Umpqua Watersheds 12th Annual Banquet and Auction

by Seth Kirby

On Saturday February 9, 2008 at 5:00pm, conservationists across the region will gather together to honor Wilderness at the12th Annual Umpqua Watersheds Annual Banquet & Benefit Auction. Wilderness Rocks! Rivers Roll! Watersheds Rule! , will be our theme as we launch a campaign toward permanent Wilderness Protection for the roadless areas in the Umpqua National Forest. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Dominick A. DellaSala, Executive Director and Chief Scientist of the National Center for Conservation Science & Policy in Ashland, Oregon.

The event is being held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in the Community Building and will begin at 5:00 with a social hour, appetizers and wine tasting. There will be live music, a no host bar featuring Wild Rose wines & micro brew from Ninkasi Brewing Co. The famed Benefit Auction once again is full of wonderful gifts, art work, products and services and much more. At 6:30 a delicious dinner will be served featuring Asian cuisine to round-out this fun-filled event.

Umpqua Watershedsâ€™ annual Counting on You and Environmental Activist of the Year awards will be presented to volunteers who have dedicated hours of their time and expert skills to enhance our watershed for their community.

A slide show highlighting our priceless and unique roadless areas within the Umpqua National Forest will be shown throughout the evening.

Roseburgâ€™s Our Own Irish Band will entertain guests with their abundant repertoire of fine traditional Celtic tunes while bidders compete for great auction items â€“ all to support Umpqua Watershedsâ€™ protection and restoration work.

Dr. Dominick A. DellaSala is Executive Director and Chief Scientist of the National Center for Conservation Science & Policy in Ashland, Oregon. He is an internationally renowned author and co-author of many technical papers and books on biodiversity and sustainable forest management. Dominick was instrumental in the federal roadless conservation policy and the designation of new national monuments while with the World Wildlife Fund. For his achievements in conservation, Dr. DellaSala received WWFâ€™s Presidentâ€™s Award in 2000 and 2004 and the Wilburforce Foundation Conservation Leadership Award in 2005.

Tickets for this event can be purchased at While Away Books, New Day Quality Grocery, Promise Natural Foods in Canyonville, and Harvest Grocery in Winston. Tickets are $30.00 in advance - $55.00 for two - $35.00 at the door. Tickets are also available on Umpqua Watershedsâ€™ website at: www.umpqua-watersheds.org or at the office at 539 Main St. Roseburg. For more information and volunteer opportunities call Umpqua Watersheds at: 541-672-7065.