

HOOD RIVER NEWS  
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR  
April 17, 2004

### **Thank Wyden**

We should all thank Sen. Ron Wyden for inviting the community to participate in the designation of new wilderness areas in the Columbia River Gorge and around Mt. Hood. What a wonderful way to commemorate the Lewis and Clark bicentennial and to invite national attention to this important segment of the Lewis and Clark journey. Wilderness protection will preserve natural and scenic resources. Wilderness designation will allow for new recreational opportunities. It will increase national awareness of the special beauty of our area and it will provide protection of that specialness for generations to come.

Senator Wyden will visit Hood River on Saturday, April 17 to ask us about the value of wilderness designation. We should thank him and encourage him to proceed with this important legislation.

**Christine Knowles**  
**Hood River**