in thanking Karla for her many years of service. She will be missed!

Gary Shontz (#26) has stepped up as a volunteer to fill a DLHA board position. Gary attended the July 3 board meeting and brings energy and talent to the organization.

Stan Larson and CW Smith renewed their terms to stay on the board for another two years. In addition, CW accepted the position of vice president. This position opened when the previous VP, Cliff Wheeler, sold their cabin this past spring.

Thank you to all the board members who attend the sometimes lengthy board meeting the day prior to the annual membership meeting. In addition thanks to the membership who attend D-Bug tours, local events, state and national meetings and myriad other events throughout the year. These events can take an evening, day or weekend from their busy schedules. This thanks also goes out to cabin owners who attend Forest Service events, tours and forward their viewpoints. The DLHA board appreciates your time spent and the forwarding of information to the newsletter editor.

### Barbecue a Success

Thanks again to Chef Matthew Griffin (#37)! Again he grilled absolutely perfect onions and burgers for the annual barbecue.

### Membership Status

Why are only 76 cabins members of DLHA this year? If you forgot to join, and received an envelope in this newsletter, it is a reminder to join DLHA and the other organizations we support, OFHA and NFH. Please return the envelope with your dues. Thank you.

#### Membership Numbers - Past & Present

Organization	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10
DLHA	85 (+18 assoc.)	78 (+14 assoc.)	89 (+19 assoc.)	76 (+12 assoc.)
OFHA	57	68	84	60
NFH	39	50	59 (+3 assoc.)	53 (+1 assoc.)

**Help protect the future of your cabin by becoming a member of your local, state and national cabin organizations.**

### Garbage Service

With the closure of the Lemolo Transfer Station on May 1, 2009, High Lakes Sanitation, Inc., (HLSI) the garbage collection company for the Diamond Lake area, notified the DLHA board of an increase to our garbage fees. All garbage is now hauled to the Slide Creek Transfer Station, an additional 38 miles per trip.

In June, DLHA garbage consisted of eight service trips. Each month the increased fee will be determined by the number of service trips necessary to remove the full dumpsters from their location at Hilltop Shop.

This year DLHA has 46 service trips scheduled from late May through early January. This is based on the number of dumpsters required each week starting the week of Memorial Day through New Year's Day. The total increase for DLHA will be \$128.63, resulting in \$2.80 charge per trip.

## New & Improved - 2009 Diamond Lake Fish Management Plan: More than a Basic Recipe for Good Fishing

I love it when a plan all comes together. And it is even more exciting when people realize that cooperation works and the reward in the end is more than the plan itself. Life is too short to wake up in the morning with regrets about the negative actions of people and why they continuously choose to do things to not treat you or your favorite places with caring and passion. So, let's move forward, give a special thanks to the supporters and partners that truly care for the health of Diamond Lake, and forget about the ones that don't. Pretty basic strategic plan if you are willing to entrust the future of the fishery and water quality in the rather few people that will continue to watch over the future health and status of the lake.

It is truly a time to celebrate the 2009 Diamond Lake Fish Management Plan under the "basic yield" alternative for a trout fishery. The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission approved the plan after receiving excellent comments and recommendations from several agency partners, people attending public meetings, and more than 40 written comments. Thanks to everyone that participated in the process. Most comments were very supportive of the plan. A few questioned the proposed scientific methods for monitoring the ecological health of the fishery as needing to be more than a basic accounting model of the fish that are stocked and later harvested. And some asked about the specifics for preventing unwanted species ending up in the lake and unglue the favorable lake conditions that have been rebuilt with everyone's efforts. All were helpful questions and comments directed towards improving ODFW staff's draft plan that had been submitted for public review during the past months.

After all the comments were considered, the Commissioners agreed that Diamond Lake deserves more than a basic plan of stocking fish and counting the numbers of fish caught. They adopted a revised plan that ensures that science-based ecological metrics (biological data sets from fish to plankton to oxygen levels) are not only collected on a regular basis, but are readily available and scientifically analyzed and used by people interested in the management of the lake. They also included specific provisions recommended by the DLHA and others, for example, to stock fingerlings based on ice-off dates, not calendar dates. And they acknowledged that the lake conditions are still in transition and the numbers and size of the fish stocked should be determined based on science and not just a basic level of fish releases.

It is very unfortunate that golden shiners have been illegally introduced in the lake shortly after the 2006 rotenone treatment. The Commissioners heard several comments about the golden shiners reintroduction and questioned staff what activities were actually in place or planned as a result of this invasive species now in the lake and also what preventive actions for other species like the tui chub will be completed. The Commissioners felt the proposed plan, as written, did

not provide enough information about the actions and plans related to invasive species and should include more details. The discovery of an unwanted species signified the importance of the need to include an even higher level of "biosecurity" in the management plan. It was discussed that ODFW staff work closely with the Forest Service, Oregon Marine Board, Douglas County, Oregon State Police, Department of Environmental Quality, along with Diamond Lake Resort, Diamond Lake Homeowners Association, Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation, and interested organizations to formalize and continue the efforts founded under the work of the Diamond Lake/SW Oregon Invasive Species Prevention Committee. The Commission and ODFW staff agreed to include and recognize these partnerships in the plan and encouraged these efforts continue in the future in a cooperative manner.

So Diamond Lake now has a fish management plan approved by ODFW, and we should all support it, not just read it. The written words in the final plan will state the ecological health of the lake must include good scientific monitoring and decision-making by the responsible agencies; and the respective staffs now and in the future must realize the overall intent is an increased partnership that must be built on a framework of public and private interests with good communication links to everyone, not just a few. It is critical that many participants are active on the lake and in meetings, ask questions, receive timely responses, keep open-minds for ideas and possible solutions and stay involved in cooperative actions that help secure the goals and successful outcome of the plan are achievable in the foreseeable future. Ecologically-sound management is now easily done by biologists, but only if the trout species present in the lake are protected from unwanted invaders. That's easier "said" than done.

A recent discussion about why there had been such a successful fishing trip on a tributary named Cookie Dough Creek reminded me that the recipe for a successful quality and health of anything important (and cookies are vital to most of us) must include more than just accounting for what is added as basic ingredients found in a written plan. It must also include the commitment of not only the lead chef (the one with the cool-looking hat that is on TV taking all the credit), but everyone involved from getting supplies, to making sure the equipment is working, to special tasks at the right moment, to ensuring the healthy conditions of the kitchen, and to monitoring the results (like tasting the product). Diamond Lake is not just another lake that can provide a basic yield of fish and water quality. It needs its own special recipe that cannot be put in script alone. The recipe for the rotenone treatment project was a textbook example of not only how a good plan works 100% successfully with adequate security, but also how cooperation is a vital ingredient. Even though we probably agree it took much longer than we all wanted to enjoy the successful rewards of everyone's effort, we should not forget about the many people that helped treat the lake

Continued from page 4....

right and remind them to keep involved. We cannot have too many cooks in the kitchen helping make Diamond Lake always be a treat for everyone.

The goals of the current treatment (basically the stocking of trout fingerlings) of the lake for the next few years are not 100% guaranteed satisfaction with the approval of this plan. It will take good science-based monitoring and analysis, with open communication and cooperation by all partners involved. And most of all, the support and active involvement of more people is needed and at the same time the agencies need to recognize the importance of this contribution and not try to do it alone. Let's all continue to offer our help and share in the responsibility for what happens in the future. Who knows, maybe together we will even come up with a better recipe for Grandma's chocolate-chip cookies, too.

By Dave Loomis, DLHA Chairman of Diamond Lake Fish Restoration and former ODFW Fisheries Biologist for Diamond Lake (under the 1990 Fish Management Plan)

## New Boating Related Laws for 2010

HB 2220: Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program

SUMMARY: HB 2220 creates a new environmental protection program called the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program (AISPP), using boater fees. These fees will fund mobile boat inspection/decontamination teams across Oregon, train personnel to identify aquatic invaders and for education and outreach to all boaters (motorized and non-motorized). The law takes affect January 1, 2010.

The new fee on recreational boats including manually powered boats 10' and longer will fund a new statewide prevention program to help protect Oregon waters.

Registered boaters (including sailboats 12 feet and longer that are registered) will pay an additional \$5 surcharge when they renew their boat registration. Current boat decals are proof that you've paid the fee. Renewal notifications will itemize the cost of registration and the \$5 surcharge so boaters understand how their fees are used.

Non-motorized boats (rafts, drift, kayaks, canoes, etc.) 10 feet and longer in length will need to purchase an annual \$5 permit, which the purchaser can use with any manually powered boat. This is not a registration or title requirement. This is simply a fee to implement an invasive species prevention program.

Fees are deposited directly into a new fund dedicated to this program. It does not benefit the state's general fund. Over half the funding will be transferred to ODFW to implement their portion of the program.

Non-motorized permits are transferable. Also, the permit is completely new, so a delivery system will need to be created and will carry additional overhead costs.

## A Bit of Fishing History

Dec. 7, 1969 - The DLHA Newsletter reported that Jerry Bauer of the State Fish Commission provided the following data for the 1969 fishing season:

- 106,000 angler trips
- 350,000 trout caught
- 251,613 pounds of trout caught
- The population samples were approximately 84% at 12" or under, 16.5% at 12" and larger.

Fishing in 1969 was as good or better than last; they are pretty well taking out what is put in.



A new species of fish or bird? How about stand up Paddle Surfboards! Paddling their way to the end of the rainbow and perhaps a pot of gold!



## State of the Lake

### ODFW Update - Shiners

By Laura Jackson

Invasive species prevention and control has continued to be a priority for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and its various partners. With the discovery of golden shiners in Diamond Lake in 2008, ODFW wanted to continue its efforts to document the distribution of shiners and evaluate different methods of removal. Thanks to a cooperative agreement with the Willamette National Forest, the ODFW was able to acquire an electro-shocking boat. Between June 8 – August 5, 2009 the ODFW shiner crew spent 27 nights shocking shiners. Each week the crew would search the entire perimeter of the lake by shocking different segments of the shoreline. The crew would also make repeat visits to areas where shiners were located.

Although the data hasn't been fully analyzed yet, some aspects of the data have been summarized. Approximately 1,071 golden shiners were removed using the electro-shocking boat this summer. During the first two weeks of the project, less than 44% of the shiners were ripe for spawning. Throughout July, until the conclusion of the project in August, 85 - 88% of the larger shiners captured were ripe. During the last three days of the boat effort, 598 young-of-the-year (YOY) were captured. These juveniles hatched during the summer of 2009 year and were 15 – 30 mm long. Many were small enough to slip through the dip nets used for boat shocking.

During boat shocking, no shiners were found on the east side of the lake. Nearly all of the shiners came from the west side, at the weed beds near Rocky Point. However, due to the noise caused by the electro-shocking generator the crew did not linger in the resort, campground or home owner sections of the lake after 10 p.m. This timing could have caused some shiners to be missed in these areas of the lake.

Due to the concentration of YOY found in early August, the ODFW and Diamond Lake Resort personnel joined efforts to place 6 minnow traps by the weed beds. Although the traps were placed where YOY had been observed, no shiners were caught all month.

In late August, resort personnel started seeing large schools of small shiners in the marina area. The shiners appeared to be attracted to the warm, still water of the marina and could be seen swimming near the docks. Thus on September 12, ODFW and resort staff waded in the shallow, marina area water and captured 341 shiners in one hour using dip nets. On September 17, ODFW and resort staff tried a 26' long beach seine to force the shiners to the shallows. They also tried capturing shiners by sticking the probe of a backpack electro-shocker into the water off the docks. Neither of these methods proved effective. The crew then tried a 140' long beach seine. By forming a large arc and slowly pulling the net to shore the encircled shiners could be removed from the net.

A total of 752 shiners were caught. On the 23rd, another 502 shiners were caught using the large beach seine. On September 24th, most of the big schools were gone, thus the crew went back to dip nets and removed 147 shiners. Altogether using dip nets and seines, 1,742 shiners were removed. Many of these were YOY.

A total of 2,813 shiners were removed from Diamond Lake in 2009, compared to 639 in 2008. The difference is largely due to the YOY which were not captured in 2008. The shiners have successfully reproduced in the lake and have re-established themselves. Fortunately when shiners were discovered in the lake in 1977 after the 1954 rotenone treatment, the shiner population did not explode like tui chub and Diamond Lake still enjoyed a healthy lake ecosystem and fishery. Although it is unknown whether or not the shiners will have a negative impact this time, shiners are less successful at establishing large populations in natural lakes and in lakes with predators. Both the Eagle Lake and Fishwich trout which have been stocked in Diamond Lake since 2007 are potentially predacious and may help inhibit the shiner population. ODFW and its partners will continue monitoring the lake's ecosystem and controlling and preventing the introduction of invasive species. The department will continue to employ a variety of methods to remove golden shiners in 2010.

### The Neighboring Lake: Crater Lake

An aviation company based in Bend has proposed helicopter flights over Crater Lake National Park. Leading Edge Aviation hopes to offer the tours starting at \$149 per person by next summer, if its application is approved in time. Approval must come from the Federal Aviation Administration and the Park Service. The tours would run from 30 to 50 minutes with a fee of \$199 for the longest flights.

According to the company's proposal, the tours would be based at Beaver March Airport off U.S. Highway 97 in Klamath County (intersection of Hwy. 97 and 138).

Crater Lake is the only federally designated National Park in Oregon.

#### For more information on invasive species:

<http://oregon.gov/OISC/index.shtml>

<http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/unitedstates/or.shtml>

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/monitoring/volunteer/newsletter/volmon-20no1.pdf>

## Revised Tree Removal Standard for Cabin Lots

Following the extensive removal of trees on a couple of cabin lots and the report from Robin Duarte on this subject at the DLHA annual meeting, the following information was obtained from Robin to provide some clarity.

The philosophy regarding tree removal and the process used within the tract has changed over the past few years. This is of course due to the diseased trees as well as many of the large Shasta firs' tops breaking off, and becoming not only a hazard, but a danger to the cabins. I have been marking quite a few trees around the cabins this year, many more than in the past. The Forest Service seemed to be very conservative in the past, and I was always told, if it has green on it, don't mark it. Well as you know, that process hasn't exactly worked, and now we have many trees that pose a danger and hazard.

The cabin owners have three options:

1. The cabin owner can fall the trees and use them for firewood on their lot. No permit is required, other than the tree(s) have to be marked with blue paint.
- Or -
2. The cabin owner can purchase a firewood cutting permit from the Toketee Ranger Station office for \$10 per cord (minimum \$20) up to 6 cords per year per household. The cabin owner needs to purchase the firewood cutting permit if they chose to transport off the lot. They have to tell the district that they are removing the wood from their lot and provide the lot number.
- Or -
3. If #1, or #2 is not feasible, then the cabin owner has the option of having someone come in and remove the trees commercially. This would require the homeowner to enter into a small timber sale contract. As part of the timber sale contract they would need to produce a performance bond, which is 10% of the sale, i.e., if the payment is \$1,000, a \$100 performance bond would be required; they would need to pay for the trees up front; and be responsible for slash cleanup. The cabin owner would also need to have a log brand registered with the state. (Most of the timber sale operators have this already, so most likely they wouldn't have to do this.) The volume and value of the trees would be determined by a timber cruise and then an appraisal. The cabin owner would be responsible for finding the operator to cut and remove the trees. This is the process that so far two cabin owners have completed.

If option (3) is selected, the steps in the process, and information you should know are:

- A) Contact Robin to start the process: First, the cabin owner and I must look at the trees, and through our conversations they determined they don't want the wood as firewood, then I will contact Timber and coordinate a meeting with them on the ground. The cabin owner is always welcome to join us. Then Timber cruises and determines the value of the wood, then we notify the cabin owner of how much the trees are worth before any contract is signed. The cabin owners will know up front.
- B) Put up a performance bond: A performance bond is a surety to the US Government that should any unnecessary damage to the resources occurs during the operation, or should the cabin owners default on the sale, like not finish it, the US Government can go after the bond for payment/coverage. Its calculated at 10% of the value of the sale.
- C) Locate a company to come in and do the logging and remove the timber: This is strictly up to the cabin owner, the Forest Service cannot advise or provide names of companies/loggers. The cabin owners could start with a local timber company, and ask them for Roseburg Forest Products, or perhaps just looking in the phone book. I would certainly advise them to make sure whoever they get they are bonded and know what they are doing. But we cannot provide names of loggers.
- D) Determine a fair price for the timber: Once Timber determines the value of the trees, that information will be provided to the cabin owners. The cabin owners can then pass that on to whomever they decide to retain. 99% of the time the trees have no value, and we have been "culling" them.

### What are Shasta Firs?

Where the range of the noble fir and the California red fir meet, along the border of Oregon and California, these two trees interbreed and give rise to a tree with some characteristics of both. Until recently, most botanists called this cross the "Shasta fir", a variety of the California red fir, now frequently called the red fir.

These are generally large trees, averaging 125' to 200' tall and 2' to 5' in diameter. It grows at subalpine elevations, mostly above 5000', and is usually found in mixture with mountain hemlock, western white pine, sugar pine, ponderosa pine and Douglas fir.<sup>1</sup>

1. Northwest Conifers: A Photographic Key. By Bever, Dale.

### Web Sites of Interest for Diamond Lake Weather Watchers

A website with snowpack reports for Oregon going back to 1997. [http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/cgibin/snow\\_rpt.pl?state=oregon](http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/cgibin/snow_rpt.pl?state=oregon)

From the last newsletter, to make sure the weather watchers have these sites bookmarked:

Ever wonder what the snow depth is at Diamond Lake? Or want to track the rain? Use this web site from the US Dept. of Ag. and keep track of the actual information. (The measuring site is on the east side of the lake so add a little more snow depth for our west-side location.

<http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/maps/sitepages/22f18s.html>



## The Pirates of Diamond Lake

The esteemed and somewhat mysterious fishing club, Pirates of Diamond Lake, inducted a new member into their ranks at the DLHA annual meeting.

The cabin owner who guessed the closest date to Diamond Lake's official ice-off date (May 17, 2009) was Gary Shontz. The Head Pirate, Dave Loomis, awarded Gary a floating buoy cooler to accompany the Shontzes on future fishing excursions on the lake, with Gary as their Pirate, or is that pilot?

**Pirates of Diamond Lake Mission:** An ad hoc organization that strives to increase the priceless treasures of the lake's environment, its fishery "booty", and the currency of enjoyment by all that visit on or near its waters. This group explores ways to help individuals, committees, organizations, and agencies to solve issues that need consideration, but may be beyond the scope of their respective wishes, gold pieces, or jurisdiction.

And as per their name, the group obtains guidance from old sources of information and knowledge that members bring



Pirate booty handed off from Dave Loomis (#64) (left) to Gary Shontz (right). The Shontz family (#26) won the ice-off contest.

forward, but they rarely seek reward for their efforts except to get together on occasion and celebrate with food and drink at the lake.

## Diamond Lake Lodge Events

Nov. 26 — Traditional Thanksgiving Buffet

Dec. 25 — Christmas Dinner Buffet

## Cabin Maintenance Contacts

If you have anyone who provided a service for your cabin and you are satisfied with their performance, please submit their name and number so this information can be shared with other cabin owners. Thank you.

Chimney Sweep	Doc's Chimney Sweep (Located in Roseburg) Phone: 541-679-8878
Concrete	Bromleigh Concrete Construction, Inc. (Located in LaPine) Phone: 541-536-5837
Electrical	North River Electric, Inc. (Located in Glide) Phone: 541-673-0800
Foundation	J.I.M. & Associates, Inc. (Located in Gold Hill) Jim Chaplin Phone: 541-770-9409
Remodeling	Dave Kennaday (Located in Glide) Phone: 541-496-0053
Roofing	Mike Simone Construction (Located in Roseburg) Phone: 541-643-0997
Septic	Mike Forrester Honey Creek Excavation (Located in Idleyld Park) Phone: 541-496-0397
Tree Services	Limb Walker Tree Service (Located in Roseburg) Tony Lane Phone: 541-673-8233 Cell: 541-580-1040
Well Drilling	Doug Schattenkerk (#48) Southern Oregon Water Wells Phone: 541-672-7834 Cell: 541-580-2256

## Diamond Lake Homeowners' Association (DLHA)

To submit articles to the next newsletter, email your text and photos by Jan. 30, 2010 to Sharon Karr at sekarr@asktechwriter.com.

DLHA mailing address:  
16580 Fair Mile Rd.  
Sisters, OR 97759

Diamond Lake Homeowners' Association Board Officers:  
Larry Griffin (#37) President  
CW Smith (#61) Vice President  
Sharon Karr (#42) Secretary/Treasurer/Newsletter Editor  
sekarr@asktechwriter.com Phone: 541.549.8592

DLHA Board Members:  
Chuck Ehlers (#72)  
Stan Larson (#8)  
Dave Loomis (#64)  
Richard Munn (#82)  
Stephen Overhoff (#86)  
Gary Shontz (#26)

Committees:  
Bylaws - CW Smith (#61)  
Fishery Restoration - Dave Loomis (#64)  
Road - CW Smith (#61)

Representatives:  
NFH Ambassadors - Jack & Bev Snyder (#10)  
OFHA - Open position  
Cabin Coalition 2 (C2) - Sharon Karr (#42)

Annual meeting is held on the Saturday closest to the 4th of July. Barbecue follows the meeting.

Annual Meeting Minutes: If you want to review the minutes or the '08-09 budget from the 2009 annual DLHA meeting, please email Sharon Karr with the subject line of *DLHA 2009 Minutes* and a copy will be emailed to you.

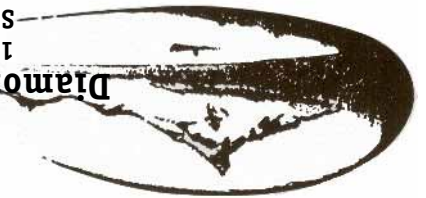
## OFHA and NFH Information

Oregon Forest Homeowners Association (OFHA)  
Bill Kennedy President lostriverranch@earthlink.net

National Forest Homeowners (NFH) nfh100@yahoo.com  
Mary Clarke VerHoef - Executive Director  
5150 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite 101/315  
Carmichael, CA 95608  
1-800-669-9971 / FAX: 916-359-5271

Photo credits: Mike Macon

**Diamond Lake Homeowners' Association**  
16580 Fair Mile Rd.  
Sisters, OR 97759



## Is Your Membership Current?

Your 2009-2010 dues:

- Are paid. Thank you.
- Are NOT paid. Please send in dues using the enclosed envelope.

Make your check payable to **DLHA**. The treasurer will route the funds to the appropriate organization. Thank you!

**NFH Appraisal & Sales Data Survey:** Thank you to everyone who participated in the NFH survey, the second survey this year. The compelling purpose behind the two surveys is to provide valid data to Congress and the Forest Service about the Recreation Residence Program. In meetings in D.C., C2 is frequently asked for information about cabin owners, cabin sales (price and turnover rates), appraisal data and more. For surveys to meet basic validity requirements, a 10% return is advised. Cabins in the Umpqua Natl. Forest have responded at about 30%. Your answers are anonymous, although you provide your national forest location. Your participation helps C2 analyze key information and will guide the Recreation Residence Program in future years.

## Noble Fir Park Decommissioned

This past summer, Noble Fir Park in the middle of the tract, was decommissioned by the Forest Service due to budgetary constraints. You may have noticed that the picnic table is gone, as is the fire pit and the outhouse will be removed at some future date.

Noble Fir Park has been the location of many tract meetings, family events, lover's haunt and stargazing. If you have a particular memory you want to share, a story, a statistic, a poignant memorial, or photo, please email it to Sharon Karr. The newsletter editorial board is working on a memorial story about the park.