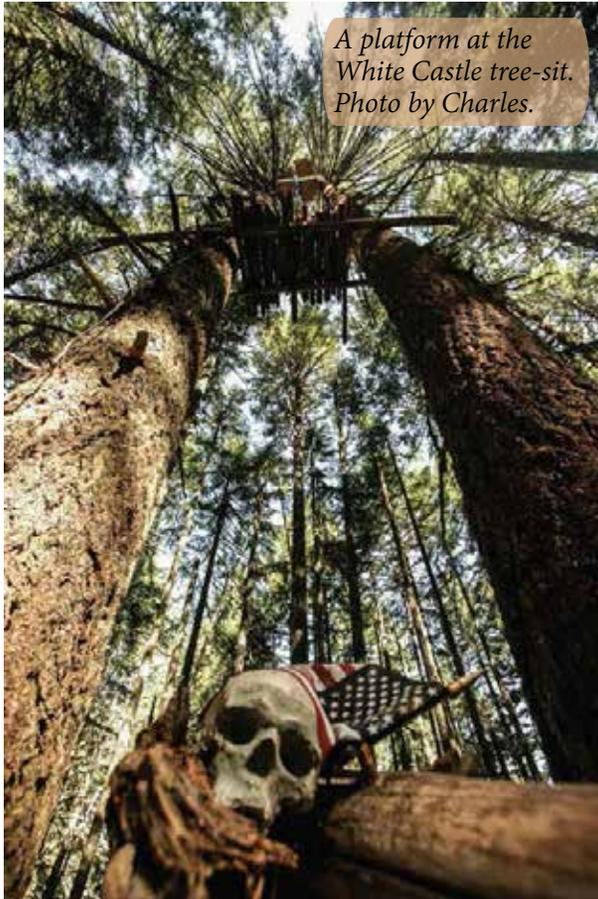


WHAT IS WHITE CASTLE?

White Castle is a timber sale in Southern Oregon 20 miles east of the town of Myrtle Creek near the top of that watershed which flows into the Umpqua River. This sale lies in an area known as White Rock to locals some of whom have been hunting and fishing there for generations. Much Ancient Forest at White Rock has never been logged but some of it has been tended by fire. It is in the home range of 5 pairs of spotted owls, home to rare butterflies and plants, and too many red tree voles, a species given special protections under the North West Forest Plan. It is contested ground in the effort to preserve our natural world from the avarice of extractive industry.



A platform at the White Castle tree-sit. Photo by Charles.

EFFECTIVENESS

Scotts Lumber, a subsidiary of Roseburg Forest Products (RFP) bought the trees in the sale area in May 2013. Cascadia Forest Defenders (CFD) began occupying the stands just before Owl Season restrictions on logging were lifted in June. According to a company spokesman, RFP had planned to move quickly to harvest but was prevented by the presence of protesters. Jerry Franklin, a scientist who helped design this sale, told the press last spring, “The new fight in Westside forests is over these 80- to 160-year-old future old-growth forests. This is really where the battle is going to be fought out.” In January 2014, Abbey Jossie, District Manager of the Roseburg Bureau of Land Management (BLM) told The News-Review Editorial Board that “If the sale is canceled, she doesn’t know what precedent it will set for future timber sales opposed by anti-logging activists.”

BAD SCIENCE

The extraction of this forest in a mad experiment called Variable Retention Harvest. VRH involves leaving clumps of trees at the edge of clear-cuts. VRH is being sold to the public as “ecologic forestry” in hopes of avoiding controversy and lulling the compliant masses with promises of jobs and butterfly habitat. “The White Castle project is a cynical attempt to pass off clear-cutting century-old trees as restoration,” said Doug Heiken of Oregon Wild in a press release. “In reality, the true focus of this project is providing cheap timber to old-growth dependent logging mills at taxpayer expense.” For a scientific critique of VRH see this link:

http://www.geosinstitute.org/images/stories/pdfs/Publications/FederalLandsManagement/ecological_forestryfactsheetJuly2013.pdf



A Finished “Norm & Jerry” Variable Retention Harvest Sale. Photo by Francis Earthington.

THE BIG PICTURE

CFD chose to defend White Castle in part because it is on land that is part of the Oregon and California Rail Road Lands (O&C) managed by the BLM on behalf of the cash strapped counties of Western Oregon. “A bill proposed by Senator Ron Wyden in late November would expand projects like the White Castle clear-cuts to more than a million acres of public land in Western Oregon to generate money to bail out some county governments facing budget shortfalls. The bill does nothing to address current tax breaks for timber barons that take money from the counties asking for help. Wyden’s bill overturns key provisions of the Northwest Forest Plan, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act, and like the BLM, has used the opinions of two prominent forestry professors to justify such logging” as stated in a recent joint press release from law firms Oregon Wild and Cascadia Wild Lands. If Wyden’s Bill becomes law, VRH will be the standard practice across Western Oregon increasing annual forest destruction by 100% under the green-wash guise of “ecoforestry”. To learn more about the wider threat to our Ancient Forests being met at White Castle go to You Tube and type in “Cascadia Forest Defenders at White Castle.” To learn more about how our Democratic Party has failed to protect the environment in Oregon, go to: eco_advocates.com

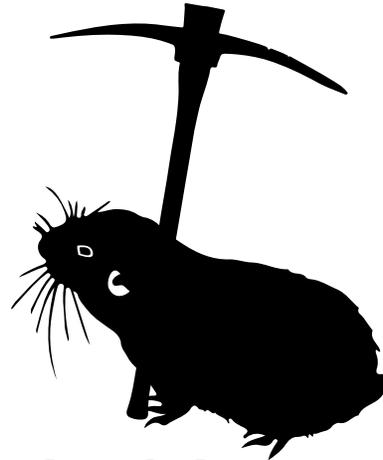
RECENT EVENTS

Right before the turn of 2014, the BLM announced they intended to close 15 square miles of forest surrounding the area to allow for extraction. The only people allowed at White Rock will be law enforcement, extractive industry employees, and BLM employees. CFD and others objected to this closure. Simultaneously, environmental NGOs Oregon Wild, Cascadia Wildlands and attorney Jennifer R. Schwartz have filed a joint complaint at the US District Court in Eugene over the environmental consequences of the White Castle timber sale. As a result, the BLM stepped back from the closure and their aggressive desire to log imminently. We are awaiting an injunction from the courts that would prevent logging for the duration of the lawsuit. In recent news articles, the BLM has been quoted saying that they might have to drop the timber sale all together. We are celebrating this victorious turn of events, but we are still prepared to put our bodies in front of their machines. CFD will continue holding space for the ancient forest until it is safe.



JOIN US

Whether it is for the fate of 1.8 million Oregonians who get their drinking water from the O&C lands, for the Salmon, for alleys with fur or feathers, for the awe-inspiring beauty of the Ancient Forest at White Rock and across our state, or for this green living earth in general, join us!



CASCADIA FOREST DEFENDERS

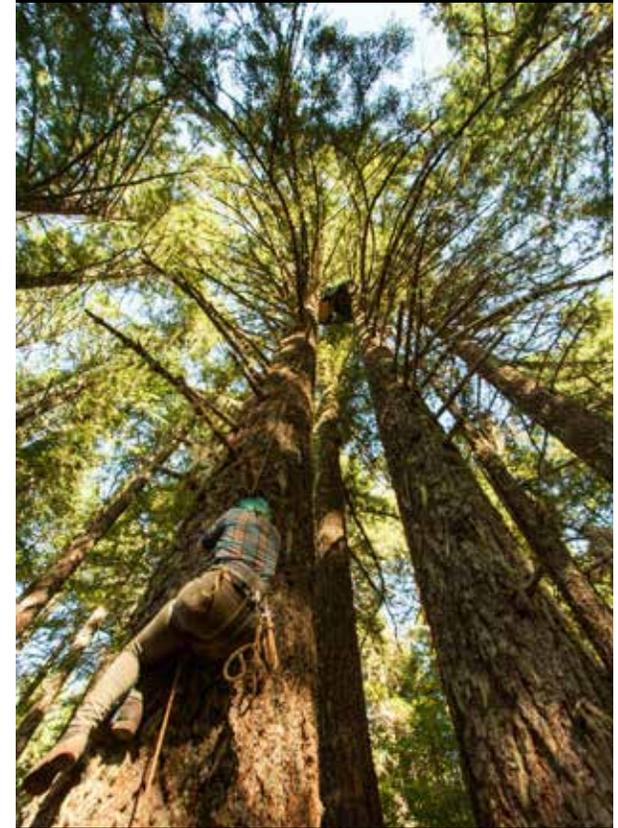
CFD meets weekly at 454 Willamette St (Above Morning Glory Cafe) at 5:30pm Monday nights. To get involved or support us in other ways, email us at forestdefensenow@gmail.com.

Cascadia Forest Defenders
PO Box 96
Eugene, OR 97440

FORESTDEFENSENOW.COM

CASCADIA FOREST DEFENDERS

**VOW TO DEFEND OREGON'S LAST
ANCIENT FORESTS ON BLM O&C LAND**



WHITE CASTLE TREE-SIT 2013-14