

UMPQUA HOLDINGS CORP

Form 424B3

April 18, 2006

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**Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)
Registration No. 333-132453**

MERGER PROPOSAL YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT

The boards of directors of Umpqua Holdings Corporation (Umpqua) and Western Sierra Bancorp (Western Sierra) have approved an Agreement and Plan of Reorganization pursuant to which Western Sierra would merge with and into Umpqua. We are sending you this document to ask you to vote in favor of the merger proposal.

Upon completion of the merger, Western Sierra shareholders will be entitled to receive 1.61 shares of Umpqua common stock for each share of Western Sierra common stock that they own. Based on this exchange ratio and the market value of Umpqua common stock on April 10, 2006, the implied value per share of Western Sierra common stock is equal to \$44.32.

Umpqua common stock is listed on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol UMPQ and Western Sierra common stock is listed on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol WSBA . On February 7, 2006, the date prior to announcement of the merger agreement, Umpqua common stock closed at \$27.26 and Western Sierra common stock closed at \$40.08.

The value of the merger consideration to Western Sierra shareholders will depend on the value of Umpqua common stock upon completion of the merger and will fluctuate with the market price of Umpqua common stock.

After careful consideration, each of the boards of directors of Umpqua and Western Sierra determined the merger to be fair to its respective shareholders and in its respective shareholders' best interests, and unanimously approved the merger agreement.

Your vote is very important. We cannot complete the merger unless the shareholders of Umpqua and Western Sierra approve the merger proposal. The boards of directors of Umpqua and Western Sierra are soliciting proxies from shareholders to vote at the shareholder meetings. You do not need to attend the meeting to vote your shares, although you are invited to do so. Whether or not you choose to attend, please complete, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy or follow the instructions on the proxy for telephone or internet voting.

This joint proxy statement-prospectus gives you detailed information about the merger and the shareholder meetings. Before sending in your proxy or voting your shares, you should read this entire document, particularly the information under RISK FACTORS beginning on page 18.

You should rely only on the information in this document or in other documents to which we refer you, concerning Umpqua, Western Sierra and the proposed merger. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different.

The Umpqua shareholder meeting is its annual meeting and Umpqua is also asking its shareholders to vote in favor of the election of Umpqua directors, and to approve amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation to declassify its board of directors (eliminating the election of directors for staggered three year terms), provide for the annual election of all directors and allow directors to be removed without cause. Approval of the amendments and election of directors are not conditions to completion of the merger.

This document is dated April 12, 2006 and was first mailed on or about April 19, 2006.

Raymond P. Davis
President and Chief Executive Officer
Umpqua Holdings Corporation

Gary D. Gall
President and Chief Executive Officer
Western Sierra Bancorp

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the terms of the merger agreement or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this document. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The securities offered through this document are not savings accounts, deposits or other obligations of a bank or savings association and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency.

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WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This joint proxy statement-prospectus incorporates important business and financial information about Umpqua and Western Sierra from documents that are not included in or delivered with this document. See INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE on page 114. This information is available without charge to you upon written or oral request. If you request any incorporated documents, we will mail the documents and all exhibits specifically incorporated by reference in the requested documents to you by first class mail, or other equally prompt means. Each of Umpqua and Western Sierra also post their SEC filings on their respective web sites at <http://www.umpquaholdingscorp.com> and <http://www.westernsierrabancorp.com>.

For documents relating to Umpqua, direct requests to:

Umpqua Holdings Corporation
Legal Department
Steven Philpott, Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
675 Oak Street, Suite 200
P.O. Box 1560
Eugene, OR 97440
(541) 434-2997 (voice)
(541) 342-1425 (fax)
stevenphilpott@umpquabank.com

For documents relating to Western Sierra, direct requests to:

Western Sierra Bancorp
Patrick Rusnak, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
4080 Plaza Goldorado Circle
Cameron Park, CA 95682
(530) 698-2286 (voice)
(530) 676-2817 (fax)
prusnak@wsnb.com

To obtain timely delivery before the shareholder meetings, you must request the information no later than May 16, 2006. These documents can also be reviewed and copied from various free web sites including the Securities and Exchange Commission's web site listed below.

Umpqua and Western Sierra file annual, quarterly and periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may obtain copies of these documents by mail from the public reference room of the SEC at 100 F. Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for information on the operation of the public reference room. In addition, Umpqua and Western Sierra file reports and other information with the SEC electronically, and the SEC maintains a web site located at <http://www.sec.gov> containing this information.

Umpqua has filed a registration statement on Form S-4 to register with the SEC up to 13,600,000 shares of Umpqua common stock. This document is a part of that registration statement. As permitted by SEC rules, this document does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement or in the exhibits or schedules to the registration statement. You may read and copy the registration statement, including any amendments, schedules and exhibits at the address set forth above. Statements contained in this document as to the contents of any contract or other documents referred to in this document are not necessarily complete. In each case, you should refer to the copy of the applicable contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement.

Umpqua's annual report is being mailed to Umpqua shareholders with this document. Additional copies of the annual report may be obtained without charge by writing to Investor Relations, Umpqua Holdings Corporation, One SW Columbia Street, Suite 1200, Portland, Oregon 97258.

Western Sierra's annual report is being mailed to Western Sierra shareholders with this document. Additional copies of the annual report may be obtained without charge by writing to Patrick J. Rusnak, Western Sierra Bancorp, 4080 Plaza Goldorado Circle, Cameron Park, California 95682.

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**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS
TO BE HELD MAY 30, 2006**

To Umpqua Shareholders:

The annual meeting of shareholders of Umpqua Holdings Corporation will be held at the Umpqua Bank University and Support Center, 1740 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, Oregon, at 5:30 p.m., local time, on May 30, 2006 for the following purposes:

- 1. Approval of Merger.** To consider and vote on a proposal to approve the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization by and among Umpqua, Umpqua Bank, Western Sierra Bancorp, Western Sierra National Bank, Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank and Lake Community Bank, dated as of February 7, 2006, and the accompanying Plan of Merger, pursuant to which Western Sierra will merge with and into Umpqua, with Umpqua being the surviving corporation, and the issuance of shares of Umpqua common stock to Western Sierra shareholders in connection with the merger, as described in this joint proxy statement-prospectus.
- 2. Amendments to Articles of Incorporation.** To approve amendments to Umpqua's Articles of Incorporation that would declassify Umpqua's board of directors, provide for the annual election of directors and allow directors to be removed without cause.
- 3. Election of Directors.** To elect 14 members of Umpqua's board of directors, who shall hold office until the next annual meeting of shareholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified. *Alternatively*, if the proposed amendments to Umpqua's Articles of Incorporation are not approved, shareholders will elect five members of Umpqua's board of directors who shall hold office until the 2009 annual meeting of shareholders and one member who shall hold office until the 2007 annual meeting of shareholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.
- 4. Adjournments.** To consider and act upon a proposal to adjourn or postpone, if necessary, the annual meeting to solicit additional proxies.
- 5. Other Business.** To consider and act upon such other business and matters or proposals as may properly come before the annual meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

If you were a shareholder of record of Umpqua common stock as of the close of business on April 7, 2006, you are entitled to receive this notice and vote at the annual meeting, and any adjournments or postponements thereof.

Your vote is important. Holders of a majority of the shares of Umpqua common stock outstanding on April 7, 2006 must vote in favor of the merger proposal for the merger to be completed. Holders of 75% of the shares of Umpqua common stock outstanding on April 7, 2006 must vote in favor of the proposed amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation. Directors are elected by a plurality of the shares voted.

Whether or not you expect to attend the annual meeting in person, please mark, sign, date and promptly return your proxy in the enclosed envelope, or follow the instructions for voting by phone or on the Internet.

AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS DETERMINED THAT THE MERGER IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF UMPQUA AND ITS SHAREHOLDERS AND UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR APPROVAL OF THE MERGER PROPOSAL AND FOR EACH OF THE OTHER PROPOSALS LISTED ABOVE.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Steven L. Philpott, Secretary

April 12, 2006

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**4080 Plaza Goldorado Circle
Cameron Park, California 95682**

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS
TO BE HELD MAY 30, 2006**

To Western Sierra Shareholders:

A special meeting of shareholders of Western Sierra Bancorp will be held at Serrano Country Club, 5005 Serrano Parkway, El Dorado Hills, California at 10:00 a.m., local time, on May 30, 2006, for the following purposes:

1. Approval of Merger. To consider and vote on a proposal to approve the principal terms of Agreement and Plan of Reorganization by and among Umpqua, Umpqua Bank, Western Sierra Bancorp, Western Sierra National Bank, Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank and Lake Community Bank, dated as of February 7, 2006, and the accompanying Plan of Merger.

2. Adjournments. To consider and act upon a proposal to adjourn or postpone, if necessary, the special meeting to solicit additional proxies.

No other business will be transacted at the special meeting.

If you were a shareholder of record of Western Sierra common stock as of the close of business on April 7, 2006, you are entitled to receive this notice and vote at the special meeting, and any adjournments or postponements thereof.

Your vote is important. Holders of two-thirds of the shares of Western Sierra common stock outstanding on April 7, 2006 must vote in favor of the principal terms of the merger agreement for the merger to be completed. **Whether or not you expect to attend the special meeting in person, please mark, sign, date and promptly return your proxy in the enclosed envelope or follow the instructions for voting by phone or on the Internet.**

AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS DETERMINED THAT THE MERGER IS FAIR TO AND IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF WESTERN SIERRA AND ITS SHAREHOLDERS, AND UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR APPROVAL OF THE MERGER PROPOSAL.

In connection with the proposed merger, you may exercise dissenters' rights as provided in the California General Corporation Law. If you meet all the requirements under California law, and follow all of its required procedures, you may receive cash in the amount equal to the fair market value (as determined by mutual agreement between you and Western Sierra, or if there is no agreement, by a court) of your shares of Western Sierra common stock as of the day before the first announcement of the terms of the merger. The procedure for exercising your dissenters' rights is summarized under the heading **DISSENTING SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS** in the attached joint proxy statement-prospectus. The relevant provisions of the California General Corporation Law on dissenters' rights are attached to this document as Appendix E.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Patrick J. Rusnak, Assistant Secretary

April 12, 2006

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT VOTING AND THE SHAREHOLDER MEETINGS

Q: What are Umpqua shareholders being asked to vote on at the annual shareholder meeting?

A: Umpqua shareholders will vote on:

a proposal to approve the merger, including the issuance of shares of Umpqua common stock in exchange for outstanding shares of Western Sierra common stock, in accordance with the merger agreement;

a proposal to amend Umpqua's articles of incorporation to declassify the board of directors (eliminating the election of directors for staggered three year terms), provide for the annual election of all directors and allow directors to be removed without cause;

the election of fourteen directors or, if the proposed amendments are not approved, the election of six directors; and

if necessary, a proposal to approve adjournment or postponement of the annual meeting to solicit additional proxies.

Q: What are Western Sierra shareholders being asked to vote on at the special shareholder meeting?

A: Western Sierra shareholders will vote on a proposal to approve the principal terms of the merger agreement and, if necessary, a proposal to approve adjournment or postponement of the special meeting to solicit additional proxies in favor of the merger proposal.

Q: What do I need to do now?

A: First, carefully read this document in its entirety. Then, vote your shares by one of the following methods:

mark, sign, date and return your proxy card in the enclosed return envelope as soon as possible;

call the toll-free number on the proxy card and follow the directions provided;

go to the web site listed on the proxy card and follow the instructions provided; or

attend the shareholder meeting and submit a properly executed proxy or ballot. If a broker holds your shares in street name, you will need to get a legal proxy from your broker to vote in person at the meeting.

Q: What vote is required to approve the merger agreement?

A: The merger agreement will be approved if the holders of two-thirds of the outstanding shares of Western Sierra and a majority of the outstanding shares of Umpqua vote in favor of the respective merger proposal. Accordingly, a failure to vote or an abstention will have the same effect as a vote against the applicable merger proposal, except for the purpose of preserving any dissenters' rights that a Western Sierra shareholder may have.

Q: Have Umpqua's and Western Sierra's boards of directors approved the merger?

A: Yes. After careful consideration, the board of directors of each of the companies determined the merger to be fair to and in the best interests of its respective shareholders, and unanimously recommend that their respective

shareholders vote in favor of the merger proposal.

Q: What vote is required to approve the other Umpqua annual meeting proposals?

A: The proposed amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation require the affirmative vote of at least 75% of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote.

The election of directors requires a plurality of the votes cast for directors. The fourteen (or six, if the proposed amendments are not approved) director positions to be filled at the annual meeting will be filled by the nominees who receive the highest number of votes.

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Q: Who is eligible to vote?

A: Holders of record of Umpqua common stock at the close of business on April 7, 2006 are eligible to vote at the Umpqua annual meeting of shareholders.

Holders of Western Sierra common stock at the close of business on April 7, 2006 are eligible to vote at the Western Sierra special meeting of shareholders.

Q: Are there dissenters appraisal rights?

A: Umpqua is an Oregon corporation and under applicable Oregon law, Umpqua's shareholders do not have dissenters' appraisal rights.

Under California law, Western Sierra shareholders may exercise dissenters' rights as provided in the California General Corporation Law. If you meet all the requirements under California law and follow all of its required procedures, you may receive cash in the amount equal to the fair market value (as determined by mutual agreement between you and Western Sierra, or if there is no agreement, by a court) of your shares of Western Sierra common stock as of the day before the first announcement of the terms of the merger. The procedure for exercising your dissenters' rights is summarized under the heading **DISSENTING SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS**. The relevant provisions of the California General Corporation Law on dissenters' rights are attached to this document as Appendix E.

Q: Can I vote if I hold shares of Umpqua common stock in the Umpqua Bank 401(k) and Profit Sharing Plan?

A: If you are a participant in the Umpqua 401(k) Plan you will receive with this document a separate voting instruction card for shares of Umpqua common stock allocated to your account as a participant or beneficiary under the Umpqua 401(k) Plan. The card will appoint the trustee of the Umpqua 401(k) Plan to vote shares in accordance with your instructions. Please follow the instructions that accompany the card. See **UMPQUA ANNUAL MEETING - Participants in the Umpqua 401(k) and Profit Sharing Plan**.

Q: Can I vote if I hold shares of Western Sierra common stock in the Western Sierra Bancorp 401KSOP?

A: If you have shares allocated to your account under the KSOP, you will receive with this document a separate voting instruction card for those shares. The card will appoint Western Sierra's compensation committee to vote shares in accordance with your instructions. Please follow the instructions that accompany the card. See **WESTERN SIERRA SPECIAL MEETING - Shares in the Western Sierra 401KSOP**.

Q: Can I vote if I hold shares of Western Sierra common stock in the Western Sierra Bancorp Employee Stock Ownership Plan?

A: If you hold shares in an account under the Western Sierra Bancorp Employee Stock Ownership Plan, you will receive with this document a separate voting instruction card for shares of Western Sierra common stock allocated to your account as a participant or beneficiary under this plan. The card will direct the plan's trustee to vote shares allocated to your account in accordance with your instructions. Please follow the instructions that accompany the card. See **WESTERN SIERRA SPECIAL MEETING - Western Sierra Bancorp Employee Stock Ownership Plan Account Holders**.

Q: Can I change my vote after I have mailed my signed proxy card or voted by telephone or electronically?

A: Yes. If you have not voted through your broker, you can do this by:

calling the toll-free number on the proxy card at least 24 hours before the meeting and following the directions provided;

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going to the web site listed on the proxy card at least 24 hours before the meeting and following the instructions provided;

submitting a properly executed proxy prior to the meeting bearing a later date than your previous proxy;

notifying Western Sierra's or Umpqua's corporate Secretary, as the case may be, in writing of the revocation of your proxy before the meeting; or

voting in person at the appropriate shareholder meeting, but simply attending the meeting will not, in and of itself, revoke a proxy.

Q: Can I attend the shareholder meeting even if I vote by proxy?

A: Yes. All shareholders are welcome to attend and we encourage you to do so.

Q: What if I do not vote or I abstain?

A: If you fail to respond or mark your proxy "abstain", it will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal and, for Umpqua shareholders, a vote against the proposed amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation. **Your vote is very important.** If you properly submit your proxy but do not indicate how you want to vote, your proxy will be voted in favor of the merger proposal and, with respect to Umpqua shareholders, in favor of each of the other Umpqua annual meeting proposals.

Q: If my shares are held in "street name" by my broker, will my broker vote my shares for me?

A: No. If your shares are held by your broker (or other nominee), you should receive this document and an instruction card from your broker. Your broker will vote your shares only if you provide instructions on how to vote. If you do not tell your broker how to vote, your broker cannot vote your shares. This will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal and, with respect to Umpqua shareholders, a vote against the proposed amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation.

Q: Should Western Sierra shareholders send stock certificates at this time?

A: **No, please do not send in your certificates until you receive instructions to do so.** If you do not know where your stock certificates are located, you may want to find them now, so you do not experience delays receiving your merger consideration. If you have lost or misplaced your Western Sierra stock certificates, contact Western Sierra's transfer agent, U.S. Stock Transfer Corporation at (818) 502-1404, extension 124. Promptly after completion of the merger, you will receive instructions for exchanging your Western Sierra stock certificates for Umpqua stock certificates. Holders of Umpqua stock certificates should retain their stock certificates as they will not be exchanged in the merger.

Q: Where do I get more information?

A: If you have questions about the merger or submitting your proxy, or if you need additional copies of this document, the proxy card or any documents incorporated by reference, you should contact one of the following:

Steven Philpott, Executive Vice President,
General Counsel and Secretary
Umpqua Holdings Corporation

Patrick J. Rusnak, Executive Vice President,
Chief Operating Officer and Asst. Secretary
Western Sierra Bancorp

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Legal Department
675 Oak Street, Suite 200
P.O. Box 1560
Eugene, OR 97440
(541) 434-2997 (voice)
(541) 342-1425 (fax)
stevenphilpott@umpquabank.com

4080 Plaza Goldorado Circle
Cameron Park, CA 95682
(530) 698-2286 (voice)
(530) 676-2817 (fax)
prusnak@wsnb.com

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE MERGER

Q: What will Western Sierra shareholders receive in the merger?

A: Western Sierra shareholders will receive 1.61 shares of Umpqua common stock in exchange for each share of Western Sierra common stock.

Q: Will the exchange ratio of 1.61 shares of Umpqua common stock for one share of Western Sierra common stock adjust under any circumstances?

A: If the weighted average closing price of Umpqua's common stock over the fifteen trading day period ending on the fifth business day prior to the projected merger closing date is \$22.59 or lower, and that decline in Umpqua's price is 10% worse than the performance of the NASDAQ Bank Index over the same period, then Western Sierra may elect to terminate the merger agreement. However, if Western Sierra exercises this option, Umpqua has the option to increase the exchange ratio by an amount sufficient to ensure that the merger consideration to Western Sierra shareholders is not less than 80% of the value immediately prior to the date of announcement of the merger agreement.

Q: Did the Umpqua and Western boards of directors receive fairness opinions?

A: Yes. Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., issued an opinion to the Western Sierra board of directors as to the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the exchange ratio to Western Sierra shareholders.

In addition, Hoefer & Arnett, Inc., issued an opinion to the Umpqua board of directors as to the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the consideration to be offered by Umpqua to Western Sierra shareholders.

Q: What are the tax consequences of the merger?

A: We have structured the merger so that Umpqua and Western Sierra and most of our respective shareholders will not recognize any gain or loss for federal income tax purposes in the merger, except for taxes payable with respect to cash received by Western Sierra shareholders in lieu of fractional shares or by Western Sierra shareholders who have properly exercised dissenters' rights.

Q: What risks should I consider before I vote?

A: We encourage you to read the detailed information about the merger in this document, including the RISK FACTORS section beginning on page 18.

Q: When do you expect the merger to be completed?

A: We are working to complete the merger as quickly as possible and we anticipate the merger will be completed in the second quarter of 2006. Because the merger is subject to shareholder and regulatory approval and other factors beyond our control, we cannot predict with accuracy the exact timing for completing the merger.

Q: What regulatory approvals are required to complete the merger?

A: Umpqua and Western Sierra must obtain written approvals or waivers from the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services acting through the Division of Finance and Corporate Services and the California

Commissioner of Financial Institutions.

Q: Who will manage the combined company?

A: Umpqua will be the surviving corporation in the merger and the executive officers of Umpqua immediately prior to the merger will be the executive officers of Umpqua until such time as their successors are duly elected and qualified.

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Following the merger, the board of directors of Umpqua will consist of fifteen directors, one of whom will be selected from among the current Western Sierra and Western Sierra subsidiary bank directors. All of the current Umpqua directors, including Raymond P. Davis, will continue to serve following the merger.

Raymond P. Davis, President and Chief Executive Officer of Umpqua, and Umpqua's other executive officers will continue in their respective positions with the combined company. Gary D. Gall, President and Chief Executive Officer of Western Sierra will help William T. Fike, President of Umpqua Bank's California Region, oversee completion of the merger. Other executive officers of Western Sierra are expected to continue with the combined company during a six to nine month integration period after closing, but few are likely to have a continuing role with the combined company.

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SUMMARY

This brief summary includes information discussed in greater detail elsewhere in this document and does not contain all the information that may be important to you. You should carefully read this entire document and its appendices and the other documents to which this document refers you before deciding how to vote your shares. Each item in this summary contains a page reference directing you to a more complete description of that item.

*We incorporate by reference important business and financial information about Umpqua and Western Sierra into this document. For a description of this information, see the section **INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE** on page 114. You may obtain the information incorporated by reference without charge by following the instructions in the section **WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION** on the inside front cover of this document.*

The Companies (pages 68, 70)

Umpqua Holdings Corporation

Umpqua Bank Plaza
One SW Columbia Street, Suite 1200
Portland, Oregon 97258
(503) 727-4100

Umpqua Holdings Corporation, an Oregon corporation, is a registered financial holding company and the parent company of Umpqua Bank, an Oregon state-chartered bank recognized for its entrepreneurial approach, innovative use of technology, and distinctive banking solutions. Umpqua Bank, headquartered in Roseburg, Oregon, offers business and consumer banking products and services at 96 stores throughout Northern California, Oregon, and Western Washington. Umpqua also owns a retail brokerage subsidiary, Strand, Atkinson, Williams & York, Inc., which has four offices and offers brokerage services within nine Umpqua Bank stores. Additionally, Umpqua's Private Client Services Division provides tailored financial services and products to individual customers. Umpqua Holdings Corporation is headquartered in Portland, Oregon.

Western Sierra Bancorp

4080 Plaza Goldorado Circle
Cameron Park, California 95682
(530) 677-5600

Western Sierra is a California corporation registered as a bank holding company under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956. Western Sierra's principal operating subsidiaries are:

Western Sierra National Bank, a national bank founded in 1984 and headquartered in Sacramento, California;

Auburn Community Bank, a California state-chartered bank founded in 1998 and headquartered in Auburn, California;

Central California Bank, a California state-chartered bank founded in 1998 and headquartered in Sonora, California; and

Lake Community Bank, a California state-chartered bank founded in 1984 and headquartered in Lakeport, California.

Western Sierra's subsidiary banks offer business and consumer banking services at 31 locations throughout Northern California. Western Sierra National Bank offers customers access to noninsured investments for retirement strategies, college funds and insurance products through its Western Sierra Financial Services division.

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The Merger (page 28)

Upon shareholder approval and the satisfaction or waiver of the other conditions to the merger, Western Sierra will merge with and into Umpqua, immediately followed by the merger of each of Western Sierra National Bank, Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank and Lake Community Bank into Umpqua Bank. Western Sierra and its subsidiary banks will cease to exist as separate entities following completion of the merger and the branches of Western Sierra National Bank, Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank and Lake Community Bank will become stores of Umpqua Bank.

The merger agreement is the legal document that governs the merger of Western Sierra with and into Umpqua and is attached to this document as Appendix A. Please read the agreement carefully.

Merger Consideration (page 50)

If the merger is completed, Western Sierra shareholders will be entitled to receive 1.61 shares of Umpqua common stock for each share of Western Sierra common stock.

Treatment of Western Sierra Stock Options (page 52)

At the time the merger becomes effective, Umpqua will assume Western Sierra's stock incentive plans and unexercised Western Sierra options will be converted into fully vested replacement options to acquire shares of Umpqua common stock at the merger consideration exchange ratio. The terms and conditions of Western Sierra stock options will otherwise remain the same.

Market Price Information for Umpqua and Western Sierra Common Stock (page 16)

Umpqua common stock trades on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol UMPQ. The closing price of Umpqua's common stock on February 7, 2006, the last trading day before public announcement of the merger, was \$27.26. The closing price on April 10, 2006, was \$27.53.

Western Sierra common stock trades on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol WSBA. The closing price of Western Sierra's common stock on February 7, 2006, the last trading day before public announcement of the merger, was \$40.08. The closing price on April 10, 2006, was \$43.89.

Opinion of Umpqua's Financial Advisor (page 36)

On February 7, 2006, Umpqua's financial advisor, Hoefler & Arnett, Inc., delivered its written opinion to Umpqua's board of directors. The opinion stated that as of February 7, 2006, and subject to the qualifications in the opinion, the consideration to be offered by Umpqua was fair and equitable to Umpqua and its shareholders from a financial point of view. Hoefler & Arnett updated its opinion as of the date of this document. A copy of the opinion is attached as Appendix C to this document.

Opinion of Western Sierra's Financial Advisor (page 41)

On February 7, 2006, Western Sierra's financial advisor, Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., delivered its oral opinion, subsequently confirmed in writing, to Western Sierra's board of directors. The opinion stated that as of February 7, 2006, and subject to the qualifications in the opinion, the exchange ratio was fair from a financial point of view to Western Sierra shareholders. Sandler O'Neill updated its opinion as of the date of this document. A copy of the opinion is attached as Appendix D to this document.

Vote Required for Approval of the Merger

The applicable merger proposal must be approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Umpqua entitled to vote and two-thirds of the outstanding shares of Western Sierra common stock entitled to vote.

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Recommendation of Boards of Directors (pages 33, 34)

After careful consideration, Umpqua's and Western Sierra's boards of directors determined that the merger is fair to and in the best interests of their respective shareholders. Based on the reasons for the merger described in this document, including the respective fairness opinions, each Board unanimously recommends that you vote **FOR** the applicable merger proposal.

Stock Ownership of Directors and Executive Officers (pages 26, 108)

On April 7, 2006, Umpqua's directors and executive officers beneficially owned 1,900,971 shares of Umpqua common stock, of which 1,427,833 are entitled to be voted at the meeting of Umpqua shareholders. Those shares constitute approximately 3.2% of the total shares outstanding and entitled to vote at the meeting. Umpqua directors, holding 2.9% of the total shares entitled to vote at the meeting, have agreed to vote their shares in favor of the merger proposal.

On April 7, 2006, Western Sierra's directors and executive officers beneficially owned 1,135,123 shares of Western Sierra common stock, of which 847,513 are entitled to be voted at the meeting of Western Sierra shareholders. Those shares constitute approximately 10.8% of the total shares outstanding and entitled to be voted. Western Sierra directors and directors of each of Western Sierra's subsidiary banks, holding approximately 13.9% of the total shares entitled to vote at the meeting, have agreed to vote their shares in favor of the merger proposal.

Interests of Western Sierra Directors and Executive Officers (page 53)

Western Sierra executive officers have interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, the interests of other shareholders, which may create potential conflicts of interest. Western Sierra's board of directors was aware of these interests and considered them, among other matters, in approving the merger agreement. When considering the recommendation of Western Sierra's board of directors, you should be aware that:

All unvested Western Sierra stock options will become fully vested at the closing of the merger;

Western Sierra's executive officers are parties to existing or amended employment or severance agreements, which provide for, among other benefits, and subject to their willingness to remain employed with Umpqua or Umpqua Bank for up to nine months following the merger and compliance with non-solicitation covenants, monthly payments over 24 months following termination. The aggregate amount of cash severance payable under the existing Western Sierra agreements and the amended agreements to executive officers is estimated at \$3.1 million;

Members of Western Sierra's executive management are parties to existing or amended salary continuation agreements that provide for lump sum cash payments in the aggregate amount of \$2.1 million upon consummation of a change in control, which includes the proposed merger with Umpqua;

The merger agreement requires Umpqua to indemnify, following the effective time of the merger, the present and former directors and officers of Western Sierra to the fullest extent permitted under applicable law against costs and expenses related to matters existing at or prior to the effective time of the merger;

The merger agreement requires Umpqua to maintain Western Sierra's existing directors and officers liability insurance for a period of three years after the effective time of the merger (or if the cost exceeds \$300,000, such period that can be purchased for \$300,000);

As part of the merger agreement, Umpqua has agreed to appoint one member of the board of directors of Western Sierra or one of its bank subsidiaries to the boards of directors of Umpqua and Umpqua Bank and such director will be compensated like other non-employee directors of Umpqua; and

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As part of the merger agreement, Umpqua has agreed to offer at least 10 individuals from the board of directors of Western Sierra and its bank subsidiaries positions on an Umpqua Bank California divisional board of directors and divisional board members receive \$300 per quarter if they attend a meeting during the quarter.

Annual Meeting of Umpqua Shareholders (page 20)

The annual meeting of Umpqua shareholders will be held on May 30, 2006 at 5:30 p.m., local time, at the Umpqua Bank University and Support Center, 1740 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, Oregon. At the meeting, shareholders will be asked to approve the merger proposal, including the issuance of shares of Umpqua common stock pursuant to the merger agreement, approve amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation and elect directors. Holders of Umpqua common stock as of April 7, 2006 will be entitled to vote at the meeting.

Special Meeting of Western Sierra Shareholders (page 24)

A special meeting of Western Sierra shareholders will be held on May 30, 2006 at 10:00 a.m., local time, at Serrano Country Club, 5005 Serrano Parkway, El Dorado Hills, California. At the meeting, shareholders will be asked to approve the principal terms of the merger agreement. Holders of Western Sierra common stock as of April 7, 2006 will be entitled to vote at the meeting.

Western Sierra Shareholders May Have Dissenting Shareholders' Rights (page 58)

Under California law, as a Western Sierra shareholder you have the right to dissent from the merger and to have the appraised fair market value of your shares of Western Sierra common stock paid to you in cash. You have the right to seek appraisal and be paid the appraised value of your shares in cash if:

you deliver to Western Sierra, before the special meeting, a written demand for payment of your shares;

holders of at least 5% of the total number of shares (including you) of Western Sierra common stock timely make the required written demand;

you vote against the merger; and

you comply with California law governing dissenters' rights.

If you dissent from the merger and the conditions outlined above are met, your only right will be to receive the appraised value of your shares in cash, which appraised value may be more or less than the merger consideration.

Conditions to the Merger (page 64)

Completion of the merger depends upon a number of conditions being satisfied or, where legally possible, waived, including among others:

approval of the applicable merger proposal by both Umpqua and Western Sierra shareholders;

receipt of required regulatory approvals and waivers;

absence of an injunction or regulatory prohibition to completion of the merger;

accuracy of the respective representations and warranties of Umpqua and Western Sierra, subject to exceptions that would not have a material adverse effect on Umpqua or Western Sierra;

receipt by each party of an opinion of Umpqua's tax counsel that the merger will qualify as a tax-free reorganization; and

compliance in all material respects by Umpqua and Western Sierra with their respective covenants in the merger agreement.

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We cannot be certain when, or if, the conditions to the merger will be satisfied or waived, or that the merger will be completed.

No Solicitation (page 64)

The merger agreement contains provisions that prohibit Western Sierra from, and each director of Western Sierra and its subsidiary banks has entered into an agreement that prohibits such director from, taking any action to solicit or encourage or engage in discussions or negotiations with any person or group with respect to an alternative acquisition proposal. Western Sierra and its directors may not provide non-public information to any other person in connection with a possible alternative transaction, except to the extent specifically authorized by its board of directors in the good faith exercise of its fiduciary duties after consultation with legal counsel. Western Sierra must notify Umpqua of any alternative acquisition proposal.

Termination (page 65)

Our boards of directors may agree to terminate the merger agreement at any time prior to completing the merger, even after shareholder approval. Either Umpqua or Western Sierra may terminate the merger agreement if the merger has not been completed by October 31, 2006; or if, after notice and an opportunity to cure, the other party has made a material misrepresentation or materially breached the merger agreement. Western Sierra's board of directors may also terminate the merger agreement upon advice of legal counsel that the fiduciary duties of the Western Sierra directors so require.

Termination due to Disproportionate Decline in Umpqua's Stock Price (page 66)

Western Sierra may notify Umpqua of its intent to terminate the merger agreement if:

the weighted average closing price of Umpqua's common stock over the fifteen trading day period ending on the fifth business day prior to the projected merger closing date is \$22.59 or lower, and

that decline in Umpqua's price is 10% worse than the performance of the NASDAQ Bank Index from 3,126.17 to the average closing price of the Index over the same fifteen trading day period.

Upon receipt of such notification, Umpqua has the option to increase the exchange ratio by an amount sufficient to ensure that the merger consideration to Western Sierra shareholders is not less than 80% of the value of the merger consideration on the date of announcement of the merger agreement.

Termination Fee (page 66)

If the merger agreement is terminated by either party because Western Sierra's shareholders do not approve the principal terms of the merger agreement; by Umpqua because of an uncured material misrepresentation or material breach by Western Sierra; or by Western Sierra pursuant to its fiduciary duties upon advice of legal counsel, then Western Sierra will pay Umpqua its reasonable expenses up to \$600,000. If Umpqua terminates the merger agreement because of Western Sierra's willful failure to comply with a material covenant, Western Sierra will pay Umpqua an additional \$3,000,000.

If the merger agreement is terminated by either party because Umpqua's shareholders do not approve the merger agreement, plan of merger or the issuance of Umpqua shares to Western Sierra shareholders, or by Western Sierra because of an uncured material misrepresentation or material breach by Umpqua, then Umpqua will pay Western Sierra its reasonable expenses up to \$600,000. If Western Sierra terminates the merger agreement because of Umpqua's willful failure to comply with a material covenant, Umpqua will pay Western Sierra an additional \$3,000,000, which is Western Sierra's sole remedy for termination.

In addition, and subject to exceptions discussed in detail in this document, if, under certain conditions, Western Sierra enters into any alternative acquisition transaction within twelve months of termination of the merger agreement, Western Sierra will pay \$14,000,000 (less any termination fee

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already paid) to Umpqua if the alternative acquisition transaction had been proposed prior to the date of the Western Sierra special shareholder meeting to vote on the principal terms of the Umpqua merger. The termination fees described above are Umpqua's sole remedies for termination.

Regulatory Matters

To complete the merger, Umpqua and Western Sierra must obtain approvals or waivers from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services Division of Finance and Corporate Securities (Oregon DFCS), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the California Commissioner of Financial Institutions. Umpqua submitted a merger application to the FDIC on March 13, 2006 and Oregon DFCS on March 14, 2006 and a request for waiver of prior approval to the California Commissioner of Financial Institutions on March 14, 2006, and submitted a request for waiver of prior approval to the Federal Reserve Board on April 10, 2006. On April 4, 2006, the California Department of Financial Institutions issued an Order of Exemption for the consummation of the merger.

Material United States Federal Income Tax Consideration (page 56)

In general, when you exchange your Western Sierra common stock for shares of Umpqua common stock, you will not recognize any gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes.

Table of Contents**SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA****Umpqua Historical Financial Data**

The following selected consolidated financial data for Umpqua have been derived from, and are qualified by reference to, the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in Umpqua's Annual Reports on Form 10-K for each of the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002 and 2001. See "INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE" on page 114 for information on where these documents are available. This information is only a summary and you should read it with the financial statements and notes thereto referred to above. Umpqua expects that it will incur merger and restructuring expenses as a result of the merger. Umpqua and Western Sierra anticipate that the merger will provide the combined company with financial benefits that include reduced operating expenses and enhanced opportunities to earn more revenue. The historical information presented below does not reflect these financial expenses or benefits and does not attempt to predict or suggest future results.

Year Ended December 31,

2005 2004 2003 2002 2001

(dollars in thousands except share data)

Operating Results

Interest income	\$ 282,276	\$ 198,058	\$ 142,132	\$ 100,325	\$ 88,038
Interest expense	72,994	40,371	28,860	23,797	32,409
Net interest income	209,282	157,687	113,272	76,528	55,629
Provision for loan and lease losses	2,468	7,321	4,550	3,888	3,190
Noninterest income	47,782	41,373	38,001	27,657	22,716
Noninterest expense	146,794	119,582	93,187	63,962	54,271
Merger expense	262	5,597	2,082	2,752	6,610
Income before income taxes and discontinued operations	107,540	66,560	51,454	33,583	14,274
Provision for income taxes	37,805	23,270	17,970	12,032	6,138
Income from continuing operations	69,735	43,290	33,484	21,551	8,136
Income from discontinued operations, net of tax		3,876	635	417	414
Net income	\$ 69,735	\$ 47,166	\$ 34,119	\$ 21,968	\$ 8,550

Per Share Data**Earnings per common share (basic):**

Continuing operations	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.21	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.02	\$ 0.43
Discontinued operations		0.11	0.03	0.02	0.03
Net income	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.21	\$ 1.04	\$ 0.46

Earnings per common share (diluted):

Continuing operations	\$ 1.55	\$ 1.19	\$ 1.17	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.43
Discontinued operations		0.11	0.02	0.02	0.02

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Net income	\$	1.55	\$	1.30	\$	1.19	\$	1.03	\$	0.45
Dividends declared per common share	\$	0.32	\$	0.22	\$	0.16	\$	0.16	\$	0.22
Dividend payout ratio		20.38%		16.67%		13.22%		15.38%		47.83%
Book Value per common share	\$	16.57	\$	15.55	\$	11.23	\$	10.30	\$	6.78
Financial Ratios										
Return on average equity		9.80%		9.61%		11.24%		13.58%		7.22%
Return on average assets		1.38%		1.20%		1.26%		1.36%		0.70%
Net interest margin		4.84%		4.68%		4.85%		5.38%		5.12%
Balance Sheet Data at Period End										
Loans and leases	\$	3,921,631	\$	3,467,904	\$	2,003,587	\$	1,778,315	\$	1,016,142
Allowance for loan and lease losses	\$	43,885	\$	44,229	\$	25,352	\$	24,731	\$	13,221
Allowance as percentage of loans		1.12%		1.28%		1.27%		1.39%		1.30%
Total assets	\$	5,360,639	\$	4,873,035	\$	2,963,815	\$	2,555,964	\$	1,428,711
Total deposits	\$	4,286,266	\$	3,799,107	\$	2,378,192	\$	2,103,790	\$	1,204,893
Total shareholders equity	\$	738,261	\$	687,613	\$	318,969	\$	288,159	\$	135,301

Table of Contents**Western Sierra Historical Financial Data**

The following selected consolidated financial data for Western Sierra have been derived from, and are qualified by reference to, the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in Western Sierra's Annual Reports on Form 10-K for each of the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002 and 2001. See

INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE on page 114 for information on where these documents are available. This information is only a summary and you should read it with the financial statements and notes thereto referred to above.

Year Ended December 31,

2005 2004 2003 2002 2001

(dollars in thousands except share data)

Operating Results

Interest income	\$ 76,729	\$ 63,083	\$ 47,729	\$ 38,895	\$ 35,780
Interest expense	17,301	11,336	9,626	9,746	13,752
Net interest income	59,428	51,747	38,103	29,149	22,028
Provision for loan and lease losses	2,050	2,710	2,270	2,026	925
Noninterest income	13,198	10,756	9,677	7,464	5,447
Noninterest expense	42,358	36,379	28,101	23,146	17,876
Merger expense	400		186		
Income before income taxes	27,818	23,414	17,223	11,441	8,674
Provision for income taxes	10,072	8,378	7,275	3,437	3,238
Net income	\$ 17,746	\$ 15,036	\$ 9,948	\$ 8,004	\$ 5,436

Per Share Data

Earnings per common share basic	\$ 2.30	\$ 1.99	\$ 1.51	\$ 1.31	\$ 0.91
Earnings per common share diluted	\$ 2.23	\$ 1.91	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.26	\$ 0.89
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Ratio of cash dividends declared to net income					
Book Value per common share	\$ 16.74	\$ 14.44	\$ 12.56	\$ 8.65	\$ 6.84

Financial Ratios

Return on average equity	14.82%	14.83%	15.15%	16.61%	14.09%
Return on average assets	1.43%	1.33%	1.21%	1.31%	1.10%
Net interest margin*	5.37%	5.15%	5.14%	5.31%	4.97%

Balance Sheet Data at Period End

Loans and leases	\$ 1,043,972	\$ 933,505	\$ 818,789	\$ 538,785	\$ 388,434
Allowance for loan and lease losses	\$ 15,505	\$ 13,786	\$ 11,529	\$ 7,113	\$ 5,097
Allowance as percentage of loans	1.48%	1.47%	1.40%	1.32%	1.31%
Total assets	\$ 1,292,573	\$ 1,198,710	\$ 1,035,711	\$ 678,284	\$ 510,622
Total deposits	\$ 1,048,695	\$ 1,022,966	\$ 873,138	\$ 589,373	\$ 448,631
Total shareholders' equity	\$ 130,232	\$ 110,151	\$ 93,437	\$ 54,339	\$ 39,911

* Fully tax-equivalent basis

Table of Contents**Selected Unaudited Pro Forma Financial Data**

The following selected unaudited pro forma financial data have been derived from, and are qualified by reference to, the audited financial statements and notes thereto contained in Umpqua's and Western Sierra's Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005. See INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE on page 114 for information on where these documents are available. The pro forma income statement information has been prepared assuming the merger occurred on January 1, 2005. The pro forma income statement items and related per share amounts do not include anticipated revenue enhancements, operating cost savings or the after-tax impact of merger-related costs expected as a result of the merger. The pro forma balance sheet items give effect to the merger as if it occurred at December 31, 2005, and include adjustments to reflect the after-tax impact of merger-related costs. In the opinion of the management of both Umpqua and Western Sierra, the information in the following tables includes all necessary adjustments (which are of a normal and recurring nature) for the fair presentation of the results of the periods presented. The information is presented for illustrative purposes only and is not necessarily indicative of the financial position or results of operations that would have been reported had the merger occurred as of such dates, nor is it necessarily indicative of future financial position or results of operations. See UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION beginning on page 71 for further information and for the assumptions used in preparing the pro forma financial data.

	Year Ended December 31, 2005	
	(dollars in thousands except share data)	
Operating Results		
Interest income	\$	360,307
Interest expense		91,795
Net interest income		268,512
Provision for loan and lease losses		4,518
Noninterest income		60,980
Noninterest expense		191,592
Merger expense		662
Income before income taxes		132,720
Provision for income taxes		46,822
Net income	\$	85,898
Per Share Data		
Earnings per common share - basic	\$	1.51
Earnings per common share - diluted	\$	1.49
Balance Sheet Data at December 31, 2005		
Loans and leases	\$	4,955,703
Allowance for loan and lease losses	\$	59,390
Allowance as percentage of loans		1.20%
Total assets	\$	6,897,210
Total deposits	\$	5,333,661
Total shareholders' equity	\$	1,093,465
Book value per common share	\$	19.15

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The following table presents historical income from continuing operations, cash dividends and book value per share as of December 31, 2005 and the year then ended, for Umpqua and Western Sierra, together with the pro forma amounts for Umpqua and the pro forma equivalent amounts for Western Sierra after giving effect to the merger on a purchase accounting basis.

The pro forma per equivalent Western Sierra share data is calculated by multiplying the pro forma combined per share data for Umpqua by 1.61, the exchange ratio with respect to Western Sierra shares to be converted into Umpqua shares in the merger. This data should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and other financial and pro forma financial information included elsewhere in this document. The pro forma data are not necessarily indicative of future operating results or the financial position that will occur upon consummation of the merger.

	Umpqua	Western	Pro Forma	Pro Forma
	Historical	Sierra	Combined	Per
		Historical	Umpqua and	Equivalent
			Western	Western
			Sierra	Sierra Share
Net Income from Continuing Operations				
Per Common Share for the Year Ended				
December 31, 2005:				
Basic	\$ 1.57	\$ 2.30	\$ 1.51	\$ 2.43
Diluted	\$ 1.55	\$ 2.23	\$ 1.49	\$ 2.40
Cash Dividends Declared:				
Year ended December 31, 2005	\$ 0.32	\$	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.52
Book Value Per Share At:				
December 31, 2005	\$ 16.57	\$ 16.74	\$ 19.15	\$ 30.83

Table of Contents**MARKET PRICE DATA AND DIVIDEND INFORMATION****Comparative Market Price Information**

The table below presents the closing price per share for Umpqua and Western Sierra common stock as reported by the Nasdaq National Market on February 7, 2006, the last full trading day prior to the public announcement of the merger, and as of April 10, 2006, together with the pro forma equivalent market value of Western Sierra shares after giving effect to the merger, which is calculated by multiplying the last reported sale of Umpqua common stock by the assumed exchange ratio of 1.61.

	Closing Sales Price		
	Umpqua	Western Sierra	Western Sierra Equivalent
Price per share:			
February 7, 2006	\$ 27.26	\$ 40.08	\$ 43.89
April 10, 2006	\$ 27.53	\$ 43.89	\$ 44.32

Historical Market Prices and Dividend Information

Umpqua and Western Sierra common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq National Market under the respective symbols UMPQ and WSBA. Umpqua's and Western Sierra's common stock is registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and eligible to be held in margin accounts. On April 7, 2006, Umpqua common stock was held of record by approximately 3,487 shareholders, a number that does not include beneficial owners who hold shares in street name. On April 7, 2006, Western Sierra common stock was held of record by approximately 1,611 shareholders, a number that does not include beneficial owners who hold shares in street name. The following table lists the high and low closing prices and cash dividends declared per share for each of Umpqua's and Western Sierra's common stock, as reported on the Nasdaq National Market for each quarterly period beginning with January 1, 2004, and as adjusted for subsequent stock splits and stock dividends declared. Western Sierra declared and completed a 3-for-2 common stock split in the second quarter of 2004. Prices do not include retail mark-ups, mark-downs or commissions.

	Umpqua Common Stock			Western Sierra Common Stock		
	High	Low	Dividend	High	Low	Dividend
2004						
1st quarter	\$ 21.50	\$ 19.23	\$ 0.04	\$ 32.03	\$ 27.07	\$
2nd quarter	\$ 21.09	\$ 18.13	\$ 0.06	\$ 31.57	\$ 27.45	\$
3rd quarter	\$ 23.74	\$ 20.73	\$ 0.06	\$ 34.85	\$ 30.00	\$
4th quarter	\$ 26.39	\$ 22.37	\$ 0.06	\$ 41.98	\$ 33.01	\$
2005						
1st quarter	\$ 25.41	\$ 22.99	\$ 0.06	\$ 39.99	\$ 32.50	\$
2nd quarter	\$ 24.23	\$ 19.63	\$ 0.06	\$ 36.15	\$ 30.50	\$
3rd quarter	\$ 25.30	\$ 23.10	\$ 0.08	\$ 38.73	\$ 33.37	\$
4th quarter	\$ 29.25	\$ 22.58	\$ 0.12	\$ 38.31	\$ 32.58	\$
2006						
1st quarter	\$ 29.48	\$ 26.43	\$ 0.12	\$ 45.84	\$ 36.60	\$ 0.12
2nd quarter (through April 10)	\$ 28.24	\$ 27.47	\$	\$ 45.16	\$ 44.10	\$

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CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This document contains and incorporates by reference forward-looking statements about Umpqua, Western Sierra and the combined company, which statements are intended to be covered by the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements may include statements regarding business strategies, management plans and objectives for future operations and projected expenses incurred to complete the merger as well as the performance of Umpqua and Western Sierra after the merger. All statements other than statements of historical fact are forward-looking statements. You can find many of these statements by looking for words such as anticipates, expects, believes, estimates and intends and words or phrases of similar meaning. Forward-looking statements involve substantial risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict and are generally beyond the control of Western Sierra and Umpqua. Risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to:

Fluctuations in the securities markets;

Receipt of required approvals;

Loss of customers and personnel during the integration process;

Costs of completing the merger;

Umpqua's ability to integrate acquired entities and achieve expected synergies, operating efficiencies or other benefits;

The ability to attract new deposits and loans;

Competitive market pricing factors;

Deterioration in economic conditions that could result in increased loan losses;

Market interest rate volatility;

Changes in legal or regulatory requirements; and

The ability to recruit and retain certain key management and staff.

There are many factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by these forward-looking statements. For a more detailed discussion of some of the risk factors, see the section entitled **RISK FACTORS** in this document. You should also carefully consider the risk factors contained in Umpqua's and Western Sierra's filings with the SEC that are incorporated by reference into this document. Umpqua and Western Sierra do not intend to update these forward-looking statements. You should consider any written or oral forward-looking statements in light of this explanation, and we caution you about relying on forward-looking statements.

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RISK FACTORS

Completion of the merger represents an investment by Western Sierra shareholders in Umpqua's common stock and an investment by Umpqua in Western Sierra's assets and liabilities, each of which will subject the respective investor to various risks. You should carefully consider the following risk factors, as well as other information contained in this document and in Umpqua's and Western Sierra's filings with the SEC, before deciding how to vote on the relevant merger proposal.

The market value of Umpqua common stock to be received by Western Sierra shareholders will fluctuate and will be influenced by the performance of both Umpqua and Western Sierra prior to closing.

Upon completion of the merger, each share of Western Sierra common stock will be exchanged for the right to receive 1.61 shares of Umpqua common stock. There will be no adjustment to the exchange ratio for changes in the market price of either Umpqua shares or Western Sierra shares, unless Western Sierra exercises its right to terminate the merger agreement due to a disproportionate decline in the price of Umpqua common stock and Umpqua elects to adjust the exchange ratio as described under **THE MERGER** Merger Consideration . Accordingly, the market value of the Umpqua shares that Western Sierra shareholders receive upon completion of the merger will depend on the market value of Umpqua shares at that time and could vary significantly from the market value on the date of this document or the date of the Western Sierra special meeting. An unexpected change in the performance or prospects of either Umpqua or Western Sierra will likely influence the market value of Umpqua's common stock and, indirectly, Western Sierra's common stock whose value is expected to track that of Umpqua's because of the fixed exchange ratio. The market value of Umpqua shares will continue to fluctuate after the merger is completed.

The combined company may fail to realize all of the anticipated benefits of the merger.

The merger is expected to generate after-tax cost savings and expense reductions of budgeted Western Sierra non-interest expense when the operations of Umpqua and Western Sierra are completely integrated, which is expected to be at least six months following closing. The expense reductions are intended to be achieved by eliminating duplicative technology, operations, outside services and redundant staff, and through facility consolidations and purchasing efficiencies. The combined company may fail to realize some or all of the anticipated cost savings and other benefits of the transaction.

The integration of banking operations may not be completed smoothly, which could result in the loss of customers and employees.

At the time of the merger, Western Sierra National Bank, Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank and Lake Community Bank will merge with Umpqua Bank and operate under the Umpqua Bank name. Western Sierra customers are accustomed to traditional community bank branch facilities and services and Western Sierra currently operates under four distinct brands: Western Sierra National Bank, Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank and Lake Community Bank. Umpqua Bank's facilities operate under a single brand. Some of Western Sierra's customers may not react favorably to re-branding following the merger.

Umpqua Bank has transformed itself from a traditional community bank into a community-oriented financial services retailer. In implementing this strategy, Umpqua has remodeled many of its banking branches to resemble retail stores that include distinct physical areas or boutiques such as a serious about service center, an investment opportunity center and a computer café. Over a period of months following the merger, Umpqua intends to remodel and convert some of Western Sierra's branches in a similar fashion. Such a conversion would involve significant costs and disrupt banking activities during the remodeling period, and would present a new look and feel to the banking services and products being offered. There is a risk that some of the existing Western Sierra customers and employees will not stay with Umpqua Bank during the remodeling period or after the conversion is completed. There is also a risk that some of Western Sierra's existing customers and employees may not react favorably to Umpqua

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Bank's retail delivery system. Further, there may be delays in completing the conversion, which could cause confusion and disruption in the business of those branches.

Umpqua is pursuing an aggressive growth strategy, which may place heavy demands on its management and infrastructure resources.

Umpqua is a dynamic organization and is one of the faster-growing community financial services organizations in the United States. Umpqua Bank merged with Valley of the Rogue Bank in December 2000 and, in a series of transactions effective December 2001, acquired IFN Bank/ Security Bank, Pacific State Bank, Family Security Bank, Lincoln Security Bank, McKenzie State Bank, Oregon State Bank and Linn-Benton Bank. Umpqua completed the acquisition of Centennial Bancorp in November 2002 and Humboldt Bancorp in July 2004. From time to time, Umpqua has also explored other merger and acquisition opportunities and expects to continue to do so. We expect that a substantial amount of its management's attention and effort will need to be directed at deriving the benefits and efficiencies expected from the merger with Western Sierra. Moreover, the combined company will be dependent on the efforts of key management personnel to achieve the integration of the merger and any other acquisitions Umpqua may undertake. The loss of one or more key persons could have a material adverse effect upon Umpqua's ability to achieve the anticipated benefits of the merger.

Continued growth by Umpqua may present operating and other problems that could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. Our growth may place a strain on our administrative, operational, personnel and financial resources and increase demands on our systems and controls. We anticipate that our business growth may require continued enhancements to and expansion of our operating and financial systems and controls and may strain or significantly challenge them. Our inability to continue to upgrade or maintain effective operating and financial control systems and to recruit and hire necessary personnel or to successfully integrate new personnel into our operations could adversely impact our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. In addition, we cannot assure you that our existing operating and financial control systems and infrastructure will be adequate to maintain and effectively monitor future growth.

We may not be successful in overcoming these risks or any other problems encountered in connection with acquisitions. Our integration of operations of banks or branches that we acquire may not be successfully accomplished and may take a significant amount of time. Our inability to improve the operating performance of acquired banks and branches or to successfully integrate their operations could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. We expect to hire additional employees and retain consultants to assist with integrating our operations, and we cannot assure you that those individuals or firms will perform as expected or be successful in addressing these issues.

Involvement in non-bank businesses involves risk.

Umpqua has a licensed retail broker-dealer subsidiary, Strand, Atkinson, Williams & York, Inc. Retail brokerage operations present special risks not generally borne by community banks. For example, the brokerage industry is subject to fluctuations in the stock market that may have a significant adverse impact on transaction fees and customer activity. A decline in fees and commissions could adversely affect the subsidiary's contribution to Umpqua's income, and might increase the subsidiary's capital needs. In its continuing expansion, Umpqua may acquire other financial services companies whose successful integration is not assured and may present additional management challenges and new risks.

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UMPQUA ANNUAL MEETING

When and Where the Meeting Will Be Held

The annual meeting of Umpqua shareholders will be held on May 30, 2006 at 5:30 p.m., local time, at the Umpqua Bank University and Support Center, 1740 NW Garden Valley Boulevard, Roseburg, Oregon.

Proposals at the Annual Meeting

At the annual meeting, Umpqua shareholders will be asked to consider and vote to:

Approve the merger agreement and the issuance of shares of Umpqua common stock to Western Sierra shareholders in connection with the merger.

Approve amendments to Umpqua's Articles of Incorporation to declassify Umpqua's board of directors (eliminating the election of directors for staggered three-year terms), provide for the annual election of all directors and allow directors to be removed with or without cause.

Elect 14 members of Umpqua's board of directors, who shall hold office until the next annual meeting of shareholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

Alternatively, if the proposed amendments to Umpqua's Articles of Incorporation are not approved, shareholders will elect five members of Umpqua's board of directors who shall hold office until the 2009 annual meeting of shareholders and one member who shall hold office until the 2007 annual meeting of shareholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

Approve, if necessary, any adjournments or postponements of the annual meeting to solicit additional proxies.

For additional information regarding the proposed amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation and the election of directors, see UMPQUA ANNUAL MEETING PROPOSALS beginning on page 86.

Who May Vote?

Umpqua's board of directors has fixed the close of business on April 7, 2006 as the record date for determining Umpqua shareholders entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the annual meeting. As of that date, there were 44,723,982 shares of Umpqua common stock outstanding held by approximately 3,487 holders of record.

Voting

Umpqua shareholders may vote in person at the annual meeting, but do not have to attend the meeting to vote their shares. Umpqua shareholders may vote their shares by proxy. Even if you plan to attend the annual meeting, you should submit a properly executed proxy either by completing, signing, dating and returning the proxy card or by following the instructions on the proxy card for touch-tone telephone or internet voting.

How Will the Proxy Holders Vote My Shares?

A completed and properly executed proxy received by Umpqua prior to the commencement of the meeting, and not revoked, will be voted as directed by the shareholder. A signed proxy that is submitted without voting instructions, will be voted by the named proxy holders **FOR** the merger proposal, **FOR** the proposed amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation, **FOR** the director nominees and, if necessary, **FOR** adjournment or postponement of the meeting to solicit additional proxies. In addition,

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the named proxy holders will vote in their discretion on such other matters that may be considered at the annual meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

The board of directors has named Dan Giustina and Raymond P. Davis as proxy holders. Their names appear on the proxy form accompanying this document.

Revoking a Proxy

A proxy may be revoked by:

calling the toll free number on the proxy card and following the directions provided at least one day before the meeting;

going to the web site listed on the proxy card and following the instructions provided at least one day before the meeting;

submitting a properly executed proxy on a later date prior to the meeting;

notifying Umpqua's corporate Secretary, Steven L. Philpott, in writing of the revocation of your proxy prior to the meeting; or

voting in person at the annual meeting, but simply attending the meeting will not, in and of itself, revoke a proxy.

You may still attend the meeting even if you have submitted a proxy. Written notices of revocation and other communications regarding solicitation or revocation of proxies should be addressed to:

Umpqua Holdings Corporation
Legal Department
675 Oak Street, Suite 200
Eugene, OR 97401
Attn: Steven L. Philpott, Secretary

Umpqua Shares Held in Street Name

Umpqua shareholders who hold their shares in street name, meaning in the name of a bank, broker or other record holder, must either direct the record holder of their shares how to vote or obtain a proxy from the record holder to vote at the annual meeting.

A broker non-vote occurs when a broker or other nominee holder submits a proxy representing shares that another person actually owns, and that person has not given voting instructions to the broker or other nominee. Brokers holding shares of Umpqua common stock as nominees will not have discretionary authority to vote those shares in the absence of instructions from the beneficial owners on the merger proposal or the proposed amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation. **The failure to provide voting instructions will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal and the amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation.**

Participants in the Umpqua 401(k) and Profit Sharing Plan

If you are a participant in the Umpqua 401(k) Plan you will receive with this document separate voting instruction cards for shares of Umpqua common stock allocated to your account as a participant or beneficiary under the Umpqua 401(k) Plan. These voting instruction cards will appoint the trustee of the Umpqua 401(k) Plan to vote shares in accordance with the instructions noted on the card. Please follow the instructions that accompany the card.

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How We Determine a Quorum

Umpqua must have a quorum to conduct any business at the annual meeting. Shareholders holding at least a majority of the outstanding shares of Umpqua common stock as of the record date must attend the meeting in person or by proxy to have a quorum. Umpqua shareholders who attend the meeting or submit a proxy but abstain from voting on a given matter will have their shares counted as present for determining a quorum. Broker non-votes will also be counted as present for establishing a quorum.

How We Count Votes

Each share is entitled to one vote. The named proxies will vote shares as instructed on the proxies. Abstentions or broker non-votes will not be counted for or against the merger proposal or the proposed amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation, but will have the effect of a vote against such proposals.

In the election of directors, each share is entitled to one vote for each director position to be filled, and shareholders may not cumulate votes. Directors are elected by a plurality of votes cast. **If you sign, date and mail your proxy card without indicating how you want to vote, your proxy will be counted as a vote in favor of each director nominee.**

Vote Required to Approve the Merger

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of all shares of Umpqua common stock outstanding on the record date is required to approve the merger proposal. An abstention or a broker non-vote will have the effect of a vote against the proposed merger. Umpqua's board of directors urges you to submit your proxy by mail, touch-tone telephone or the internet. **If you sign, date and mail your proxy card without indicating how you want to vote, your proxy will be counted as a vote in favor of the merger proposal.**

Vote Required to Approve the Amendments to Umpqua's Articles of Incorporation

The affirmative vote of the holders of seventy-five percent of all shares of Umpqua common stock outstanding on the record date is required to approve the proposed amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation. An abstention or a broker non-vote will have the effect of a vote against the amendments. Umpqua's board of directors urges you to submit your proxy by mail, touch-tone telephone or the internet. **If you sign, date and mail your proxy card without indicating how you want to vote, your proxy will be counted as a vote in favor of the proposed amendments.**

Shares Owned by Directors and Executive Officers

On April 7, 2006 Umpqua's directors and executive officers owned 1,427,833 shares entitled to vote at the annual meeting, constituting approximately 3.2% of the total shares outstanding and entitled to vote at the meeting. Each Umpqua director has agreed to vote his or her shares in favor of the merger.

Proxy Solicitation

The accompanying Umpqua proxy is being solicited by the board of directors of Umpqua. Umpqua will bear the cost of soliciting proxies from its shareholders. In addition to using the mail, proxies may be solicited by personal interview, telephone, and electronic communication. Banks, brokerage houses, other institutions, nominees, and fiduciaries will be requested to forward proxy soliciting material to their principals and obtain authorization for the execution of proxies. Officers and other employees or agents of Umpqua and Umpqua Bank, acting on Umpqua's behalf, may solicit proxies personally.

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Umpqua has also made arrangements with The Altman Group, Inc., to assist in soliciting proxies, and has agreed to pay The Altman Group \$7,000.00 plus reasonable expenses. Umpqua will, upon request, pay the standard charges and expenses of banks, brokerage houses, other institutions, nominees, and fiduciaries for forwarding proxy materials to and obtaining proxies from their principals. However, no such payment will be made to any of the officers, directors or employees of Umpqua or Umpqua Bank or to any of Umpqua's subsidiaries.

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WESTERN SIERRA SPECIAL MEETING

When and Where the Meeting Will Be Held

The special meeting of Western Sierra shareholders will be held on May 30, 2006 at 10:00 a.m., local time, at Serrano Country Club, 5005 Serrano Parkway, El Dorado Hills, California.

Proposals at the Meeting

At the special meeting, Western Sierra shareholders will be asked to consider and vote to:

Approve the principal terms of the merger agreement; and

Approve any adjournments or postponements of the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies.

No other matters may be brought before the special meeting.

Who May Vote?

Western Sierra's board of directors has fixed the close of business on April 7, 2006 as the record date for determining Western Sierra shareholders entitled to receive notice of and vote at the special meeting. As of that date, there were 7,864,902 shares outstanding held by approximately 1,611 holders of record.

Voting

Western Sierra shareholders may vote in person at the special meeting, but do not have to attend the meeting to vote their shares. Western Sierra shareholders may vote their shares by proxy. Even if you plan to attend the meeting, you should submit a properly executed proxy either by completing, signing, dating and returning the proxy card or by following the instructions on the proxy card for touch-tone telephone or internet voting.

How Will Proxy Holders Vote My Shares?

A completed and properly executed proxy received by Western Sierra prior to the commencement of the meeting, and not revoked, will be voted as directed by the shareholder. A signed proxy that is submitted without voting instructions will be voted by the named proxy holders **FOR** the merger proposal and, if necessary, **FOR** adjournment or postponement of the meeting to solicit additional proxies. In addition, the named proxy holders will vote in their discretion on such other matters that may be considered at the special meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

The board of directors has named Gary D. Gall and Patrick J. Rusnak as proxy holders. Their names appear on the proxy form accompanying this document.

Revoking a Proxy

A proxy may be revoked by:

calling the toll free number on the proxy card and following the directions provided at least 24 hours before the meeting;

going to the web site listed on the proxy card and following the instructions provided at least 24 hours before the meeting;

submitting a properly executed proxy on a later date prior to the meeting;

notifying Western Sierra's corporate Secretary, Anthony J. Gould, in writing of the revocation of your proxy prior to the meeting; or

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voting in person at the special meeting, but simply attending the meeting will not, of itself, revoke a proxy.

You may still attend the meeting even if you have submitted a proxy. Written notices of revocation and other communications regarding solicitation or revocation of proxies should be addressed to:

Western Sierra Bancorp
4080 Plaza Goldorado Circle
Cameron Park, CA 95661
Attn: Anthony J. Gould, Secretary

Western Sierra Shares Held in Street Name

Western Sierra shareholders who hold their shares in street name, meaning in the name of a bank, broker or other record holder, must either direct the record holder of their shares how to vote or obtain a proxy from the record holder to vote at the special meeting.

A broker non-vote occurs when a broker or other nominee holder submits a proxy representing shares that another person actually owns, and that person has not given voting instructions to the broker or other nominee. Brokers holding shares of Western Sierra common stock as nominees will not have discretionary authority to vote those shares in the absence of instructions from the beneficial owners on the merger proposal. **The failure to provide voting instructions will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal.**

Shares in the Western Sierra Bancorp 401KSOP

If you have shares of Western Sierra common stock allocated to your account under the Western Sierra Bancorp 401KSOP, or KSOP, you will receive with this document a separate voting instruction card for those shares. In accordance with the terms of the KSOP, the trustees, Western Sierra's compensation committee of the board of directors, will vote the shares held in the KSOP. The trustees will vote the shares allocated to your account in accordance with your directions on the voting instruction card. If no directions are given, the plan trustees will vote in their discretion.

Western Sierra Bancorp Employee Stock Ownership Plan Account Holders

If you have shares of Western Sierra common stock allocated to your account under the Western Sierra Bancorp Employee Stock Ownership Plan, or ESOP, you will receive with this document a separate voting instruction card for those shares. In accordance with the terms of the ESOP, the trustees, Western Sierra's compensation committee of the board of directors, will vote the shares held in the ESOP trust. The trustees will vote the shares allocated to your account in accordance with your directions on the voting instruction card. If no directions are given, the plan trustees will vote in their discretion.

How We Determine a Quorum

Western Sierra must have a quorum to conduct any business at the special meeting. Shareholders holding at least a majority of the outstanding shares of Western Sierra's common stock must attend the meeting in person or by proxy to have a quorum. Western Sierra shareholders who attend the meeting or submit a proxy, but abstain from voting on a given matter, will have their shares counted as present for determining a quorum. Broker non-votes will also be counted as present for determining a quorum.

How We Count Votes

Each share is entitled to one vote. The named proxies will vote shares as instructed on the proxies. Abstentions or broker non-votes will not be counted for or against the merger proposal, but they will have the effect of a vote against the proposal.

Table of Contents**Vote Required to Approve the Merger**

The affirmative vote of the holders of two-thirds of all shares of Western Sierra common stock outstanding on the record date is required to approve the merger proposal. An abstention or a broker non-vote will therefore have the effect of a vote against the merger agreement. Western Sierra's board of directors urges you to submit your proxy by mail, touch-tone telephone or the internet. **If you sign, date and mail your proxy card without indicating how you want to vote, your proxy will be counted as a vote in favor of the merger proposal.**

Shares Owned by Directors, Executive Officers and Certain Shareholders

On April 7, 2006 Western Sierra directors and executive officers owned 548,847 shares entitled to vote at the special meeting, constituting approximately 7.0% of the total shares outstanding and entitled to vote at the meeting. Each Western Sierra director has agreed to vote his or her shares in favor of the merger proposal.

Principal Shareholders of Western Sierra

The following table sets forth information regarding the beneficial ownership of Western Sierra common stock, as of April 7, 2006 by each Western Sierra director, certain executive officers, all Western Sierra directors and executive officers as a group and shareholders who own 5% or more of Western Sierra's common stock.

Beneficial Owner	Number of Western Sierra Shares Beneficially Owned(1)	% of Class
<i>Directors and Named Executive Officers</i>		
Charles W. Bacchi, Director	293,363(2)(3)	3.7%
Matthew A. Bruno, Sr., Director	299,927(2)(4)	3.8%
Lary Davis, Director	54,731(5)	*
Kirk N. Dowdell, Executive Vice President; President and Chief Executive Officer of Western Sierra National Bank	74,425(6)	*
William M. Eames, Director	384,598(2)(7)	4.9%
William J. Fisher, Director	293,775(2)(8)	3.7%
Gary D. Gall, Director, President and Chief Executive Officer	274,507(9)	3.5%
Anthony J. Gould, Executive Vice President/ Chief Financial Officer	43,278(10)	*
Jan T. Haldeman, Director	297,593(2)(11)	3.8%
Howard A. Jahn, Director	56,711(12)	*
Alan J. Kleinert, Director	370,711(2)(13)	4.7%
Wayne D. Koonce, Executive Vice President/ Chief Credit Officer	23,308(14)	*
Patrick J. Rusnak, Executive Vice President/ Chief Operating Officer	30,000(15)	*
Lori A. Warden, Director	218,284(16)	2.8%
All Directors and Named Executive Officers as a Group (14 total)	1,135,123(17)	%
<i>Principal Shareholders*</i>		
Banc Funds Co LLC	410,222(18)	5.2%
Caxton Associates, LLC	512,951(18)	6.5%

* Less than 1%.

(1) Shares held directly with sole voting and investment power, unless otherwise indicated. Includes restricted shares held indirectly in Dividend Reinvestment Plan, Director Deferred Compensation

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Plans, 401(k) Plans and IRAs. Shares held in these plans have been rounded down to the nearest whole share.

- (2) Includes shared voting and investment powers as to 263,348 shares of which 160,439 shares and 102,909 shares are owned in the person's capacity as a co-trustee for Western Sierra's ESOP and Western Sierra's 401KSOP, respectively. The person disclaims beneficial ownership as to those shares beneficially owned as a co-trustee of the ESOP and 401KSOP to the extent of pass-through voting and investment rights exercised by participants of the ESOP and 401KSOP.
- (3) The total amount also includes 14,451 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (4) The total amount also includes 1,500 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (5) Mr. Davis has shared voting and investment powers as to 44,530 of these shares, and the total amount includes 10,201 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (6) The amount includes 61,741 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (7) The amount includes 3,000 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (8) The amount includes 19,242 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (9) Of this total, Mr. Gall disclaims beneficial ownership of 35,318 shares held solely by his spouse in a separate account, and the amount includes 83,740 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (10) The amount includes 13,900 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (11) The amount includes 10,741 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (12) The amount includes 8,890 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (13) The amount includes 10,441 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (14) The amount includes 16,763 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (15) All 30,000 of these shares are acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (16) Ms. Warden has shared voting and investment powers as to 215,284 of these shares, and the total amount includes 3,000 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (17) The amount includes 287,610 shares acquirable by exercise of stock options.
- (18) Based on information filed with the SEC on Schedule 13G.

Proxy Solicitation

The accompanying Western Sierra proxy is being solicited by the Western Sierra board of directors. Western Sierra will bear the cost of soliciting proxies from its shareholders. In addition to using the mail, proxies may be solicited by personal interview, telephone and electronic communication. Banks, brokerage houses, other institutions, nominees and fiduciaries will be requested to forward proxy soliciting materials to their principals and obtain authorization for the execution of proxies. Officers and other employees or agents of Western Sierra and its subsidiaries, acting on Western Sierra's behalf, may solicit proxies personally. Western Sierra has also made arrangements with The Altman Group, Inc., to assist in soliciting proxies, and has agreed to pay The Altman Group

\$7,000 plus reasonable expenses. Western Sierra will pay, upon request, the standard charges and expenses of banks, brokerage houses, other institutions, nominees, and fiduciaries for forwarding proxy materials to and obtaining proxies from their principals. However, no such payment will be made to any of the officers, directors or employees of Western Sierra or any of its subsidiary banks.

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THE MERGER

The following description of the merger is not complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the merger agreement attached as Appendix A and the plan of merger attached as Appendix B. We urge you to carefully read the merger agreement and the plan of merger.

General

Umpqua, Umpqua Bank, Western Sierra, Western Sierra National Bank, Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank and Lake Community Bank have entered into an Agreement and Plan of Reorganization, dated as of February 7, 2006. The Agreement and Plan of Reorganization is generally referred to as the merger agreement in this document.

Subject to the terms and conditions of the merger agreement, and in accordance with Oregon law, when the merger becomes effective, Western Sierra will merge into Umpqua. Umpqua will be the surviving corporation, and the separate corporate existence of Western Sierra will cease upon completion of the merger. Immediately after the merger of Western Sierra into Umpqua, Western Sierra National Bank, Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank and Lake Community Bank will merge into Umpqua Bank, with Umpqua Bank surviving the merger.

In connection with the merger of Western Sierra into Umpqua, Western Sierra shareholders will receive 1.61 shares of Umpqua common stock in exchange for each share of Western Sierra common stock held. Umpqua's articles of incorporation and bylaws will be the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the combined company. See

COMPARISON OF RIGHTS OF SHAREHOLDERS for, among other things, a discussion of the differences between Umpqua's and Western Sierra's articles of incorporation and bylaws.

After completion of the merger, Western Sierra shareholders who receive Umpqua common stock in exchange for their Western Sierra common stock will own approximately 22.1% of the combined company, and continuing Umpqua shareholders will own approximately 77.9%.

Background of the Merger

In July 2004 Umpqua acquired Humboldt Bancorp, which furthered Umpqua's strategy of becoming the preeminent community bank in the region extending from Sacramento to Seattle. Since the completion of the Humboldt acquisition, Umpqua has considered and analyzed potential strategic partners operating in and around its designated market area. In early 2005, Umpqua recognized Western Sierra as a potential acquisition candidate. In May 2005, Umpqua and its financial advisor determined that Western Sierra might be in a position to entertain offers to enter into a strategic transaction.

At meetings of the Western Sierra board of directors in the first half of 2005, the Western Sierra board held informal discussions regarding, among other things, concerns with regard to the banking environment generally, consolidation in the banking industry, competition, pressure on interest margins and the ability of the company to continue to meet its goals and to achieve its business plan. Among other alternatives discussed, Western Sierra's board of directors considered the possibility of Western Sierra's engaging in a strategic transaction with another financial institution.

At a meeting held on May 5, 2005 the Western Sierra board discussed Western Sierra's general strategic direction and determined that it would be advisable to have management consult informally with potential financial advisors to seek further information regarding Western Sierra's valuation. At that meeting, Gary D. Gall, president and chief executive officer of Western Sierra, also reported on an oral expression of interest that had been received from a representative of a large national bank holding company, or Company A, regarding an interest in a transaction with Western Sierra. The board determined to have investment banks present to the board on Company A and other potential strategic partners at a later board meeting.

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At a meeting held on May 26, 2005, the Western Sierra board held separate discussions with each of representatives of Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., or Sandler O'Neill, and representatives of one other investment bank. The representatives of these investment banks presented to the board information concerning Western Sierra's valuation and concerning other financial institutions likely to be interested in and capable of a transaction with Western Sierra.

In May and June 2005, Raymond P. Davis, president and chief executive officer of Umpqua, contacted Mr. Gall to discuss Western Sierra's and Umpqua's strategic directions.

On June 27, 2005, Mr. Davis advised the Executive/ Governance Committee of Umpqua's board of directors, which oversees Umpqua's acquisition activities, that he had informally discussed a potential acquisition with Western Sierra. Using publicly available information, Umpqua and its financial advisor, Hoefer & Arnett, Inc., analyzed a potential merger transaction with Western Sierra and reviewed potential price ranges for such a transaction.

Western Sierra's board's discussions on strategic matters continued at its meeting on July 15, 2005. Also present at that meeting were representatives of Sandler O'Neill and legal counsel to Western Sierra. A representative of Western Sierra's legal counsel discussed with the board their fiduciary duties in the context of discussing strategic alternatives. Mr. Gall and Patrick J. Rusnak, chief operating officer of Western Sierra, discussed with the board, among other things, the company's five-year strategic plan and the execution risks associated with that plan, including without limitation, the need for additional staffing and the challenges of maintaining or increasing loan and deposit growth in order to achieve the plan. The board then discussed generally its strategic alternatives, including remaining independent, contacting a limited number of other financial institutions that were likely to be interested and capable of a transaction with Western Sierra and contacting a broader group of potential partners. Both management and the board expressed concern regarding the potential for leaks and market rumors in the event that Western Sierra were to contact a broad group of potential partners, and the resulting disruption and adverse impact to Western Sierra's business. The board determined to authorize management to contact Company A as well as one other community bank holding company, or Company B. The board also authorized management to formally engage Sandler O'Neill to assist Western Sierra in these matters and instructed management to have Sandler O'Neill present additional information on Company A and Company B at a later meeting.

During the remainder of July and August 2005, representatives of Sandler O'Neill and management of Western Sierra held discussions with representatives of Company A and Company B regarding their interest in a potential transaction with Western Sierra.

On July 22, 2005, Mr. Gall met with Mr. Davis and another representative of Umpqua, at which meeting Mr. Davis indicated that Umpqua was considering the possibility of making a proposal with respect to a merger with Western Sierra.

On August 25, 2005, the Western Sierra board held a meeting, also attended by representatives of Western Sierra management, as well as representatives of Sandler O'Neill and Sullivan & Cromwell, LLP, legal counsel to Western Sierra. After a discussion by a representative of Sullivan & Cromwell of the fiduciary duties of the directors, representatives of management and Sandler O'Neill updated the board on the status of the evaluation of strategic alternatives and discussions with Company A and Company B. The representatives of Sandler O'Neill made a presentation to the board regarding Western Sierra's valuation and then reported on the indications of interest from Company A and Company B and their respective terms. The board discussed at length the details of the two offers and potential counter-proposals to each of Company A and Company B and instructed Sandler O'Neill to go back to each of Company A and Company B with counter-proposals.

During August and September, Mr. Davis and Mr. Gall had conversations in which Mr. Davis indicated that Umpqua was interested in making a proposal regarding a merger with Western Sierra. Based on the previous discussions of the Western Sierra board and the existing indications of interest from Company A and Company B, Mr. Gall indicated to Mr. Davis in general terms the value that Umpqua would have to offer in order for its proposal to be of interest to Western Sierra and its board. At that time,

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based on Umpqua's preliminary review of Western Sierra, Mr. Davis indicated that it would be difficult for Umpqua to reach that amount. On September 13, 2005 Mr. Davis informed Umpqua's Executive Committee that although Western Sierra was a good strategic fit for Umpqua, the parties were not close on price and other business points.

On September 9, 2005, the Western Sierra board met again to discuss with management and representatives of Sandler O'Neill the proposals from Company A and Company B. At that meeting, representatives of Sandler updated the board on the status of discussions with the two companies, including revisions to each company's proposal. The board discussed at length with its financial and legal advisors the two alternatives, the businesses of each of Company A and Company B, the risks and challenges associated with each of the two other companies and their respective business models and the risks associated with the two proposals. After extensive consideration, the board authorized management and Sandler O'Neill to focus on negotiations with Company A.

In September and October, 2005, representatives of Company A conducted due diligence with respect to Western Sierra and provided Western Sierra and its legal counsel with draft definitive agreements relating to a proposed merger. During this period, the parties continued to discuss Western Sierra's valuation and Company A's proposal with respect to the merger and merger consideration. Management of Western Sierra updated the board at various times regarding the status of discussions and negotiations with Company A. On or about October 4, 2005, representatives of Company A reported to Sandler O'Neill that, despite Company A's overall satisfaction with the results of its due diligence of Western Sierra and its businesses, Company A was concerned that it would be difficult to integrate Western Sierra's businesses into that of Company A without significant erosion of those businesses and, accordingly, that Company A would not be prepared to proceed with a transaction at that time. On October 12, 2005, Mr. Gall reported on these developments at a meeting of the Western Sierra board. After further discussion, the board authorized management and Sandler O'Neill to continue discussions with Company B.

At its strategic planning retreat in October 2005, Umpqua's board and executive management confirmed their strategic objectives of emphasizing continued growth in northern California, locating appropriate merger partners in that region and enhancing Umpqua Bank's presence in the Sacramento area.

In October 2005, Umpqua management, in consultation with a representative of Hoefer & Arnett, analyzed additional financial and operational information of Western Sierra, and the improving market performance of Umpqua common stock, and concluded that the requirements that had led to cessation of earlier discussions with Mr. Gall may have been mitigated. On October 17, 2005, Mr. Davis called Mr. Gall to discuss a potential merger transaction.

On November 15, 2005, Mr. Gall and another representative of Western Sierra visited with representatives of management of Company B. On November 15, 2005, Western Sierra and Umpqua entered into a confidentiality agreement in connection with the sharing of non-public information with each other. During November and December 2005, Western Sierra continued to have discussions with Company B as well as with Umpqua. In addition, during this time, representatives of Sandler O'Neill made informal inquiries of a limited number of additional financial institutions regarding the potential for a transaction with Western Sierra. While one party preliminarily indicated that it might be interested in making a proposal with respect to a merger with Western Sierra, it was at a level below the then existing proposal from Company B and further inquiries of this other party did not lead to a proposal.

On November 17, 2005, the Western Sierra board of directors established a committee, or the committee, delegating to the committee, among other things, authority with respect to further due diligence efforts and oversight of management's and the advisors' efforts with respect to any strategic transaction and authorizing the committee to make a recommendation to the board for approval of any such transaction. On that same date, Mr. Gall and other members of Western Sierra management updated the committee on the status of discussions with Company B.

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Umpqua began off-site due diligence shortly after entering into the confidentiality agreement in November and Mr. Davis reported on the progress of due diligence and discussions with Western Sierra to Umpqua's Executive/Governance Committee.

From December 5 to December 9, 2005, Company B conducted on-site due diligence with respect to Western Sierra and its businesses. On December 7, 2005, Mr. Davis made a presentation to the committee regarding Umpqua, the prospects for the combined company should a potential transaction be consummated and its proposal for a merger with Western Sierra. Following this presentation, a representative of Sandler O'Neill updated the committee on the status of discussions with and due diligence by Company B.

At the regular Umpqua board of directors meeting on December 21, 2005, Mr. Davis gave a presentation to the board on the strategic opportunity presented by Western Sierra, the results of initial due diligence and the status of discussions with Western Sierra regarding a possible merger transaction. Mr. Davis shared with Umpqua's board the presentation he made to the committee. Mr. Davis recommended to the board that Umpqua present a non-binding term sheet at a price based on Umpqua's internal modeling. The board unanimously voted in favor of the proposed term sheet and directed management to proceed.

On December 22, 2005, Umpqua provided Western Sierra with a term sheet that proposed an all stock merger with Western Sierra in which each share of Western Sierra common stock would be converted into merger consideration with a per share value of \$44.23 per share, with the exchange ratio to be determined based on the weighted average closing price of Umpqua common stock over a measuring period prior to entering into a definitive merger agreement. The term sheet also addressed other key business aspects of Umpqua's proposal. Through late December and early January, Mr. Gall and representatives of Sandler O'Neill held numerous discussions with Mr. Davis to continue to negotiate the offer from Umpqua, including a meeting with Mr. Davis on January 3, 2006 at Umpqua's headquarters. During the course of those discussions, Umpqua indicated that it would be willing to fix the exchange ratio with Western Sierra at 1.58 shares of Umpqua common stock for each share of Western Sierra common stock.

At meetings of the committee on January 5 and January 9, 2006, Mr. Gall updated the committee on the status of due diligence efforts by both Company B and Umpqua, noting that Company B had substantially completed its due diligence and that Umpqua had conducted extensive due diligence as well, but still needed to complete on-site due diligence primarily with respect to Western Sierra's loan portfolio. Mr. Gall also updated the committee on the status of the discussions with both parties regarding a proposed merger, including Umpqua's then current proposal with respect to the proposed exchange ratio and other terms of the proposed transaction with Western Sierra. After discussion of the two companies and their respective indications of interest, the committee instructed management and Sandler O'Neill to continue their negotiations with both parties.

On January 12, 2006, Umpqua provided Western Sierra with a revised term sheet, which included modifications in response to certain of the key business issues previously raised by Umpqua, including increasing the proposed exchange ratio to 1.61 shares of Umpqua common stock for each share of Western Sierra common stock, although other business issues remained.

Umpqua and Western Sierra and their respective financial and legal advisors conducted due diligence with respect to each other and each other's businesses throughout January and into February, 2006, including on-site diligence by Umpqua and its advisors from January 14 through January 17, 2006 at Western Sierra's headquarters and on-site diligence by Western Sierra and its advisors from January 19 through January 23, 2006 at Umpqua's headquarters.

Mr. Davis updated Umpqua's board on the status of the negotiations at its regular meeting on January 18, 2006.

On January 18, 2006, a representative of Company B informed Sandler O'Neill that Company B would not be prepared to move forward with a transaction with Western Sierra at that time. The

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representative of Company B reported to Sandler O Neill that its decision to withdraw from discussions with Western Sierra was not related to its due diligence of Western Sierra.

The Western Sierra board of directors held a meeting on January 20, 2006, also attended by representatives of Sandler O Neill and Sullivan & Cromwell. A representative of Sandler O Neill reported on the fact that Company B had withdrawn its proposal with respect to Western Sierra. In addition, the representatives of Sandler O Neill then discussed at length with the board the status of negotiations with Umpqua and Umpqua's proposal. It was noted that, although Umpqua had indicated a willingness to proceed with a transaction at an exchange ratio of 1.61, a number of business issues remained to be negotiated and resolved. At this meeting, representatives of management, Sandler O Neill and Sullivan & Cromwell also reported on the preliminary due diligence efforts to date with respect to Umpqua.

On January 24, 2006 and over the next two business days, Foster Pepper Tooze LLP, or Foster Pepper, Umpqua's counsel, provided draft definitive agreements and proposed amended and restated severance, employment and/or salary continuation agreements for members of Western Sierra's management to Western Sierra. Western Sierra and Umpqua and their respective financial and legal advisors continued to negotiate the terms of a transaction between the two parties, including the terms of the draft definitive agreements and the proposed amended and restated severance, employment and/or salary continuation agreements. Numerous meetings of the committee, attended by representatives of management, Sandler O Neill and Sullivan & Cromwell, were held in late January and early February to update the committee on the status of negotiations between the parties and to seek the committee's guidance with respect to various issues.

On January 30, 2006, Umpqua provided Western Sierra with a revised term sheet, reflecting the resolution of certain business issues although other business issues remained to be negotiated and resolved.

On February 4, 2006, the committee reviewed with the financial and legal advisors of Western Sierra the terms of the proposed transaction and the draft definitive agreements. Management and representatives of the advisers reported to the committee that, although there remained to be resolved two or three outstanding issues, the terms of the proposed merger and the draft definitive agreements were in substantially final form. After a review of the terms of the proposed transaction and lengthy discussion, and subject to a resolution of the remaining issues, the committee unanimously agreed to recommend to the Western Sierra board of directors that they approve the transaction with Umpqua. Over the next several days, Western Sierra and Umpqua and their respective financial and legal advisors continued to negotiate and resolve the remaining issues and to finalize the definitive agreements.

On February 7, 2006, Umpqua's board of directors held a special meeting to consider the proposed merger with Western Sierra. Management summarized the results of their due diligence investigation and the projected financial results of the proposed merger. Representatives of Foster Pepper and Hofer & Arnett also attended the meeting. A representative of Foster Pepper reviewed with the board its fiduciary duties and, together with Mr. Davis and members of Umpqua management, reviewed the proposed terms of the transaction and the definitive merger agreement. A representative of Hofer & Arnett presented a detailed analysis of the proposed transaction with Western Sierra and delivered to the Umpqua board its opinion, confirmed in writing as of the same day, that, as of February 7, 2006, the consideration to be paid by Umpqua to Western Sierra shareholders as provided in the merger agreement was fair and equitable to Umpqua and the holders of Umpqua common stock from a financial point of view. The board asked questions of, and received answers from, Umpqua's management, and representatives of Foster Pepper and Hofer & Arnett, and considered the factors they deemed relevant to the proposal including, among other things, the opinion of its financial advisor, before voting unanimously to approve the merger and the definitive merger agreement and present the merger to Umpqua shareholders with a recommendation that Umpqua's shareholders approve the principal terms of the merger agreement.

On February 7, 2006, the Western Sierra board of directors held a meeting to consider the proposed transaction with Umpqua. Also in attendance at this meeting were representatives of Sandler O Neill and Sullivan & Cromwell. A representative of Sullivan & Cromwell again reviewed with the board its fiduciary duties, following which the representative of Sullivan & Cromwell and management reviewed with the

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board the proposed terms of the transaction with Umpqua and of the definitive agreements, including the proposed amended and restated severance, employment and/or salary continuation agreements. The representatives of Sandler O Neill then made a presentation to the board regarding the proposed transaction with Umpqua and delivered to the Western Sierra board its opinion, subsequently confirmed in writing as of that same date, that, as of that date, and based upon and subject to the various factors, assumptions and limitations set forth in Sandler O Neill's opinion, the exchange ratio was fair, from a financial point of view, to Western Sierra's shareholders. Based on all relevant factors they considered material, including, among other things, the opinion of its financial advisor and the recommendation of the committee, the board of directors unanimously approved the merger and the definitive agreements and determined that the merger is fair to and in the best interests of Western Sierra and its shareholders and determined to recommend that the shareholders of Western Sierra approve the principal terms of the merger agreement.

After the close of business on February 7, 2006, the parties executed and delivered the merger agreement. On February 8, 2006, the parties issued a joint press release announcing the proposed merger.

Umpqua's Reasons for the Merger and Recommendation of Umpqua's Board of Directors

In the course of reaching its decision to approve the merger agreement and to recommend that Umpqua shareholders approve the principal terms of the merger agreement, including the issuance of shares of Umpqua common stock to Western Sierra shareholders, Umpqua's board of directors considered and reviewed with senior management and outside financial and legal advisors a significant amount of information and factors relevant to the merger, including its strategic plan. Umpqua's board of directors determined that the merger would significantly advance Umpqua's strategic plan and that the proposed merger is in the best interests of Umpqua and its shareholders. Umpqua's board of directors carefully considered the following potentially positive factors in its deliberations:

The opinion of Hofer & Arnett, Inc., which is attached as Appendix C, that as of February 7, 2006, the consideration to be paid to Western Sierra shareholders in the merger was fair, from a financial point of view, to Umpqua shareholders. The board considered the factors discussed in Hofer & Arnett's analysis but did not assign or consider any specific weighting to those factors.

The effectiveness of the merger in implementing Umpqua's growth strategy. The board reviewed the markets served by Western Sierra and recognized in the merger the ability for Umpqua to enhance its presence Northern California, particularly along the I-5 corridor in the Sacramento area.

A presentation by management of management's due diligence review of Western Sierra, including the business, operations, earnings, asset quality, financial condition, and corporate culture of Western Sierra on a historical, prospective, and pro forma basis. These reviews generally found Western Sierra to be financially sound, well capitalized and well managed.

The compatibility of corporate goals and the respective contributions the parties would bring to a combined institution. The board noted the similar community banking philosophies of the management and employees of both institutions.

The complementary customer bases, products and services of Umpqua and Western Sierra could result in opportunities to obtain synergies as products are cross-marketed and distributed over broader customer bases and best practices are compared and applied across the combined company.

The compatibility of each company's data processing systems that should significantly reduce the integration costs and risk of errors in customer account conversions.

Although Umpqua Bank and Western Sierra National Bank operate in the markets surrounding Sacramento, California, there is little overlap of store locations, which, when coupled with the new markets served by Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank and Lake Community Bank in surrounding areas, the Umpqua board

believed to present a desirable strategic opportunity for

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expansion of its existing presence and market share. In particular, Umpqua's board considered that the resulting institution's branch network and franchise would be enhanced in the Sacramento area, which is expected to continue as a growing market.

The enhanced opportunities for acquisition and growth that the merger makes possible as a result of the greater capitalization of the combined company and the anticipated enhanced liquidity in the market for its stock.

The expanded opportunities for revenue enhancement and synergies that are expected to result from the merger. The board assessed possible synergies and recognized that the combined organization could reduce aggregate expenses that Umpqua and Western Sierra incur in areas such as salaries and benefits, occupancy expense, professional and outside service fees, and communications expense.

The execution of amended and restated employment, severance and salary continuation agreements by officers of Western Sierra and its subsidiary banks, which provide incentives to key employees to remain with Umpqua during the integration period following completion of the merger. The board considered the commitments of such officers as indications that the integration process and Umpqua's move into new markets would be successful and that the presence of senior management from Western Sierra would help assure continuity in the operation of the combined company.

The terms of the merger agreement and the Voting, Non-Competition and Non-Solicitation Agreements executed by each director of Western Sierra and of its subsidiary banks in connection with the merger. The board viewed the commitment of all directors to support the merger as indications that the merger would likely be consummated.

The tax effects of the merger. The board considered that the merger would qualify as a corporate reorganization entitled to favorable tax treatment for the parties to the merger and for their shareholders.

The Umpqua board of directors did not assign any specific or relative weight to the information it reviewed in the course of its consideration. Umpqua's board of directors unanimously recommends that Umpqua shareholders vote **FOR** the merger proposal.

Western Sierra's Reasons for the Merger and Recommendation of Western Sierra's Board of Directors

In reaching its determination to approve and adopt the merger agreement, the board of directors of Western Sierra consulted with Western Sierra's management, its legal counsel and financial advisors, and considered a number of factors, including, without limitation, the following:

The opinion of Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., which is attached as Appendix D, that as of February 7, 2006 the exchange ratio, as set forth in the merger agreement, was fair, from a financial point of view, to Western Sierra shareholders.

The terms of the merger, including the exchange ratio, and various other documents related to the merger.

The results of the due diligence review of Umpqua's business, operations, financial condition, asset quality and corporate culture conducted by Western Sierra management with the assistance of its advisors.

The concerns of the Western Sierra board with regard to the banking environment generally, consolidation in the banking industry, competition, pressure on interest margins and the ability of the company to continue to meet its goals and to execute on its business plan.

The current and prospective economic and competitive environment facing the financial services industry generally, including the continued rapid consolidation in the industry and the increased importance of operational scale and financial resources in maintaining efficiency and remaining competitive over the long term.

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The fact that the merger will allow Western Sierra shareholders, as shareholders of the combined corporation, to share in the potential growth and increased diversification of a significantly larger three-state financial holding company.

The Western Sierra board of directors' review, based in part on presentations by its financial advisor and Western Sierra's management, of the business, operations, financial condition and earnings of Umpqua on an historical and prospective basis and of the combined company on a pro forma basis and the historical stock price performance of Umpqua's common stock and Umpqua's greater market capitalization and liquidity relative to that of Western Sierra.

The terms of the merger agreement, including a provision permitting Western Sierra to terminate the merger agreement if the weighted average closing price of Umpqua's common stock over the fifteen trading day period ending on the fifth business day prior to the projected merger closing date is \$22.59 or lower, and that decline in Umpqua's price is 10% worse than the performance of the NASDAQ Bank Index over the same period, thereby limiting the risk to Western Sierra's shareholders of possible significant and disproportionate declines in the trading price of Umpqua's common stock.

The fact that, based on the closing price of Umpqua's common stock on February 6, 2006, the value of the per share merger consideration to be received by Western Sierra shareholders represented a multiple of diluted earnings per share multiple for the 12 months ended December 31, 2005 of 19.7x and 263.0% of book value per share as of December 31, 2005.

The fact that, based on the closing price of Umpqua's common stock on February 6, 2006, the value of the per share merger consideration to be received by Western Sierra shareholders represented a premium of 8.7% over the closing price of Western Sierra common stock on that date, and a premium of 12% over the average closing price of Western Sierra common stock for the fifteen trading days prior to the announcement of the transaction.

The fact that the merger agreement permits Western Sierra to declare cash dividends prior to the closing at the same time and in the same amount per share as Umpqua's dividends on its common stock and the probability that Western Sierra's shareholders, who have not historically received cash dividends on Western Sierra's common stock, will receive dividend income with respect to the shares of Umpqua's common stock to be received in the merger.

The Western Sierra board's belief that a merger with Umpqua would enable Western Sierra shareholders to participate in a combined company that would have better future prospects than Western Sierra was likely to achieve on a stand-alone basis, including a more diversified customer base and, hence, more diversified revenue sources.

The expectation that the Umpqua/ Western Sierra merger will be tax-free for federal income tax purposes to Western Sierra and Western Sierra's stockholders.

The common business philosophy and compatibility of the management and staff of Western Sierra and Umpqua.

The greater number of shareholders and the increased market capitalization of the combined company, which may result in increased interest in Umpqua stock from institutional investors and market professionals which, in turn, may result in improved liquidity for shareholders.

The provisions of the merger agreement entitling Western Sierra's board to withdraw its recommendation of the merger to the Western Sierra shareholders and the provisions permitting Western Sierra's board to terminate the

merger agreement with Umpqua to the extent specifically authorized by its board of directors in the good faith exercise of its fiduciary duties after consultation with legal counsel.

The \$14 million termination fee that would have to be paid to Umpqua under specified circumstances, including the risk that payment of the termination fee might discourage third parties

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from offering to acquire Western Sierra, but recognizing that the amount of termination fee was equal to about 4% of the total merger consideration and that the termination fee was a condition to Umpqua's willingness to enter into the merger agreement with Western Sierra.

The interests of certain Western Sierra directors and officers in the merger, as described under the caption

Interests of Western Sierra Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger beginning on page 53 of this document, and the fact some of those interests are different from or are in addition to the interests of Western Sierra shareholders in the merger generally

The foregoing discussion of the information and factors considered by Western Sierra's board of directors is not intended to be exhaustive, but is believed to include the material factors considered by the board of directors. In reaching its determination to approve and recommend the merger agreement, Western Sierra's board of directors did not assign any relative or specific weights to the factors considered, and individual directors may have given differing weights to different factors.

For the reasons set forth above, the Western Sierra board determined that the merger, the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement are in the best interests of Western Sierra and its shareholders. The Western Sierra board recommends that Western Sierra shareholders vote **FOR** the merger proposal.

Opinion of Umpqua's Financial Advisor

At the request of Umpqua, Hofer & Arnett has provided to the Umpqua board of directors a written opinion to the effect that, subject to the qualifications, limitations and assumptions set forth in the opinion, as of the date Umpqua entered into the Agreement the consideration to be paid by Umpqua as provided in the Agreement was fair to the holders of Umpqua common stock from a financial point of view.

Hofer & Arnett was retained by Umpqua as its financial advisor and to provide a fairness opinion to Umpqua. Hofer & Arnett is an investment banking firm that provides a broad range of financial services, and, as part of its investment banking activities, is regularly engaged in the valuation of businesses and securities in connection with merger transactions and other types of acquisitions, underwritings, private placements, secondary distributions and valuations for corporate, estate and other purposes. No limitations were imposed by the board of directors of Umpqua upon Hofer & Arnett with respect to the investigation made or procedures followed by it in rendering its opinion.

The full text of Hofer & Arnett's written opinion to Umpqua's board of directors, which sets forth the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations of the review undertaken by Hofer & Arnett, is attached as Appendix C to this joint proxy statement-prospectus and is incorporated by reference. The following summary of Hofer & Arnett's opinion is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the opinion, and shareholders of Umpqua are urged to read the opinion in its entirety in connection with their consideration of the proposed merger.

For purposes of Hofer & Arnett's opinion and in connection with its review of the merger and the Agreement, Hofer & Arnett, among other things:

reviewed the Agreement;

reviewed certain publicly available business and financial information relating to Umpqua and Western Sierra that Hofer & Arnett deemed to be relevant;

reviewed certain internal information, primarily financial in nature, including financial and operating data relating to the strategic implications and operational benefits anticipated to result from the merger, furnished to Hofer & Arnett by Umpqua and Western Sierra;

reviewed certain publicly available and other information concerning the reported prices and trading history of, and the trading market for, the common stock of Umpqua and Western Sierra;

reviewed certain publicly available information with respect to other companies that Hofer & Arnett believed to be comparable in certain respects to Umpqua and Western Sierra;

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considered the financial terms, to the extent publicly available, of selected recent business combinations of companies in the banking industry which Hoefer & Arnett deemed to be comparable, in whole or in part, to the merger;

made inquiries regarding and discussed the merger and the Agreement and other related matters with Umpqua and Umpqua's legal counsel.

In addition, Hoefer & Arnett held discussions with the managements of Umpqua and Western Sierra concerning their views as to the financial and other information described above and the potential cost savings, operating synergies, revenue enhancements and strategic benefits expected to result from the merger. Hoefer & Arnett also conducted such other analyses and examinations and considered such other financial, economic and market criteria as it deemed appropriate to arrive at its opinion. It did not, however, make or review any independent evaluations or appraisals of any of the assets, properties, liabilities or securities, or make any physical inspection of the properties or assets of Umpqua. It assumed the adequacy of allowances for losses in loan portfolios, and did not undertake to review any individual credit files, for Umpqua or Western Sierra.

In delivering its opinion to the board of directors of Umpqua, Hoefer & Arnett prepared and delivered to the board written materials containing various analyses and other information. Subject to the provisions of the Agreement, each share of Western Sierra common stock issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time of the merger shall be converted into the right to receive consideration equal to 1.61 shares of Umpqua, subject to a floor. The aggregate number of Umpqua shares to be issued in exchange for all of Western Sierra's common stock is approximately 12.46 million. Options to purchase Western Sierra's common stock that remain unexercised at the time of transaction close will be converted into options to purchase Umpqua shares per customary conversion methodology as described in the merger agreement. The fully diluted per share purchase price as of the date of the fairness opinion was \$44.82 and as of the date of the Agreement was \$43.89. For purposes of the fairness opinion, Hoefer & Arnett assumed 7,737,216 shares of Western Sierra common stock outstanding and 632,455 options to purchase Western Sierra common stock outstanding at a weighted average exercise price of \$20.44 per share, based on information available as of February 3, 2006.

The following are summaries of the analyses contained in the materials delivered to Umpqua board of directors:

Market Trading Analysis of Umpqua. Hoefer & Arnett reviewed the stock trading history of Umpqua's common stock. As of February 3, 2006, the market value of Umpqua's common stock was \$27.84 per share and ranged from \$19.63 to \$29.67 over the preceding 52-week period. The 30-, 60-, and 90-day trailing average prices were \$28.56, \$28.41 and \$28.02, respectively, and the average weekly trading volume was approximately 993,000 shares.

Market Trading Analysis of Western Sierra. The market trading price of Western Sierra as of February 3, 2006 was \$40.08 and ranged from \$30.50 to \$40.43 over the preceding 52-week period. The 30-, 60-, and 90-day trailing average prices were \$38.83, \$38.02 and \$37.04, respectively, and the average weekly trading volume was approximately 60,000 shares. The transaction price per fully diluted share as of the date of the Agreement of \$43.89 represents a premium of \$3.81, or 9.5% over Western Sierra's market price as of the date of the Agreement, and premiums of \$5.06, \$5.87 and \$6.85, or 13.0%, 15.4% and 18.5%, over the 30-, 60-, and 90-day trailing average prices, respectively, of Western Sierra.

Public Comparable Company Analysis. This method applies the comparative public market information of comparable companies to Umpqua and Western Sierra. The methodology assumes companies in the same industry share similar markets, and the potential for revenue and earnings growth is usually dependent upon the characteristics of the growth rates of these markets, and companies that operate within the same industry or line of business experience similar operating characteristics and business opportunities and risks. The underlying component in the comparable company analysis assumes the companies are ongoing concerns.

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Using publicly available information, Hoefer & Arnett compared selected financial data of Umpqua with similar data of selected publicly-traded companies engaged in commercial banking considered by Hoefer & Arnett to be comparable to those of Umpqua. In this regard, Hoefer & Arnett noted that although such companies were considered similar, none of the companies has the same management, makeup, size or combination of business as Umpqua, as the case may be. Hoefer & Arnett reviewed and analyzed the following publicly-traded companies, which Hoefer & Arnett deemed to be comparable companies (collectively, the UMPQ Comparison Companies): Banner Corp., Capital Corp of the West, Cascade Bancorp, City National Corp., Columbia Banking System, Inc., CVB Financial Corp., First Community Bancorp, First Republic Bank, Frontier Financial Corp., Glacier Bancorp, Inc., Greater Bay Bancorp, Mid-State Bancshares, Pacific Capital Bancorp, Sterling Financial Corp., SVB Financial Group, TriCo Bancshares, West Coast Bancorp, Westamerica Bancorp and Western Alliance Bancorp. This group was selected from companies that are commercial banks or bank holding companies which are headquartered and operate in the Western Region of the United States and have assets between \$1 billion and \$20 billion.

Hoefer & Arnett analyzed the following financial data for each of the Umpqua Comparison Companies and then applied the average and median trading metrics of the Umpqua Comparison Companies to Umpqua: the closing price of the common stock on February 3, 2006 as a multiple or percent, as the case may be, of (i) net income for the latest twelve months (four most recent fiscal quarters) for which income has been publicly reported (LTM) (ii) tangible book value per share, and (iii) total assets.

UMPQ COMPARABLE COMPANY ANALYSIS TRADING METRICS

	Current					YTD	Average
	Price/ TBV	Price/ LTM EPS	Price/ Assets	Dividend Yield	Market Value	Price Change	Weekly Volume
	(%)	(x)	(%)	(%)	(\$M)	(%)	(%)
Average	347.69	18.99	24.06	1.65	1,059.54	4.58	2.30
Median	302.80	17.80	24.94	1.97	918.60	4.16	1.58
High	611.00	31.40	34.84	2.55	3,664.50	13.49	7.10
Low	207.20	14.90	10.84		360.10	0.58	0.50
UMPQ	380.60	18.20	23.41	1.70	1,255.20	(1.26)	3.09

Similarly, Hoefer & Arnett compared selected financial data of Western Sierra, using publicly available data, with similar data of selected publicly-traded companies engaged in commercial banking considered by Hoefer & Arnett to be comparable to those of Western Sierra. In this regard, Hoefer & Arnett noted that although such companies were considered similar, none of the companies has the same management, makeup, size or combination of business as Western Sierra, as the case may be. Hoefer & Arnett reviewed and analyzed the following publicly-traded companies, which Hoefer & Arnett deemed to be comparable companies (collectively, the WSBA Comparison Companies): American River Bankshares, Bank of Marin, Capital Corp of the West, Community Bancorp, Inc., First Northern Community Bancorp, First Regional Bancorp, Heritage Commerce Corp, Mid-State Bancshares, North Bay Bancorp, Northern Empire Bancshares, Pacific Mercantile Bancorp, Placer Sierra Bancshares, Sierra Bancorp, TriCo Bancshares, United Security Bancshares and Vineyard National Bancorp. This group was selected from companies that are commercial banks or bank holding companies which are headquartered and operate in California and have assets between \$500 million and \$2.5 billion.

Hoefer & Arnett analyzed the following financial data for each of the Western Sierra Comparison Companies and then applied the average and median trading metrics of the Western Sierra Comparison Companies to Western Sierra: the closing price of the common stock on February 3, 2006 as a multiple or percent, as the case may be, of (i) net income for the latest twelve months (four most recent fiscal quarters) for which income has been publicly reported (LTM) (ii) tangible book value per share, and (iii) total assets.

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	Current					YTD	Average
	Price/ TBV (%)	Price/ LTM EPS (x)	Price/ Assets (%)	Dividend Yield (%)	Market Value (\$M)	Price Change (%)	Weekly Volume (%)
Average	301.53	18.18	22.04	1.12	270.83	4.36	0.83
Median	297.95	17.05	21.43	1.11	248.35	5.06	0.52
High	436.30	33.80	30.23	2.55	636.60	15.87	2.73
Low	212.70	12.70	16.58		104.50	(4.58)	0.03
WSBA	338.50	18.80	23.74		308.00	9.45	1.19

Merger and Acquisition Transaction Analysis

Hofer & Arnett reviewed certain publicly available information regarding 22 selected merger and acquisition transactions (the Comparable Transactions) from January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005 involving commercial banks and bank holding companies, in which the sellers (i) were headquartered and operated their banking business in the United States, and (ii) in which the aggregate deal value at transaction announcement was greater than \$100 million and less than \$750 million.

For each transaction, Hofer & Arnett analyzed data illustrating, among other things, the multiple of purchase price to LTM earnings, the multiple of purchase price to tangible book value, and the ratio of the premium (i.e., purchase price in excess of tangible book value) to core deposits.

A summary of the average and median multiples and ratios for the Comparable Transactions Group in the analysis follows:

COMPARABLE TRANSACTION GROUP ANALYSIS

Buyer/ Target Name	Price Per Fully Diluted Share	Total Assets (\$000)	Deal Announce Date	Deal Value (\$M)	Price to		
					TBV (%)	LTM Earnings (x)	Prem Core (%)
Comparable Transaction Group Average		958,733		215.1	301.5	26.3	27.9
Comparable Transaction Group Median		634,064		158.3	305.5	24.6	27.5
Comparable Transaction Group High Value		4,076,770		714.7	447.6	57.4	39.7
Comparable Transaction Group Low Value		293,884		103.6	166.7	10.6	11.0
UMPQUA/ WSBA	Exchange Ratio = 1.6100	1,292,573	2/8/2006	362.2	373.19	20.75	30.61

An analysis of the results of the foregoing necessarily involves complex considerations and judgments concerning differences in financial and operating characteristics of Western Sierra and the companies included in the selected merger transactions and other factors that could affect the acquisition value of the companies to which it is being compared. Mathematical analyses such as determining the median or average is not in itself a meaningful method of using comparable transaction data.

Discounted Cash Flow Analysis

In performing the Discounted Cash Flow analysis, Hoefer & Arnett estimated the future cash earnings of Western Sierra on both a stand-alone basis and a pro forma basis (including the operational benefits that are expected to result from the transaction), and then discounted those values back to the present using discount rates of 8.0%, 10.0%, and 12.0%. Free cash flow in our analysis is equal to the cash earnings of Western Sierra less the amount of retained earnings necessary to maintain an equity-to-assets ratio of 7.0%. Terminal values assume a cash earnings growth rate of 3.5% into perpetuity.

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This analysis indicates that the present value of Western Sierra's future cash flows ranged from \$31.97 to \$57.53 per share on a stand-alone basis and from \$35.19 to \$65.34 on a pro forma basis, compared to the value of Umpqua's stock offer equal to an exchange ratio of 1.61, or \$43.89 per share as of the date of the Agreement.

Present Value Analysis

In performing the Present Value analysis, Hoefer & Arnett applied a price-to-earnings multiple ranging from 8.0x to 24.0x and a price-to-book value ratio ranging from 100% to 300% to Western Sierra's projected future earnings per share and book value per share, resulting in an implied projected stock price range. The projected stock prices were discounted to the present using discount rates of 8.0% to 15.0%.

On a stand-alone basis, this analysis indicates that the present value of Western Sierra's future stock price based on the price-to-earnings multiple averaged \$39.00 and ranged from \$16.66 to \$67.97 per share, and based on the price-to-book value ratios averaged \$39.44 and ranged from \$16.85 to \$68.75 per share compared to the value of Umpqua's stock offer equal to an exchange ratio of 1.61, or \$43.89 per share as of the date of the Agreement.

On a pro forma basis, this analysis indicates that the present value of Western Sierra's future stock price based on the price-to-earnings multiple averaged \$45.99 and ranged from \$19.64 to \$80.16 per share, and based on the price-to-book value ratios averaged \$40.32 and ranged from \$17.22 to \$70.27 per share compared to the value of Umpqua's stock offer equal to an exchange ratio of 1.61, or \$43.89 per share as of the date of the Agreement.

Accretion Analysis

Hoefer & Arnett analyzed the projected 2006 through 2008 earnings per share for one original share of Umpqua common stock, adjusted for the exchange ratio assuming 100% stock conversion. Hoefer & Arnett compared the projected earnings per share for the holders of Umpqua common stock on a stand-alone basis and on a combined pro forma basis for Umpqua and Western Sierra. This analysis assumes, among other things, that the transaction is completed in the second quarter of 2006 and expense savings are fully realized in 2007 and all periods thereafter. This analysis results in neutral earnings impact in 2006 and positive earnings accretion in excess of 3% in 2007 and 2008.

This analysis suggests that there are higher potential earnings per share and therefore higher potential value per share for the holders of Umpqua common stock if the merger is completed.

This analysis relies on financial projections for Umpqua and Western Sierra, which projections may be significantly different from actual results. Therefore, the accretion experienced by Umpqua and/or Western Sierra may be significantly different than projected.

While the foregoing summaries describe several analyses and examinations that Hoefer & Arnett deemed material in its opinion, it is not a comprehensive description of all analyses and examinations actually conducted by Hoefer & Arnett. The preparation of a fairness opinion necessarily involves various determinations of the most appropriate and relevant methods of financial analysis and the application of those methods to the particular circumstances, and, therefore, is not susceptible to partial analysis or summary description. Each of the analyses conducted by Hoefer & Arnett was carried out in order to provide a different perspective on the transaction and to add to the total mix of information available. Hoefer & Arnett did not form a conclusion as to whether any individual analysis, considered alone, supported or failed to support an opinion as to fairness from a financial point of view. Rather, in reaching its conclusion, Hoefer & Arnett considered the results of the analyses as a whole and did not place particular reliance or weight on any individual factor. Therefore, selecting portions of the analyses and factors considered, without considering all such analyses and factors, would create an incomplete or misleading view of the process underlying the analysis. The range of valuations resulting from any particular analysis should not be taken to be Hoefer & Arnett's view of the actual value or predicted future value of Umpqua's common stock.

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In performing its analyses, Hofer & Arnett made numerous assumptions with respect to industry performance and general business and economic conditions such as industry growth, inflation, interest rates and many other matters, many of which are beyond the control of Umpqua, Western Sierra and Hofer & Arnett. Any estimates contained in Hofer & Arnett's analyses are not necessarily indicative of actual values or future results, which may be significantly more or less favorable than suggested by the analyses. Additionally, estimates of the values of the business and securities do not purport to be appraisals of the assets or market value of Umpqua and Western Sierra or their securities, nor do they necessarily reflect the prices at which transactions may actually be consummated.

In arriving at its opinion, Hofer & Arnett assumed and relied upon the accuracy and completeness of all financial and other information provided to or reviewed by Hofer & Arnett, including publicly available information, and Hofer & Arnett did not assume any responsibility for independent verification of any such information. With respect to financial projections and other information provided to or reviewed by Hofer & Arnett, Hofer & Arnett was advised by the managements of Umpqua and Western Sierra that such projections and other information were reasonably prepared on bases reflecting the best currently available estimates and judgments of the respective managements of Umpqua and Western Sierra as to the expected future financial performance of Umpqua and Western Sierra, and Hofer & Arnett assumed that, after the merger, Umpqua and Western Sierra and its subsidiaries will perform substantially in accordance with such projections. Hofer & Arnett's opinion does not address the underlying business decision of Umpqua to enter into the Agreement or complete the merger.

Pursuant to the terms of an engagement letter with Umpqua, Hofer & Arnett will receive a fee from Umpqua. The Bank has also agreed to reimburse Hofer & Arnett for its expenses incurred in connection with its engagement and to indemnify Hofer & Arnett against certain liabilities.

In the ordinary course of its business, Hofer & Arnett and its affiliates may actively trade the common stock of Umpqua and Western Sierra for its own account and for the accounts of its customers and, accordingly, Hofer & Arnett may at any time hold a long or short position in the common stock of Umpqua or Western Sierra.

Hofer & Arnett's opinion is for the benefit and use of the members of the board of directors of Umpqua in connection with their evaluation of the merger and does not constitute a recommendation to any holder of Umpqua common stock as to how such holder should vote with respect to the merger.

Opinion of Western Sierra's Financial Advisor

By letter dated August 25, 2005, Western Sierra retained Sandler O'Neill to act as its financial advisor in connection with a possible business combination with another financial institution. Sandler O'Neill is a nationally recognized investment banking firm whose principal business specialty is financial institutions. In the ordinary course of its investment banking business, Sandler O'Neill is regularly engaged in the valuation of financial institutions and their securities in connection with mergers and acquisitions and other corporate transactions.

Sandler O'Neill acted as financial advisor to Western Sierra in connection with the proposed merger and participated in certain of the negotiations leading to the merger agreement. At the February 7, 2006 meeting at which Western Sierra's board considered and approved the merger agreement, Sandler O'Neill delivered to the board its oral opinion, subsequently confirmed in writing, that, as of such date, the exchange ratio was fair to Western Sierra's shareholders from a financial point of view. Sandler O'Neill has confirmed its February 7, 2006 opinion by delivering to the board a written opinion dated the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. In rendering its updated opinion, Sandler O'Neill confirmed the appropriateness of its reliance on the analyses used to render its earlier opinion by reviewing the assumptions upon which its analyses were based, performing procedures to update certain of its analyses and reviewing the other factors considered in rendering its opinion. **The full text of Sandler O'Neill's updated opinion is attached as Appendix D. The opinion outlines the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered and qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken by Sandler O'Neill in rendering its opinion. The description of the opinion set forth below is qualified in its entirety by**

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reference to the opinion and Western Sierra shareholders are urged to read the entire Sandler O Neill opinion.

Sandler O Neill's opinion speaks only as of the date of this joint proxy statement/ prospectus. The opinion was directed to the Western Sierra board and is directed only to the fairness of the exchange ratio to Western Sierra shareholders from a financial point of view. It does not address the underlying business decision of Western Sierra to engage in the merger or any other aspect of the merger and is not a recommendation to any Western Sierra shareholder as to how such shareholder should vote at the special meeting with respect to the merger or any other matter.

In connection with rendering its opinion, Sandler O Neill reviewed and considered, among other things:

1. the agreement;
2. certain publicly available financial statements and other historical financial information of Western Sierra that they deemed relevant;
3. certain publicly available financial statements and other historical financial information of Umpqua that they deemed relevant;
4. earnings per share estimates for Western Sierra for the years ending December 31, 2006 and long-term earnings per share growth rates for the years thereafter, in each case, as provided by, and reviewed with, senior management of Western Sierra;
5. earnings per share estimates for Umpqua for the year ending December 31, 2006 provided by and reviewed with senior management of Umpqua and long-term earnings per share growth rates for the years thereafter, in each case, provided by and reviewed with senior management of Umpqua;
6. the pro forma financial impact of the merger on Umpqua, based on assumptions relating to transaction expenses, purchase accounting adjustments and cost savings determined by the senior management of Umpqua and reviewed with senior management of Western Sierra;
7. the relative contributions of assets, liabilities, equity and earnings of Western Sierra and Umpqua to the resulting institution;
8. the publicly reported historical price and trading activity for Western Sierra's and Umpqua's common stock, including a comparison of certain financial and stock market information for Western Sierra and Umpqua and similar publicly available information for certain other companies the securities of which are publicly traded;
9. the financial terms of certain recent business combinations in the commercial banking industry, to the extent publicly available;
10. the current market environment generally and the banking environment in particular; and
11. such other information, financial studies, analyses and investigations and financial, economic and market criteria as they considered relevant.

Sandler O Neill also discussed with certain members of senior management of Western Sierra the business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects of Western Sierra and held similar discussions with certain members of senior management of Umpqua regarding the business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects of Umpqua.

In performing its reviews and analyses and in rendering its opinions, Sandler O Neill assumed and relied upon the accuracy and completeness of all the financial information, analyses and other information that was publicly available or otherwise furnished to, reviewed by or discussed with it and further relied on the assurances of senior management

of Western Sierra and Umpqua that they were not aware of any facts or circumstances that would make such information inaccurate or misleading. Sandler O'Neill was not asked to and did not independently verify the accuracy or completeness of any of such information and

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they did not assume any responsibility or liability for its accuracy or completeness. Sandler O'Neill did not make an independent evaluation or appraisal of the assets, the collateral securing assets or the liabilities, contingent or otherwise, of Western Sierra or Umpqua or any of their respective subsidiaries, or the collectibility of any such assets, nor was it furnished with any such evaluations or appraisals. Sandler O'Neill is not an expert in the evaluation of allowances for loan losses and it did not make an independent evaluation of the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses of Western Sierra or Umpqua, nor did it review any individual credit files relating to Western Sierra or Umpqua. With Western Sierra's consent, Sandler O'Neill assumed that the respective allowances for loan losses for both Western Sierra and Umpqua were adequate to cover such losses and will be adequate on a pro forma basis for the combined entity. In addition, Sandler O'Neill did not conduct any physical inspection of the properties or facilities of Western Sierra or Umpqua.

Sandler O'Neill's opinion was necessarily based upon market, economic and other conditions as they existed on, and could be evaluated as of, the date of the opinion. Sandler O'Neill assumed, in all respects material to its analysis, that all of the representations and warranties contained in the merger agreement and all related agreements are true and correct, that each party to such agreements will perform all of the covenants required to be performed by such party under such agreements and that the conditions precedent in the merger agreement are not waived. Sandler O'Neill also assumed, with Western Sierra's consent, that there had been no material change in Western Sierra's and Umpqua's assets, financial condition, results of operations, business or prospects since the date of the last financial statements made available to them, that Western Sierra and Umpqua will remain as going concerns for all periods relevant to its analyses and that the merger will qualify as a tax-free reorganization for federal income tax purposes. With Western Sierra's consent, Sandler O'Neill relied upon the advice Western Sierra received from its legal, accounting and tax advisors as to all legal, accounting and tax matters relating to the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

The earnings projections used and relied upon by Sandler O'Neill for Western Sierra and Umpqua in its analyses were based upon internal financial projections for the respective companies prepared and furnished by the managements of Western Sierra and Umpqua. With respect to such financial projections and all of Umpqua's projections of costs, purchase accounting adjustments and expected cost savings relating to the merger, the managements of the respective institutions confirmed to Sandler O'Neill that they reflected the best currently available estimates and judgments of such managements of the future financial performance of Western Sierra and Umpqua, respectively, and Sandler O'Neill assumed for purposes of its analyses that such performances would be achieved. Sandler O'Neill expressed no opinion as to such financial projections or the assumptions on which they were based.

In rendering its February 7, 2006 opinion, Sandler O'Neill performed a variety of financial analyses. The following is a summary of the material analyses performed by Sandler O'Neill, but is not a complete description of all the analyses underlying Sandler O'Neill's opinion. The summary includes information presented in tabular format. **In order to fully understand the financial analyses, these tables must be read together with the accompanying text. The tables alone do not constitute a complete description of the financial analyses.** The preparation of a fairness opinion is a complex process involving subjective judgments as to the most appropriate and relevant methods of financial analysis and the application of those methods to the particular circumstances. The process, therefore, is not necessarily susceptible to a partial analysis or summary description. Sandler O'Neill believes that its analyses must be considered as a whole and that selecting portions of the factors and analyses considered without considering all factors and analyses, or attempting to ascribe relative weights to some or all such factors and analyses, could create an incomplete view of the evaluation process underlying its opinion. Also, no company included in Sandler O'Neill's comparative analyses described below is identical to Western Sierra or Umpqua and no transaction is identical to the merger. Accordingly, an analysis of comparable companies or transactions involves complex considerations and judgments concerning differences in financial and operating characteristics of the companies and other factors that could affect the public trading values or merger transaction values, as the case may be, of Western Sierra or Umpqua and the companies to which they are being compared.

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In performing its analyses, Sandler O Neill also made numerous assumptions with respect to industry performance, business and economic conditions and various other matters, many of which cannot be predicted and are beyond the control of Western Sierra, Umpqua and Sandler O Neill. The analyses performed by Sandler O Neill are not necessarily indicative of actual values or future results, which may be significantly more or less favorable than suggested by such analyses. Sandler O Neill prepared its analyses solely for purposes of rendering its opinion and provided such analyses to the Western Sierra board at the board's February 7th meeting. Estimates on the values of companies do not purport to be appraisals or necessarily reflect the prices at which companies or their securities may actually be sold. Such estimates are inherently subject to uncertainty and actual values may be materially different. Accordingly, Sandler O Neill's analyses do not necessarily reflect the value of Western Sierra's common stock or Umpqua's common stock or the prices at which Western Sierra's or Umpqua's common stock may be sold at any time.

Summary of Proposal

Sandler O Neill reviewed the financial terms of the proposed transaction. Based upon the closing price of Umpqua's common stock on February 6, 2006 of \$27.34 and the exchange ratio of 1.61, Sandler O Neill calculated an implied transaction value of \$44.02 per share. Based upon financial information for Western for the twelve months ended December 31, 2005, Sandler O Neill calculated the following ratios:

Transaction Ratios

Transaction value/ Last 12 months earnings per share	19.7x
Transaction value/ Tangible book value per share	352.9%
Transaction value/ Stated book value per share	263.0%
Tangible book premium/ Core deposits ¹	31.4%
Premium to Market Price ²	8.7%

¹ Assumes Western Sierra's total core deposits are \$826.2 million.

² Based on Western Sierra's closing price of \$40.50 as of 2/6/06.

For purposes of Sandler O Neill's analyses, earnings per share were based on fully diluted earnings per share. The aggregate transaction value was approximately \$356.3 million, based upon 7,803,590 shares of Western Sierra common stock outstanding and including the intrinsic value of options to purchase an aggregate of 565,420 shares with a weighted average strike price of \$21.40.

Stock Trading History

Sandler O Neill reviewed the history of the reported trading prices and volume of Western Sierra's common stock and the relationship between the movements in the prices of Western Sierra's common stock to movements in certain stock indices, including the Standard & Poor's 500 Index, the NASDAQ Bank Index, the Standard & Poor's Bank Index and the performance of a composite peer group of publicly traded commercial banks selected by Sandler O Neill. During the one-year period ended February 6, 2006, Western Sierra's common stock outperformed both the NASDAQ Bank Index and Standard & Poor's Bank Index but underperformed when compared to the composite peer group and S&P 500 Index. During the three-year period ended February 6, 2006, Western Sierra's common stock outperformed each of the indices to which it was compared, except for the composite peer group.

Table of Contents**Western Sierra's One-Year Stock Performance**

	Beginning Index Value February 6, 2005	Ending Index Value February 6, 2006
Western Sierra	100.0%	104.9%
Western Sierra Peer Group	100.0	109.7
S&P 500 Index	100.0	105.2
NASDAQ Bank Index	100.0	99.7
S&P Bank Index	100.0	95.7

Western Sierra's Three-Year Stock Performance

	Beginning Index Value February 6, 2003	Ending Index Value February 6, 2006
Western Sierra	100.0%	230.3%
Western Peer Group	100.0	236.0
S&P 500 Index	100.0	150.9
NASDAQ Bank Index	100.0	142.2
S&P Bank Index	100.0	137.5

Sandler O'Neill reviewed the history of the reported trading prices and volume of Umpqua's common stock and the relationship between the movements in the prices of Umpqua's common stock to movements in certain stock indices, including the Standard & Poor's 500 Index, the NASDAQ Bank Index, the Standard & Poor's Bank Index and the performance of a composite peer group of publicly traded commercial banks selected by Sandler O'Neill. During the one-year period ended February 6, 2006, Umpqua's common stock outperformed each of the indices to which it was compared. During the three-year period ended February 6, 2006, Umpqua's common stock underperformed each of the indices to which it was compared, except for the Standard & Poor's Bank Index.

Umpqua's One-Year Stock Performance

	Beginning Index Value February 6, 2005	Ending Index Value February 6, 2006
Umpqua	100.0%	110.7%
Umpqua Peer Group	100.0	110.4
S&P 500 Index	100.0	105.2
NASDAQ Bank Index	100.0	99.7
S&P Bank Index	100.0	95.7

Umpqua's Three-Year Stock Performance

	Beginning Index Value February 6, 2003	Ending Index Value February 6, 2006
Umpqua	100.0%	140.6%
Umpqua Peer Group	100.0	180.9
S&P 500 Index	100.0	150.9
NASDAQ Bank Index	100.0	142.2

S&P Bank Index	100.0	137.5
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Table of Contents**Comparable Company Analysis**

Sandler O'Neill used publicly available information to compare selected financial and market trading information for Western Sierra and a group of financial institutions headquartered in California selected by Sandler O'Neill (the Western Sierra Peer Group). The Western Sierra Peer Group consisted of the following publicly traded commercial banks with total assets between \$765 million and \$1,859 million:

Placer Sierra Bancshares
 TriCo Bancshares
 Vineyard National Bancorp
 First Regional Bancorp
 Capital Corp of the West
 Exchange Bank of Santa Rosa
 Farmers & Merchants Bancorp
 Northern Empire Bancshares
 Heritage Commerce Corp
 Sierra Bancorp
 Pacific Mercantile Bancorp
 North Valley Bancorp
 Community Bancorp Inc.
 Bank of Marin
 Temecula Valley Bancorp Inc.
 RCB Corporation

The analysis compared publicly available financial information for Western Sierra as of and for the twelve months ended December 31, 2005 with that of the Western Sierra peer group as of and for the twelve month period ended December 31, 2005, if available, otherwise as of and for the twelve month period ended September 30, 2005. The table below sets forth the comparative data as of and for the twelve months ending December 31, 2005, with pricing data as of February 6, 2006:

	Western Sierra	Western Sierra Peer Group Median
Total assets (<i>in millions</i>)	\$ 1,293	\$ 1,196
Tangible equity/tangible assets	7.71%	7.05%
Return on average assets	1.43%	1.45%
Return on average equity	14.8%	16.3%
Return on average tangible equity	21.0%	19.4%
Price/tangible book value per share	324.8%	265.1%
Price/Last 12 months earnings per share	18.2x	16.0x
Price/analysts estimated 2006 earnings per share	15.9x	14.5x
Market capitalization (<i>in millions</i>)	\$315	\$247

Sandler O'Neill used publicly available information to compare selected financial and market trading information for Umpqua and a group of financial institutions headquartered in the western region of the United States selected by Sandler O'Neill (the Umpqua Peer Group). The Umpqua Peer Group consisted of the following publicly traded commercial banks with total assets between \$3.2 billion and \$7.1 billion:

Greater Bay Bancorp
 Sterling Financial Corp.
 Pacific Capital Bancorp
 SVB Financial Group

Westamerica Bancorp.
CVB Financial Corp.
Glacier Bancorp Inc.
Banner Corp.
First Community Bancorp

The analysis compared financial information for Umpqua and the median data for the commercial banks in the Umpqua Peer Group as of and for the twelve months ending December 31, 2005. The table

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below sets forth the comparative data as of and for the twelve months ending December 31, 2005, with pricing data as of February 6, 2006:

	Umpqua	Umpqua Peer Group Median
Total assets (<i>in millions</i>)	\$ 5,361	\$ 5,423
Tangible equity/tangible assets	6.66%	6.12%
Return on average assets	1.4%	1.5%
Return on average equity	9.8%	17.1%
Return on average tangible equity	23.0%	24.0%
Price/tangible book value per share	369.5%	412.3%
Price/last 12 months earnings per share	17.6x	18.2x
Price/estimated 2005 earnings per share	15.7x	15.6x
Market capitalization (<i>in millions</i>)	\$ 1,218	\$ 1,263

Analysis of Selected Merger Transactions

Sandler O'Neill reviewed 80 merger transactions announced nationwide from January 1, 2003 through February 6, 2006 involving commercial banks as acquired institutions with transaction values between \$100 and \$500 million. Sandler O'Neill also reviewed 11 merger transactions announced during the same period involving commercial banks in California with transaction values between \$100 and \$500 million. Sandler O'Neill reviewed the multiples of transaction price at announcement to last twelve months earnings per share, transaction price to book value per share, transaction price to tangible book value per share, tangible book premium to core deposits and premium to market price and computed high, low, mean and median multiples and premiums for the transactions. The median multiples were applied to Western Sierra's financial information as of and for the twelve months ended December 31, 2005. As illustrated in the following table, Sandler O'Neill derived an imputed range of values per share of Western Sierra's common stock of \$37.16 to \$52.31 based upon the median multiples for nationwide commercial bank transactions and \$34.47 to \$50.29 based upon the median multiples for California commercial bank transactions. The implied transaction value of the merger as calculated by Sandler O'Neill was \$44.02 per share.

Nationwide & California Transaction Multiples

	Nationwide		California	
	Median Multiple	Implied Value	Median Multiple	Implied Value
Transaction price/Last 12 months earnings per share	23.44x	\$ 52.31	20.77x	\$ 46.36
Transaction price/Book value	293.26%	\$ 49.07	261.21%	\$ 43.71
Transaction price/Tangible book value	314.23%	\$ 39.19	276.39%	\$ 34.47
Tangible book premium/Core deposits	24.86%	\$ 37.16	28.39%	\$ 40.64
Premium to market	25.72%	\$ 50.91	24.17%	\$ 50.29

Discounted Cash Flow and Terminal Value Analysis

Sandler O'Neill performed an analysis that estimated the future stream of after-tax cash flows of Western Sierra through December 31, 2008 under various circumstances, assuming Western Sierra's projected dividend stream and that Western Sierra performed in accordance with the earnings projections generated by and reviewed with management. For periods after 2006, Sandler O'Neill assumed annual earnings per share growth rates ranging from approximately 13%. To approximate the terminal value of Western Sierra common stock at December 31, 2008,

Sandler O'Neill applied price/earnings multiples ranging from 14x to 24x and multiples of tangible book value ranging from 150% to 400%. The income streams, dividend streams and terminal values were then discounted to present values using different

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discount rates ranging from 9% to 15% chosen to reflect different assumptions regarding required rates of return of holders or prospective buyers of Western Sierra common stock. As illustrated in the following tables, this analysis indicated an imputed range of values per share of Western Sierra common stock of \$31.86 to \$62.98 when applying the price/earnings multiples and \$21.19 to \$63.63 when applying multiples of tangible book value. The implied transaction value of the merger as calculated by Sandler O'Neill was \$44.02 per share.

Discount Rate	Multiple of Price/Last Twelve Months Earnings					
	14.0x	16.0	18.0	20.0	22.0	24.0
9.00%	\$ 37.34	42.47	47.60	52.73	57.85	62.98
10.00	36.35	41.34	46.32	51.31	56.30	61.29
11.00	35.39	40.24	45.10	49.95	54.81	59.66
12.00	34.46	39.18	43.91	48.64	53.36	58.09
13.00	33.56	38.16	42.77	47.37	51.97	56.57
14.00	32.70	37.18	41.66	46.14	50.63	55.11
15.00	31.86	36.23	40.60	44.96	49.33	53.69

Discount Rate	Multiple of Price/Tangible Book Value					
	150%	200	250	300	350	400
9.00%	\$ 24.81	32.57	40.34	48.10	55.87	63.63
10.00	24.15	31.71	39.26	46.82	54.37	61.92
11.00	23.52	30.87	38.22	45.57	52.93	60.28
12.00	22.90	30.06	37.22	44.38	51.53	58.69
13.00	22.31	29.28	36.25	43.22	50.19	57.16
14.00	21.74	28.53	35.32	42.11	48.89	55.68
15.00	21.19	27.80	34.42	41.03	47.64	54.25

Sandler O'Neill performed a similar analysis that estimated the future stream of after-tax cash flows of Umpqua through December 31, 2008 under various circumstances, assuming Umpqua's projected dividend stream and that Umpqua performed in accordance with the earnings projections generated and reviewed with management. For periods after 2006, Sandler O'Neill assumed an annual earnings per share growth rate of approximately 13%. To approximate the terminal value of Umpqua common stock at December 31, 2008, Sandler O'Neill applied price/earnings multiples ranging from 14x to 22x and multiples of tangible book value ranging from 250% to 500%. The income streams and terminal values were then discounted to present values using different discount rates ranging from 9% to 15% chosen to reflect different assumptions regarding required rates of return of holders or prospective buyers of Umpqua common stock. As illustrated in the following table, this analysis indicated an imputed range of values per share of Umpqua common stock of \$21.52 to \$38.57 when applying the price/earnings multiples and \$20.95 to \$47.24 when applying multiples of tangible book value.

Discount Rate	Multiple of Price/Last Twelve Months Earnings				
	14.0x	16.0	18.0	20.0	22.0
9.00%	\$ 25.15	28.51	31.86	35.22	38.57
10.00	24.49	27.76	31.02	34.28	37.55

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11.00	23.85	27.03	30.21	33.39	36.56
12.00	23.24	26.33	29.43	32.52	35.61
13.00	22.65	25.66	28.67	31.68	34.69
14.00	22.08	25.01	27.94	30.88	33.81
15.00	21.52	24.38	27.24	30.10	32.95

Table of Contents**Multiple of Price/Tangible Book Value**

Discount Rate	250%	300	350	400	450	500
9.00%	\$ 24.47	29.02	33.58	38.13	42.68	47.24
10.00	23.83	28.26	32.69	37.12	41.55	45.98
11.00	23.21	27.52	31.84	36.15	40.46	44.77
12.00	22.62	26.81	31.01	35.21	39.40	43.60
13.00	22.04	26.13	30.21	34.30	38.39	42.47
14.00	21.48	25.46	29.44	33.43	37.41	41.39
15.00	20.95	24.83	28.70	32.58	36.46	40.33

In connection with its analyses, Sandler O Neill considered and discussed with the Western Sierra Board how the present value analyses would be affected by changes in the underlying assumptions, including variations with respect to net income, growth rate of earnings per share and dividend payout ratio. Sandler O Neill noted that the discounted dividend stream and terminal value analysis is a widely used valuation methodology, but the results of such methodology are highly dependent upon the numerous assumptions that must be made, and the results thereof are not necessarily indicative of actual values or future results.

Contribution Analysis

Sandler O Neill reviewed the relative contributions to be made by Western Sierra and Umpqua to the combined institution based on financial information of both companies as of December 31, 2005. The percentage of pro forma common shares owned was determined using the exchange ratio of 1.61. This analysis indicated that the implied contributions to the combined entity were as follows:

	Contribution Analysis	
	Western	Umpqua
Cash and securities	16.06%	83.94%
Net loans	20.98%	79.02%
Total intangibles	7.51%	92.49%
Total assets	19.43%	80.57%
Total deposits	19.66%	80.34%
Total borrowings	36.06%	63.94%
Total equity	15.00%	85.00%
Tangible equity	22.74%	77.26%
Last twelve months net income	20.29%	79.71%
Estimated 2006 net income	21.45%	78.55%
Pro forma common ownership	22.00%	78.00%

Pro Forma Merger Analysis

Sandler O Neill analyzed certain potential pro forma effects of the merger, assuming the following: (1) the merger closes in the second quarter of 2006, (2) 100% of the Western Sierra shares are exchanged for Umpqua common stock at an exchange ratio of 1.61, (3) earnings per share projections for Western Sierra and Umpqua are consistent with internal projections and guidance as discussed with management of both companies for 2006 and 2007, and (4) purchase accounting adjustments, charges and transaction costs associated with the merger and cost savings determined by the senior managements of Umpqua and Western Sierra. The analysis indicated that for the six months ending December 31, 2006, the merger would be approximately 0.8% dilutive to Umpqua's projected earnings per

share and approximately 4.6% accretive to Western Sierra's earnings per share. The analysis indicated that for the twelve months ending December 31, 2007, the merger would be approximately 3.0% accretive to Umpqua's projected earnings per share and approximately 8.5% accretive to Western Sierra's earnings per share. The analysis also

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indicated that at the assumed closing date for the transaction, the merger would be approximately 5.4% dilutive to Umpqua's tangible book value per share and approximately 9.8% dilutive to Western Sierra's tangible book value per share.

In connection with its analyses, Sandler O'Neill considered and discussed with the Western Sierra Board how the pro forma analyses would be affected by changes in the underlying assumptions, including variations with respect to the growth rate of earnings per share of each company. Sandler O'Neill noted that the actual results achieved by the combined company may vary from projected results and the variations may be material.

Western has agreed to pay Sandler O'Neill a transaction fee in connection with the merger of approximately \$3,435,140 (based on the closing price of Umpqua's common stock as of February 6, 2006), of which none has been paid and is contingent, and payable, upon closing of the merger. Western Sierra has also paid Sandler O'Neill \$300,000 for rendering its opinion, which will be credited against that portion of the transaction fee due upon closing of the merger. Western Sierra has also agreed to reimburse certain of Sandler O'Neill's reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with its engagement and to indemnify Sandler O'Neill and its affiliates and their respective partners, directors, officers, employees, agents, and controlling persons against certain expenses and liabilities, including liabilities under securities laws.

Sandler O'Neill has in the past provided other investment banking services to Western Sierra and received compensation for such services. Sandler O'Neill has not in the past provided investment banking services to Umpqua, but they may provide, and receive compensation for, such services in the future, including during the period prior to the closing of the Merger. In the ordinary course of its business as a broker-dealer, Sandler O'Neill may purchase securities from and sell securities to Western Sierra and Umpqua and their respective affiliates and may actively trade the debt and/or equity securities of Western Sierra and Umpqua and their respective affiliates for its own account and for the accounts of customers and, accordingly, may at any time hold a long or short position in such securities.

Merger Consideration

When the merger is completed, Western Sierra shareholders will have the right to exchange each share of Western Sierra common stock they own for 1.61 shares of Umpqua common stock.

Possible Adjustment to the Merger Consideration

Western Sierra may notify Umpqua of its intent to terminate the merger agreement if, prior to the effective date of the merger:

the average closing price of Umpqua common stock over the fifteen trading day period ending on the fifth business day prior to the projected effective date of the merger is less than \$22.59, and

Umpqua's stock price has underperformed the Nasdaq Bank Index by more than 10%.

The comparison of Umpqua's stock price performance to that of the Nasdaq Bank Index is based on:

an initial Umpqua stock price of \$28.24 and initial index of 3,126.17, each of which is equal to the average closing price over the fifteen trading days from January 18, 2006, through and including February 7, 2006, the trading day prior to announcement of the merger, and

the final Umpqua stock price and final index, each of which will be equal to the average closing price over the fifteen trading day period through and including the fifth business day prior to the projected effective date of the merger.

If Western Sierra's board of directors gives notice of its intent to terminate the merger agreement due to a disproportionate decline in Umpqua's stock price, Umpqua's board of directors may elect to increase the total number of shares of Umpqua common stock to be issued to Western Sierra shareholders in the merger by the amount of shares such that the exchange ratio is equal to the number derived by

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multiplying 1.61 times the quotient obtained by dividing \$22.59 by the average closing price of Umpqua common stock over the fifteen trading day period ending on the fifth business day prior to the projected effective date. See THE MERGER AGREEMENT Termination.

Changes to Umpqua's Common Stock Prior to the Effective Date

If, prior to the effective date of the merger, Umpqua changes the number of shares of Umpqua common stock issued and outstanding as a result of a stock split, stock dividend, or similar transaction with respect to the outstanding Umpqua common stock, or exchanges Umpqua common stock for a different number or kind of shares or securities, the exchange ratio will be proportionally adjusted.

Fractional Shares

No fractional shares of Umpqua common stock will be issued to any holder of Western Sierra common stock in the merger. For each fractional share that would otherwise be issued, Umpqua will pay cash in an amount calculated by the exchange agent based on the average closing price of Umpqua common stock for the ten trading days through and including the second trading day prior to the effective date of the merger. No interest will be paid or accrued on cash payable in lieu of fractional shares of Umpqua common stock.

Rights of Holders of Western Sierra Stock Certificates Prior to Surrender

From the effective date of the merger until each Western Sierra shareholder surrenders his or her stock certificates, he or she will not be paid dividends or other distributions declared or payable to holders of record of Umpqua common stock as of any time subsequent to the effective date. Each Western Sierra shareholder's rights to dividends or other distributions will be held by the exchange agent until he or she submits his or her stock certificates. No interest will be paid on dividends or distributions on the Umpqua common stock. Each Western Sierra shareholder will, however, have other rights as an Umpqua shareholder, including the right to vote on any matter submitted to shareholders for approval.

Until completion of the merger, Western Sierra shareholders will be entitled to receive quarterly cash dividends declared by Western Sierra in amounts per share equal to Umpqua's regular quarterly cash dividend. Western Sierra has agreed not to pay any other dividends and has agreed to declare, set and pay quarterly dividends on the same dates as Umpqua declares, sets and pays its regular quarterly cash dividend.

Conversion of Western Sierra Common Stock

Promptly following closing of the merger, an exchange agent will mail to each Western Sierra shareholder a letter of transmittal and instructions for surrendering Western Sierra stock certificates. To ensure timely receipt of Umpqua common stock, Western Sierra shareholders should complete and sign the letter of transmittal and submit their stock certificates immediately upon receipt. Certificates representing shares of Western Sierra common stock should not be returned at this time.

Following closing of the merger and upon surrender of the certificates representing shares of Western Sierra common stock registered in his or her name, together with a properly completed letter of transmittal, the exchange agent will mail to each Western Sierra shareholder the Umpqua common stock to which he or she is entitled.

Lost Certificates

If a Western Sierra shareholder's stock certificates have been lost, stolen, or destroyed, before he or she can receive the merger consideration for the shares represented by such certificates, he or she must submit an affidavit that the certificates have been lost, stolen or destroyed and, if required, post a reasonable bond as indemnity against any claim that may be made against Umpqua with respect to such certificates.

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Effective Date of the Merger

The merger will become effective when Umpqua files articles of merger with the Oregon Secretary of State. Umpqua will file the articles of merger within fifteen days following the date upon which all shareholder and regulatory approvals are received or at such time and date as Western Sierra and Umpqua agree. The parties currently anticipate that the merger will be completed during the second quarter of 2006.

Treatment of Outstanding Stock Options

As of April 7, 2006, there were options outstanding under various Western Sierra stock option plans to purchase 503,447 shares of Western Sierra common stock at exercise prices ranging from \$4.168 to \$38.36 per share.

When the merger becomes effective, Umpqua will assume Western Sierra's obligations with respect to each option outstanding under Western Sierra's stock option plans. Neither Umpqua nor Western Sierra will grant additional options under the Western Sierra plans.

After completion of the merger:

Each option may be exercised only for Umpqua common stock.

Each option will become an option to purchase the number of shares of Umpqua common stock equal to the exchange ratio multiplied by the number of shares of Western Sierra common stock subject to such option. Following the merger, each option will be fully vested but all other terms and conditions will continue.

The exercise price per share of each option will be equal to exercise price of such option prior to the completion of the merger divided by the exchange ratio.

The above adjustments will be made in a manner that preserves the status of incentive stock options (as defined in Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended) to the extent applicable to avoid a disqualifying disposition of the stock underlying the incentive stock options.

All previously outstanding Umpqua stock options will remain outstanding and will not be affected by the merger.

Resulting Board of Directors of Umpqua

Immediately following completion of the merger, the board of directors of the combined company will consist of fifteen directors, including the fourteen current Umpqua directors and one director of Western Sierra or one of its subsidiary banks who will be selected by Umpqua from a list provided by Western Sierra.

The Umpqua board of directors is currently a classified board of directors with the directors serving staggered three-year terms. At the 2006 annual meeting, Umpqua shareholders will vote on a proposal to amend Umpqua's articles of incorporation to declassify the board of directors. If the amendment is approved, each director will serve one-year terms. If the amendment is not approved, the Western Sierra director who joins the Umpqua board following completion of the merger will be required to stand for election at the 2007 annual meeting of Umpqua shareholders if he or she is nominated to serve.

If a director resigns or otherwise ceases to serve as a director following the effective date of the merger and before the next annual shareholder meeting of the combined company, the Umpqua board will fill any vacancy in accordance with Umpqua's bylaws, and as required by Oregon law, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors then in office. If the Western Sierra director selected by Umpqua becomes unable to serve as an Umpqua director prior to completion of the merger, a replacement director from the list provided by Western Sierra will be selected by Umpqua.

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Umpqua Bank has eight divisional boards of directors, which serve as community advisory groups to Umpqua Bank. Prior to the closing of the merger, Umpqua will offer at least 10 positions on an Umpqua Bank California divisional board of directors to interested directors of Western Sierra or its subsidiary banks, with such appointments to be effective upon the closing of the merger.

Information regarding current Umpqua directors is included in this document. *See* UMPQUA ANNUAL MEETING PROPOSALS Information About Umpqua's Directors and Executive Officers.

Information regarding current Western Sierra directors is set forth in Western Sierra's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, which is incorporated by reference into this document. At this time, the identities of the Western Sierra director joining the Umpqua board and the Western Sierra directors joining an Umpqua Bank California divisional board have not been determined.

Interests of Western Sierra Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger

In considering the recommendation of the Western Sierra board of directors, Western Sierra shareholders should be aware that members of Western Sierra's management have interests in the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement that are in addition to the interests of Western Sierra's shareholders generally, which may create potential conflicts of interest. The Western Sierra board of directors was aware of these interests and considered them, among other matters, in approving the merger agreement and the other proposed transactions.

Western Sierra Stock Options

Pursuant to the merger agreement and the terms and conditions of Western Sierra's outstanding stock option plans, all unvested Western Sierra stock options outstanding at the closing of the merger will become fully vested and all Western Sierra stock options will convert into the right to receive options to acquire shares of Umpqua common stock. After the merger, each Western Sierra stock option will represent the right to acquire a number of shares of Umpqua common stock equal to the product of the number of shares of Western Sierra common stock issuable upon exercise of the option and the exchange ratio of 1.61 and the exercise price per share of Umpqua common stock under each such converted option will equal the quotient of the exercise price of the Western Sierra stock option divided by the exchange ratio of 1.61.

Indemnification; Directors and Officers Insurance

The merger agreement requires Umpqua to indemnify, following the effective time of the merger, the present and former directors and officers of Western Sierra to the fullest extent permitted under applicable law against any costs or expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees), judgments, fines, losses, claims, damages or liabilities incurred in connection with any claim, action, suit, proceeding or investigation, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, arising out of or pertaining to matters existing or occurring at or prior to the effective time of the merger, including the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, unless it is determined that the person seeking indemnification acted in bad faith and not in a manner that such person believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of Western Sierra. In addition, Umpqua is required to maintain Western Sierra's existing directors and officers liability insurance for a period of 3 years after the effective time of the merger (or if the cost exceeds \$300,000, such period that can be purchased for \$300,000) or otherwise provide comparable insured coverage for such period.

Amended and Restated Severance, Employment and/or Salary Continuation Agreements

In connection with the negotiation of the merger agreement, Umpqua required that certain Western Sierra officers enter into amended and restated severance or employment agreements and amended and restated salary continuation agreements. Prior to being amended, the severance and employment agreements provided for a lump sum payment upon a change in control and subsequent termination.

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Umpqua desired to create an incentive for the Western Sierra officers to continue employment, as needed, to assist with the post-merger integration. Under the amended agreements, each officer will be entitled to receive a severance benefit paid monthly upon termination of employment if the officer:

remains employed by Umpqua for nine months following the completion of the merger,

is terminated by Umpqua without cause prior to nine months following the completion of the merger, or

leaves Umpqua prior to nine months following the completion of the merger as a result of a decrease in base salary or an office relocation.

The amended agreements also include covenants prohibiting solicitation of Umpqua's employees and customers and condition receipt of severance benefits on the officer executing a release of claims against Umpqua. Under the restated agreements, for a period of either eighteen or, in the case of each of Western Sierra named executive officers and other senior executives, twenty-four months following termination of the officer's employment with Umpqua, the officer may not:

solicit, or assist another individual or entity who offers financial services offered by Umpqua within thirty miles of any Umpqua office in soliciting, any Umpqua employees to resign or to apply for or accept employment with any other business unless such person is terminated by Umpqua within twelve months of the merger; or

solicit any person or firm who is, or during the year prior to officer's termination was, engaged in a business relationship with Umpqua or Western Sierra to terminate the person's business relationship with Umpqua or to engage in a business relationship with a business that solicits deposits, offers loans, or offers retail brokerage services.

Western Sierra and three of its named executive officers previously entered into salary continuation agreements under which they would receive continued salary for up to fifteen years starting at retirement age, the benefit amount of which is subject to vesting. In the event of a change in control of Western Sierra, the officers become fully vested in their salary continuation benefit and most of the salary continuation agreements provided that, instead of receiving benefits commencing at retirement age, the officer would be entitled to be paid a benefit in lump sum upon the change in control.

For Western Sierra's executive officers, the amounts payable in these circumstances either under their existing agreements (for those whose agreements were not amended in connection with the merger agreement) or under the amended agreements are as follows:

	Payment upon Change in Control	Paid in Monthly Installments over 24 Month Period
Gary D. Gall	\$ 1,503,877	\$ 1,358,090
Kirk Dowdell	\$ 576,471	\$ 397,764
Anthony J. Gould	N/A	\$ 544,536
Wayne D. Koonce	\$ 360,000*	\$ 310,031
Patrick J. Rusnak	N/A	\$ 525,267

* Payable in equal monthly installments over 120 months

Other Western Sierra officers will be entitled to receive a lump sum payment subject to their willingness to remain employed with Umpqua for up to 9 months following the merger. A total of twenty-seven Western Sierra's and Western Sierra's subsidiary banks' officers may be entitled to severance benefits totaling \$5.2 million under existing or

amended and restated severance or employment agreements.

In certain cases, the applicable officer agreed to have his or her benefits reduced to the extent required such that those benefits did not give rise to the payment of an excise tax under applicable law.

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Retention Bonuses

In 2006, Mr. Dowdell and Mr. Gould are also entitled to receive retention bonuses in the amounts of \$17,066 and \$5,668 per month, respectively, to be paid, in addition to their base salary, for each month following the merger that he continues his employment with Umpqua.

Appointment to the Board of Directors of Umpqua

As part of the merger agreement, Umpqua agreed to appoint one member of the Western Sierra board of directors, including the boards of directors of Western Sierra's subsidiary banks, to the board of directors of Umpqua and Umpqua Bank upon consummation of the merger. Upon such appointment, the Western Sierra director will be compensated like any other non-employee director of Umpqua. Each non-employee director of Umpqua receives a quarterly retainer of \$2,500, a participation fee of \$4,000 for each regular board meeting and a participation fee of \$500 for each committee meeting attended, with additional retainers and higher participation fees for the board and committee chairs. All director fees are payable in shares of Umpqua common stock, and directors may choose to receive compensation on a deferred basis. Director fees are paid quarterly, in arrears, after review of attendance records.

Additionally, as part of the merger agreement Umpqua agreed to offer at least 10 individuals from the boards of directors of Western Sierra or its bank subsidiaries positions on an Umpqua Bank California divisional board. The California divisional boards of Umpqua are advisory boards only. Members of the advisory boards receive \$300 per quarter (\$500 per quarter for the chairperson) if they attend a meeting during the quarter, with all fees payable in shares of Umpqua common stock.

Commitments of Directors

Each director of Umpqua and of Western Sierra and its subsidiary banks has expressly agreed to vote all of his or her shares for approval of the applicable merger proposal. Each such director has agreed to recommend that, subject to his or her fiduciary duties, their respective shareholders approve the applicable merger proposal.

Further, except with the consent of Umpqua, each non-employee director of Western Sierra and its subsidiary banks have agreed that, from February 7, 2006 through the date that is two years from the later of consummation of the merger or termination of such director's service on a Western Sierra board, he or she will not, directly or indirectly: accept a position as a director, founder, incorporator, organizer (including activities leading to the attempted or actual formation of a bank holding company or insured depository institution), officer or employee with any bank holding company or insured depository (other than Umpqua or its affiliates) with branches in the counties in which any of the Western Sierra subsidiary banks have branches on the date the merger is completed;

solicit any customer of Western Sierra or Umpqua to divert its business from Western Sierra or Umpqua;

solicit any employee to leave his or her employment with Western Sierra or Umpqua;

employ or assist in employing any Western Sierra or Umpqua employee to perform services for any bank holding company or insured depository; or

disparage Western Sierra or Umpqua or their affiliates, directors or employees.

Resales of Stock by Affiliates

The Umpqua common stock to be issued in the merger will be freely transferable by Western Sierra shareholders. However, Western Sierra affiliates (controlling persons), such as all directors, executive

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officers and holders of more than 10% of Western Sierra's outstanding stock immediately prior to the merger, may not sell their Umpqua shares received in the merger:

except pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended;

except pursuant to the provisions of Rule 145(d) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended; or

unless an opinion of counsel reasonably satisfactory to Umpqua states that those shares may be sold pursuant to an exemption from registration.

Material United States Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger

The following describes the anticipated, material United States federal income tax consequences of the merger to Western Sierra shareholders. This discussion addresses only Western Sierra shareholders who hold their stock as a capital asset within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code and does not address all of the federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to Western Sierra shareholders that are subject to special rules, such as:

financial institutions;

insurance companies;

tax-exempt organizations;

dealers in securities or currencies;

traders in securities that use a mark-to-market method of accounting;

persons who are not citizens or residents of the United States;

shareholders who hold their shares as part of a hedge, straddle, or other risk-reduction transaction; or

shareholders who acquired their Western Sierra common stock through stock options or otherwise as compensation.

In addition, this discussion does not address the tax consequences of the merger under foreign, state, or local tax laws or the tax consequences of transactions completed before or after the merger, such as the exercise of options or rights to purchase Western Sierra common stock in anticipation of the merger. The discussion is based on the Internal Revenue Code, applicable Treasury Regulations, judicial decisions, and administrative rulings and practice, all as of the date of this document, all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect.

You are urged to consult your own tax advisors regarding the tax consequences to you of the merger based on your own circumstances, including the effect of the alternative minimum tax and any state, local, and foreign taxes.

Tax Consequences of the Merger

The merger is intended to qualify as a tax-free reorganization under Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. It is a condition to Umpqua's and Western Sierra's obligation to complete the merger that the parties receive an opinion from Foster Pepper Tooze LLP, counsel to Umpqua, dated as of the closing date of the merger, that the merger will be treated as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a). The opinion will not bind the Internal Revenue Service or preclude the Internal Revenue Service from adopting a contrary position. The opinion will be based upon facts and assumptions, and on specific representations and assurances made by Umpqua and Western Sierra. Neither Umpqua nor Western Sierra has requested or intends to request a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service with regard to any of the tax consequences of the merger.

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The Foster Pepper Tooze LLP opinion will state that:

the merger agreement will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a);

the parties to the agreement and to the plans of merger will each be a party to a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(b) of the Code;

no taxable gain or loss will be recognized by Umpqua, Umpqua Bank, Western Sierra, Western Sierra National Bank, Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank or Lake Community Bank as a result of the merger; and

no taxable gain or loss will be recognized by Western Sierra shareholders who exchange all of their shares of Western Sierra common stock for Umpqua common stock in the merger (except with respect to cash, if any, received in lieu of fractional shares of Umpqua common stock).

Consequences to Western Sierra Shareholders

If you are a Western Sierra shareholder, you will not recognize taxable gain or loss to the extent you receive Umpqua common stock in exchange for your shares (except with respect to cash, if any, received in lieu of fractional shares of Umpqua common stock). The aggregate tax basis of the Umpqua common stock you receive as a result of the merger will be the same as your aggregate tax basis in the Western Sierra common stock you exchange, increased by the amount of gain recognized in the merger, if any. The holding period of Umpqua common stock you receive as a result of the exchange will include the holding period of the Western Sierra common stock you exchange.

Accounting Treatment

The merger will be accounted for as a purchase under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, for accounting and financial reporting purposes. Under purchase accounting, Western Sierra's assets and liabilities will be recorded at their respective fair values as of the closing date of the merger and added to Umpqua's assets and liabilities. Financial statements and reported results of operations of Umpqua after the closing date would reflect these values, but would not be restated retroactively to reflect the historical financial position or results of operations of Western Sierra. Any excess of the purchase price over the fair values of Western Sierra's assets and liabilities will be recorded as goodwill, which may be charged off against earnings in the future if the goodwill is subsequently determined to be impaired in accordance with applicable accounting rules. The goodwill will be tested for impairment on at least an annual basis.

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DISSENTING SHAREHOLDERS RIGHTS

Umpqua

Under Oregon law, Umpqua shareholders do not have the right to dissent from the merger and obtain payment for the appraised value of their shares.

Western Sierra

Under California law, each Western Sierra shareholder has the right to dissent from the merger and to have the appraised fair market value of their shares of Western Sierra common stock as of February 7, 2006 to the dissenting shareholders paid in cash if:

his or her shares were outstanding immediately prior to the record date;

the merger is approved by the shareholders of Umpqua and Western Sierra;

demands are made for payment with respect to 5% or more of the outstanding shares of the common stock of Western Sierra; and

such shareholder complies with Sections 1300 through 1312 of the California General Corporation Law, or CGCL.

Sections 1300 through 1312 of the CGCL, which include the procedures required to perfect dissenters rights, are attached to this document as Appendix E. The description of dissenters rights contained in this document is qualified in its entirety by reference to Chapter 13, commencing with Section 1300, of the CGCL.

For a Western Sierra shareholder to exercise dissenters rights, he or she must:

make a timely written demand upon Western Sierra for purchase in cash of his or her shares at their fair market value as of February 7, 2006, which demand includes:

the number and class of the shares held of record by him or her that he or she demand that Western Sierra purchase, and

what he or she claims to be the fair market value of his or her shares as of February 7, 2006;

have his or her demand received by Western Sierra on or before the date of the Western Sierra special meeting of shareholders;

vote against the approval of the principal terms of the merger agreement;

submit certificates representing his or her shares for endorsement in accordance with Section 1302 of the CGCL; and

comply with such other procedures as are required by the CGCL.

Failure to follow the procedures set forth in the CGCL will result in a waiver of dissenters rights. Further, if a Western Sierra shareholder returns his or her proxy without instructions, which will result in a vote for the approval of the principal terms of the merger, he or she will not be entitled to dissenters rights. Any demand notices or other documents to be delivered to Western Sierra may be sent to Anthony J. Gould, Western Sierra Bancorp, 4080 Plaza Goldorado Circle, Cameron Park, California 95682.

The statement of fair market value by a dissenting Western Sierra shareholder constitutes an offer to sell his or her shares at the fair market value as of February 7, 2006. A demand may not be withdrawn without the consent of Western Sierra. A proxy or vote against the approval of the principal terms of the merger does not in and of itself constitute a demand for his or her shares.

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If a Western Sierra shareholder holds dissenting shares, Western Sierra will mail to him or her a notice of the approval of the merger by the shareholders of Western Sierra within ten days after the date of such approval, accompanied by:

a copy of Sections 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303 and 1304 of Chapter 13 of the CGCL;

a statement of the price determined by Western Sierra to represent the fair market value as of February 7, 2006 of the dissenting shares; and

a brief description of the procedure to be followed if he or she desires to exercise his or her dissenters' rights under such sections.

The statement of price constitutes an offer by Western Sierra to purchase at the price stated for such dissenting shares.

A Western Sierra shareholder who wishes to exercise dissenters' rights must submit to Western Sierra at its principal office or at the office of its transfer agent the certificates representing any shares that he or she is demanding that the corporation purchase, for endorsement as dissenting shares, within 30 days after the date on which notice of approval of the merger by Western Sierra shareholders was mailed to him or her.

If Western Sierra denies that shares submitted to it as dissenting shares are dissenting shares, or if Western Sierra and a dissenting shareholder fail to agree on the fair market value of his or her shares, then either the dissenting shareholder or Western Sierra may file a complaint in the superior court of the proper county in California requesting that the court determine such issue. Such complaint must be filed within six months after the date on which notice of the approval of the merger is mailed to such dissenting shareholder.

On trial of the action, the court will first determine if the shares are dissenting shares, and if so determined, the court will either determine the fair market value or appoint one or more impartial appraisers to do so. If both Western Sierra and a dissenting shareholder fail to file a complaint within six months after the date on which notice of the approval of the merger was mailed to such dissenting shareholder, his or her shares will cease to be dissenting shares. In addition, if a dissenting shareholder transfers his or her shares prior to their submission for the required endorsement, such shares will lose their status as dissenting shares.

Failure to take any necessary step will result in a termination or waiver of dissenters' rights under Chapter 13 of the CGCL. A person having a beneficial interest in Western Sierra common stock that is held of record in the name of another person, such as a trustee or nominee, must act promptly to cause the record holder to follow the requirements of Chapter 13 of the CGCL in a timely manner if such person elects to demand payment of the fair market value of such shares.

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THE MERGER AGREEMENT

The following describes aspects of the merger, including material terms of the merger agreement. The description of the merger agreement is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the merger agreement, which is attached to this document as Appendix A and is incorporated by reference in this document. We urge you to carefully read the merger agreement.

Representations and Warranties

Each of Umpqua and Western Sierra have made representations and warranties regarding, among other things:

corporate matters, including due organization, existence under state law, and general corporate power and authority;

capitalization;

timely filing, accuracy and completeness of reports filed with the SEC, FDIC and other regulatory entities;

corporate books and records, articles of incorporation, bylaws and shareholder reports;

legal proceedings;

compliance with applicable law including lending laws and regulations;

environmental matters

the absence of undisclosed liabilities;

the absence of material changes or events since September 30, 2006;

required governmental and third-party approvals;

authority to execute and deliver the merger agreement and the enforceability of the merger agreement;

absence of conflicts with, or violations of, organizational documents or other obligations as a result of the merger;

tax matters;

insurance coverages;

validity of, and the absence of defaults under, material contracts;

reserve for loan losses; and

related party transactions.

Western Sierra made additional representations and warranties to Umpqua regarding, among other things, its:

lack of joint ventures;

outstanding commitments;

real property;

intellectual property;

employee benefits and relationship with its employees;

shareholder list;

no broker's or finder's fees except for fees and costs of Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

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Covenants and Other Agreements

Conduct of Business Pending the Merger

Umpqua and Western Sierra have agreed that, prior to the effective date, except with the consent of the other party, each will:

continue to conduct its business only in the ordinary course;

timely file all governmental reports;

timely file tax returns and pay taxes;

use commercially reasonable efforts to:

preserve its present business organization,

retain its employees,

maintain its assets,

preserve the goodwill of all customers and other persons with whom it has business dealings, and

apply for and receive all approvals required for completion of the merger;
provide access to the other party to its premises, books, files and records; and

call a meeting of shareholders to vote on the proposed merger.

Umpqua is specifically permitted to pay its regular quarterly cash dividend in accordance with past practice in amounts to be determined by Umpqua's board of directors. Western Sierra is permitted to pay cash dividends in the same amount per share and on the same dates as Umpqua's regular quarterly cash dividends. Umpqua is also permitted to repurchase up to 2,000,000 shares of Umpqua common stock in accordance with its share repurchase program undertaken in compliance with SEC Rule 10b-18 and Regulation M. Umpqua has agreed to suspend repurchases during the period beginning one day before this document is mailed to shareholders and ending upon the closing of the merger.

Additional Covenants of Western Sierra

Western Sierra has also specifically agreed to:

pay or accrue for all merger related expenses;

deliver board minutes and committee reports to Umpqua;

deliver title reports to Umpqua with respect to all real property owned by Western Sierra and its subsidiary banks;

make provisions to its allowance for loan, lease and credit losses that conform to its internal policies and procedures, regulatory requirements and GAAP;

charge-off on a current basis all loans deemed to be uncollectible and charge off all loans classified as loss prior to the closing;

maintain appropriate classification and risk ratings for all loans;

notify Umpqua of renewals or modifications of loans of over \$2,500,000 and commitments to lend over \$2,500,000;

notify Umpqua of renewals or modifications of loans or commitments to lend to borrowers on Western Sierra's watch list;

notify Umpqua of commitments or modifications to agreements or arrangements, which alone or together with all similar arrangements exceeds \$250,000, with any director or officer of Western Sierra or Western Sierra National Bank; and

provide Umpqua summaries of Suspicious Activity Reports.

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Additional Covenants of Umpqua

Umpqua has also specifically agreed to:

register shares of Umpqua common stock to be issued to Western Sierra shareholders and file a listing application with the Nasdaq National Market covering such securities;

take all actions necessary to appoint the Western Sierra directors to its board and to an Umpqua Bank California divisional board of directors following completion of the merger;

honor outstanding Western Sierra employee benefit or compensation obligations following completion of the merger;

continue Western Sierra employee benefit plans in effect at the completion of the merger, provide substantially similar benefits to Western Sierra employees following completion of the merger or shift Western Sierra employee to Umpqua benefit plans following completion of the merger with credit for years of service with Western Sierra for the purposes of eligibility and levels of benefits;

provide severance to Western Sierra employees who are terminated other than for cause following completion of the merger;

indemnify and hold harmless, to the fullest extent permitted under applicable law, Western Sierra's present and former directors and officers of Western Sierra and the Western Sierra subsidiary banks against costs or expenses incurred in connection with a claim arising out of matters occurring prior to the completion of the merger;

maintain Western Sierra's existing officers' and directors' liability insurance for a period of three years following completion of the merger, or if the cost of such insurance exceeds \$300,000, then for such period that can be purchased for \$300,000; and

take such actions as may be necessary pursuant to Rule 16b-3(d) and Rule 16b-3(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, to exempt the conversion of shares of Western Sierra common stock and options to purchase Western Sierra common stock into Umpqua common stock and options to purchase Umpqua common stock.

Negative Covenants

Umpqua and Western Sierra have agreed that, without the consent of the other party, neither party will: amend its articles of incorporation (other than the proposed amendment to Umpqua's articles of incorporation to declassify its board of directors and provide for annual election of each director) or bylaws or its respective subsidiaries' articles or bylaws;

declare any extraordinary dividends;

redeem, repurchase or otherwise acquire its stock (other than pursuant to Umpqua's share repurchase program);

engage in any activity outside the ordinary course of business that could reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on their respective businesses or materially adversely delay the ability to receive regulatory approvals;

adopt any unusual or novel management, lending, personnel, accounting, or investment policies or otherwise materially change its business practices; or

take any action that would prevent the merger from qualifying as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

In addition, Western Sierra has agreed not to, without the prior written approval of Umpqua: commit to any shareholder distributions other than permitted quarterly cash dividends in the same amount per share as Umpqua's regular quarterly cash dividend;

grant stock options, warrants or other rights to purchase shares of any class of stock of Western Sierra or any of its subsidiaries;

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modify the terms, accelerate vesting or extend the exercise date of any outstanding stock option, except as required by the Western Sierra stock option plans;

borrow or guarantee payment of funds outside the ordinary course of its business;

cancel any debts or claims having a value in excess of \$100,000;

sell, lease or transfer any material assets, property or rights outside the ordinary course of its business;

amend or terminate any material contract;

mortgage, pledge or subject to a lien or encumbrance any of its material assets other than permitted liens;

willfully violate, commit a breach of or default under any contract or agreement that is material to its business;

knowingly violate any applicable law or regulation;

increase compensation payable to any officer, director, employee or agent that is a party to a severance, employment or salary continuation agreement with Western Sierra or any of its subsidiary banks;

increase compensation payable to any other officer, director, employee or agent other than:
annual merit salary and bonus increases made in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practices not exceeding 5% in the aggregate based upon December 31, 2005 aggregate salaries or 6% for any individual employee; or
in connection with incentive bonuses awarded in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practices.

enter into any employment contract for a period greater than 30 days or providing for severance payments upon termination of employment or upon the occurrence of any other event;

make or commit to any stay, retention or conversion bonus;

enter into or make any material change to any employee benefit plan except as required by law;

pay any annual incentive or bonus compensation for a partial year;

acquire control or ownership interests in any other corporation or other entity, except in the ordinary course of business through foreclosure or transfer in lieu of foreclosure;

acquire an ownership or leasehold interest in any real property without making an environmental evaluation that, in its opinion, is reasonably appropriate;

make any payment in excess of \$250,000 in settlement of any pending or threatened legal proceeding;

acquire, open or close any office or branch;

make any capital expenditures in excess of \$100,000;

make, renew, commit to make or materially modify any loan or series of loans or commitments over \$2,500,000 without providing Umpqua a copy of the report made to Western Sierra's loan committee;

extend the maturity of any loan risk-rated substandard or worse beyond September 30, 2006 or six months beyond the expected effective date of the merger, whichever is later;

extend the maturity of any loan on non-accrual beyond June 30, 2006 or three months following the expected effective date of the merger, whichever is later;

reverse any provision taken for loan losses;

sell investment securities at a gain except as necessary to provide liquidity, in accordance with past practices;

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sell loans or purchase loan participations except as required for liquidity concerns and in amounts consistent with past practice; or

adopt any unusual or novel marketing policies.

No Solicitation

The merger agreement provides that none of Western Sierra, Western Sierra National Bank, Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank or Lake Community Bank nor their officers, directors or agents may initiate contact with any person or entity in an effort to solicit a merger, acquisition proposal or similar transaction with a party other than Umpqua. Western Sierra may not provide non-public information to any other person in connection with a possible alternative transaction, except to the extent specifically authorized by its board of directors in the good faith exercise of its fiduciary duties based upon advice of its legal counsel. Western Sierra must notify Umpqua if it receives any alternative acquisition proposal.

Affiliate Agreements

Each affiliate of Western Sierra has delivered to Umpqua an agreement requiring each such person to dispose of his or her shares of Umpqua common stock acquired in the merger only in compliance with the Securities Act of 1933.

Conditions to Complete the Merger

The merger is subject to conditions set forth in the merger agreement. In the event the merger has not been completed by October 31, 2006, either party may terminate the merger agreement. See Termination below.

The merger can only occur if:

each of Western Sierra's and Umpqua's shareholders approve the merger agreement; and

Umpqua and Western Sierra procure all required regulatory consents, orders and approvals, and satisfy legal requirements of regulators including the Federal Reserve Board, the FDIC, the Director of the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services, and the California Department of Financial Institutions.

Umpqua has filed required applications with the appropriate regulatory agencies and expects to receive the necessary approvals in due course.

Each party's respective obligations are conditioned on satisfaction by the other party of its obligations under the merger agreement and the above-mentioned conditions. The following additional conditions must be satisfied, or waived where permissible, and events must occur before the parties will be obligated to complete the merger:

there are no actions or proceedings commenced or threatened against any party to restrain, prohibit or invalidate the merger or restrict the operations of the business of the parties;

there is no banking moratorium or other suspension of payment by banks in the United States;

each party has received good standing certificates or certificates of existence of the other party;

each party has received certified resolutions of the board of directors and shareholders of the other party evidencing approval of the proposed merger

the representations and warranties given by each party are true in all material respects as of the effective date of the merger;

each party has complied in all material respects with its covenants in the merger agreement;

there has been no material adverse change in the business or financial condition of either party since February 7, 2006, the date on which the parties entered into the merger agreement;

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each party has received a certificate of the other party's President and Chief Financial Officer certifying the fulfillment of conditions to completion of the merger; and

each party has received an opinion of Foster Pepper Tooze LLP as to the tax treatment of the merger.

Conditions to Umpqua's Obligation to Complete the Merger

The following conditions must be satisfied, or waived where permissible, before Umpqua is obligated to complete the merger:

less than 12.5% of the outstanding shares of Western Sierra common stock have perfected their right to become dissenting shareholders under California law;

the SEC has issued an order of registration relating to the shares of Umpqua common stock to be issued in the merger to Western Sierra shareholders and no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the registration statement relating to such shares has been issued or is pending or threatened;

each amended and restated severance, employment or salary continuation agreement entered into by certain officers of Western Sierra immediately prior to execution of the merger agreement has not been amended or restated and remains in full force and effect; and

each Voting, Non-Competition and Non-Solicitation Agreement entered into by directors of Western Sierra and of its subsidiary banks has not been amended or rescinded and is in full force and effect.

Waiver of Conditions

The merger agreement provides that Western Sierra or Umpqua may waive any condition precedent to its own obligations under the merger agreement, including any default in the performance of any obligation of the other party, and may waive the time for compliance or fulfillment of any obligation of the other party, provided that such a waiver is permitted by law.

Amendment

The merger agreement may be amended at any time prior to the effective date upon approval of each party's board of directors, except that amendments that increase the amount or modify the form of consideration to be received by the Western Sierra shareholders must be approved by Umpqua shareholders and amendments that decrease the amount or modify the form of consideration to be received by the Western Sierra shareholders must be approved by Western Sierra shareholders.

Termination

The merger agreement may be terminated, and the merger abandoned, at any time prior to the effective date:

by the mutual consent of the boards of directors of Western Sierra and Umpqua acknowledged in writing;

by either Western Sierra or Umpqua acting through their respective board of directors any time after October 31, 2006, if the merger has not been consummated by that date through no fault of the terminating party;

by either Western Sierra or Umpqua acting through their respective board of directors in the event of a material breach by the other party of its representations, warranties or covenants in the merger agreement, which has not been cured within thirty days notice to the breaching party;

by Western Sierra upon a determination by its board of directors that such action is required for the directors to comply with their fiduciary duties; or

by Western Sierra if Umpqua's stock price, based on average closing prices, is less than \$22.59 and such decline in Umpqua's stock price is disproportionate to the performance of the Nasdaq Bank Index, as described below.

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Disproportionate Decline in Umpqua's Stock Price

Western Sierra may notify Umpqua of its intent to terminate the merger agreement if, prior to the effective date of the merger:

the average closing price of Umpqua common stock over the fifteen trading day period ending on the fifth business day prior to the projected effective date of the merger is less than \$22.59;

Umpqua's stock price has underperformed the Nasdaq Bank Index by more than 10%; and

Western Sierra notifies Umpqua within 48 hours following the date of such events.

The comparison of Umpqua's stock price performance to that of the Nasdaq Bank Index is based on: an initial Umpqua stock price of \$28.24 and initial index of 3,126.17, each of which is equal to the average closing price over the fifteen trading days from January 18, 2006, through and including February 7, 2006, the trading day prior to announcement of the merger, and

the final Umpqua stock price and final index, each of which will be equal to the average closing price over the fifteen trading day period through and including the fifth business day prior to the projected effective date of the merger.

If Western Sierra's board of directors gives notice of its intent to terminate the merger agreement due to a disproportionate decline in Umpqua's stock price, Umpqua's board of directors may elect to increase the total number of shares of Umpqua common stock to be issued to Western Sierra shareholders in the merger by the amount of shares such that the exchange ratio is equal to the number derived by multiplying 1.61 times the quotient obtained by dividing \$22.59 by the average closing price of Umpqua common stock over the fifteen trading day period ending on the fifth business day prior to the projected effective date. Umpqua must notify Western Sierra of its decision to adjust the merger consideration and upon such election, Western Sierra may not terminate the merger agreement.

Effect of Termination

If the merger agreement is terminated by the mutual consent of both parties, or either party terminates because the merger has not been completed by October 31, 2006, through no fault of the terminating party, the merger agreement will be void and neither party will have any liability as a result of the termination.

Western Sierra must pay Umpqua's reasonable expenses up to \$600,000 if:

either party terminates the merger agreement due to the failure of Western Sierra's shareholders to approve the merger proposal, provided that no failure or any covenant, condition, representation or warranty on the part of Umpqua shall have contributed to the failure of Western Sierra's shareholders to approve the merger;

Umpqua terminates the merger agreement due to Western Sierra's uncured material breach; or

Western Sierra terminates the merger agreement pursuant to a determination by its board that such action is required in order for the directors to comply with their fiduciary duties.

Umpqua must pay Western Sierra's reasonable expenses up to \$600,000 if:

either party terminates the merger agreement due to the failure of Umpqua's shareholders to approve the merger proposal, provided that no failure of any covenant, condition, representation or warranty on the part of Western Sierra shall have contributed to the failure of Umpqua's shareholders to approve the merger; or

Western Sierra terminates the merger agreement due to Umpqua's uncured material breach.

In addition, if either Umpqua or Western Sierra terminates the merger agreement as a result of the other party's willful failure to comply with any of such party's material covenants in the agreement, the breaching party will pay the terminating party an additional \$3.0 million.

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Western Sierra must pay a \$14.0 million termination fee to Umpqua, within thirty days of Umpqua's request, if all of the following occur:

the merger agreement is terminated:

by either party because Western Sierra shareholders fail to approve the merger proposal,

by Western Sierra pursuant to a good faith determination by its board of directors after consultation with Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, its legal counsel, that such action is required for the directors to comply with their fiduciary duties, or

by Umpqua because of an uncured material breach by Western Sierra;

Western Sierra enters into an alternative acquisition transaction prior to twelve months after the date of termination;

the alternative acquisition transaction had been proposed:

prior to or at the time of Western Sierra's special meeting of shareholders concerning the proposed merger with Umpqua if either party terminates the merger agreement because Western Sierra shareholders fail to approve the merger proposal, or

prior to the date of termination if Umpqua terminates the merger agreement because of an uncured material breach by Western Sierra or if Western Sierra terminates the merger agreement to comply with their fiduciary duties;

there was no material failure by Umpqua to comply with its covenants in the merger agreement at the time of Western Sierra's special meeting of shareholders; and

there was no material failure by Umpqua to satisfy the conditions to closing that:

Umpqua's shareholders approve the proposed merger (if Umpqua's shareholders have met by the date of termination),

Umpqua's representations and warranties are true in all material respects as of the effective date of the merger, and

there has been no material adverse change in the business or financial condition of Umpqua since February 7, 2006, the date on which the parties entered into the merger agreement.

If, in connection with the termination of the merger agreement, Western Sierra pays any of Umpqua's expenses or pays the additional \$3.0 million to Umpqua as a result of Western Sierra's material breach of the agreement, the \$14.0 million termination fee will be reduced by such payments.

Expenses

The merger agreement provides, in general, that each party will pay its own expenses in connection with the merger, including fees and expenses of its own financial and other consultants, accountants, and legal counsel except under termination events as discussed above. Upon completion of the merger, other expenses, including severance, salary continuation and change in control payments, will be paid by Umpqua.

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INFORMATION ABOUT UMPQUA

Umpqua is an Oregon corporation headquartered in Portland, Oregon, and formed in March 1999. At that time, Umpqua acquired all of the outstanding shares of South Umpqua Bank, an Oregon state-chartered bank formed in 1953 in Canyonville, Oregon. South Umpqua Bank became Umpqua Bank in December 2000 and is headquartered in Roseburg, Oregon. Umpqua became a financial holding company in March 2000 under the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act.

Through a succession of mergers with VRB Bancorp (\$348 million of assets), Linn Benton Bank (\$119 million of assets) and Independent Financial Network, Inc. (\$440 million of assets) in 2000 and 2001, we expanded the Company's footprint in southern Oregon, the Oregon coast and north along the I-5 corridor in the Willamette Valley. During 2002, Umpqua completed the acquisition of Centennial Bancorp, the parent company of Centennial Bank, which at the time of acquisition had total assets of approximately \$840 million and 22 branches located principally in the Portland metropolitan and Willamette Valley areas of Oregon along the I-5 corridor. During the third quarter of 2004, Umpqua completed the acquisition of Humboldt Bancorp, the parent company of Humboldt Bank, which also operated under the names Capitol Valley Bank, Feather River State Bank and Tehama Bank, which at the time of acquisition had total assets of approximately \$1.5 billion and 27 branches located throughout Northern California.

Umpqua engages primarily in the business of commercial and retail banking and the delivery of retail brokerage services. Umpqua Bank provides a wide range of banking, mortgage banking and other financial services to corporate, institutional and individual customers. Umpqua engages in the retail brokerage business through its wholly owned subsidiary Strand, Atkinson, Williams & York, Inc. Umpqua also has ten subsidiaries formed for the sole purpose of issuing trust preferred securities.

Umpqua Bank is considered one of the most innovative community banks in the United States, combining a retail product delivery approach with an emphasis on quality-assured personal service. Since 1995, Umpqua Bank transformed from a traditional community bank into a community-oriented financial services retailer by implementing a variety of retail marketing strategies to increase revenue and differentiate itself from its competition. At December 31, 2005, Umpqua had assets of over \$5.3 billion and deposits of approximately \$4.3 billion. Umpqua Bank operates 95 stores between Sacramento, California and Bellevue, Washington primarily along the I-5 corridor; in Central Oregon; and along the Oregon and Northern California coast.

Strand, Atkinson, Williams & York, Inc. is a registered broker-dealer and investment advisor with offices in Portland, Salem, Eugene, Roseburg and Medford, Oregon, and Kalama, Washington, and offers a full range of investment products and services including stocks, government and corporate bonds, mutual funds, annuities, options, retirement planning, money management, and life, disability and medical supplement policies.

Umpqua's principal objective is to become the leading community-oriented financial services retailer throughout the Pacific Northwest including Northern California, with plans to continue to expand its market from Seattle to Sacramento, primarily along the I-5 corridor. Umpqua intends to continue to grow its assets and increase profitability and shareholder value by differentiating itself from competitors through the following strategies:

capitalize on an innovative product delivery system;

deliver superior quality service;

establish strong brand awareness;

use technology to expand customer base; and

increase market share in existing markets and expand into new markets through a marketing and sales plan comprising the following key components:

comprehensive media advertising campaigns showcasing Umpqua's innovative style of banking and commitment to quality customer service;

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applying a retail store concept and atmosphere to Umpqua Bank stores; and

establishing and emphasizing a sales culture among Umpqua Bank associates through training and incentives.

Additional information with respect to Umpqua is included in the documents incorporated by reference into this proxy statement-prospectus. See WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION.

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INFORMATION ABOUT WESTERN SIERRA

Western Sierra is a California corporation and a registered bank holding company with its headquarters in Cameron Park, California. Western Sierra was organized pursuant to a plan of reorganization for the purpose of becoming the parent corporation of Western Sierra National Bank, which reorganization was completed on December 31, 1996. Western Sierra's primary business is servicing the banking needs of the communities in which it operates and its marketing strategy stresses local ownership and a commitment to serve the banking needs of individuals living and working in Western Sierra's primary service areas and local businesses, including retail, professional and real estate-related activities, in those service areas. Western Sierra conducts its commercial and retail banking operations through its four wholly owned bank subsidiaries—Auburn Community Bank, Central California Bank, Lake Community Bank and Western Sierra National Bank.

Western Sierra National Bank was organized under national banking laws and commenced operations as a national bank on January 4, 1984. Western Sierra National Bank's head office is located in Sacramento, California. Lake Community Bank commenced operations as a California state-chartered bank on November 15, 1984. Lake Community Bank engages in the general commercial banking business in Lake County, California from its headquarters banking office Lakeport. Central California Bank commenced operations as a California state-chartered bank on April 24, 1998. Central California Bank engages in the general commercial banking business in Tuolumne and Stanislaus counties, California from its headquarters located in Sonora. Auburn Community Bank commenced operations as a national bank on February 2, 1998. On July 29, 1999, Auburn National Bank converted from national bank to a state non-member bank and was renamed Auburn Community Bank. Auburn Community Bank is headquartered in Auburn, California.

From 1999 through 2003, Western Sierra expanded through a series of mergers including the acquisitions of:

Roseville 1st National Bank (April 1999), which merged with Western Sierra National Bank in May 2000;

Lake Community Bank (April 1999);

Sentinel Community Bank (May 2000), whose branches were transferred to Central California Bank in July 2002;

Central California Bank (April 2002);

Central Sierra Bank (July 2003), which was merged with Central California Bank.

Auburn Community Bank (December 2003)

At December 31, 2005 the Company had approximately \$1.3 billion in total assets and \$1.0 billion in total deposits. The asset and deposit totals for each bank subsidiary at December 31, 2005 were:

Western Sierra National Bank—\$606 million in assets and \$501 million in deposits,

Lake Community Bank—\$109 million in assets and \$96 million in deposits,

Central California Bank—\$433 million in assets and \$367 million in deposits, and

Auburn Community Bank—\$137 million in assets and \$94 million in deposits.

In August 2003, Western Sierra National Bank announced the addition of a new division, Western Sierra Financial Services. Woodbury Financial Services, a subsidiary of The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc., acts as the broker-dealer for Western Sierra Financial Services. Western Sierra National Bank customers have access to noninsured investments for retirement strategies, college funds, and insurance products through Western Sierra Financial Services.

Additional information with respect to Western Sierra is included in the documents incorporated by reference into this proxy statement-prospectus. See WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION.

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UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information and explanatory notes give effect to the merger of Umpqua and Western Sierra by the purchase method of accounting. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet assumes the merger took place on December 31, 2005. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of income assumes the merger was consummated as of January 1, 2005.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information is derived from and should be read in conjunction with the historical consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto of Umpqua and Western Sierra, which are incorporated by reference into this document. See *Incorporation of Documents by Reference*.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of income is not necessarily indicative of operating results which would have been achieved had the merger been consummated as of the beginning of the period presented and should not be construed as representative of future operations.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information has been prepared under the purchase method of accounting and is based on the historical consolidated financial statements of Umpqua and Western Sierra. Certain amounts in the historical consolidated financial statements of Western Sierra have been reclassified to conform to Umpqua's historical consolidated financial presentation. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information includes estimated adjustments to record the assets and liabilities of Western Sierra at their respective fair values and represents management's estimates based on available information. The pro forma adjustments may be revised as additional information becomes available and as additional analyses are performed. The final allocation of the purchase price will be determined after the merger is completed and after completion of a final analysis to determine the fair values of Western Sierra's tangible, and identifiable intangible, assets and liabilities as of the consummation date. The final purchase accounting adjustments and integration charges will likely be different from the pro forma adjustments presented in this document. Increases or decreases in the fair value of the net assets, commitments, executory contracts and other items of Western Sierra as compared to the information shown in this document will change the amount of the purchase price allocated to goodwill and other assets and liabilities and may impact the statement of income due to adjustments in yield or amortization of the adjusted assets or liabilities. These estimates are forward-looking. Results could vary materially from these estimates if future developments differ from the assumptions used by management to determine the estimates. For additional factors that may cause actual results to differ, see *RISK FACTORS* on page 18.

Merger and Integration Costs

In connection with the Umpqua/ Western Sierra merger, the combined company expects to incur pre-tax merger-related costs of \$20.5 million, the majority of which is expected to be capitalized in the purchase price.

These amounts, net of tax, have been reflected in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet as of December 31, 2005. These adjustments are not reflected in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of income, as they are not expected to have a continuing impact on Umpqua. These amounts will be recorded in Umpqua's future financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Capital

In connection with the proposed merger, it is assumed that Umpqua will exchange 1.61 shares of Umpqua common stock for each share of Western Sierra common stock. The common stock amounts reflected in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information have been adjusted to reflect the cancellation of Western Sierra's common stock with the closing of the merger and the value of Umpqua common stock to be issued, with additional adjustments for the fair value of stock options that

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Umpqua will assume and certain merger costs to be capitalized in goodwill. Each option to purchase Western Sierra common stock outstanding at the closing of the merger will become an option to purchase the number of shares of Umpqua common stock equal to 1.61 times the number of shares subject to such option.

Operating Costs Savings and Revenue Enhancements

Umpqua expects to achieve cost savings and revenue enhancements. No adjustment has been included in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information for the anticipated cost savings or revenue enhancements. There can be no assurance that the cost savings or revenue enhancements will be achieved in the amounts or at the times anticipated.

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**UMPQUA / WESTERN SIERRA
PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED BALANCE SHEET**

The following unaudited pro forma condensed balance sheet combines the historical balance sheets of Umpqua and Western Sierra assuming the companies had been combined on December 31, 2005, on a purchase accounting basis.

	December 31, 2005			
	Umpqua Holdings Corporation	Western Sierra Bancorp	Pro Forma Adjustments	Pro Forma Combined
	(dollars in thousands)			
Cash and balances due from banks	\$ 151,521	\$ 41,972	\$	\$ 193,493
Fed funds sold and interest-bearing deposits	10,233	39,535		49,768
Investment securities held to maturity	8,677	2,888		11,565
Investment securities available for sale	671,868	74,958		746,826
Trading account assets	601	41		642
Mortgage loans held for sale	9,061	3,190		12,251
Loans and leases receivable	3,921,631	1,043,972	(9,900)(a1)	4,955,703
Less: Allowance for loan and lease losses	(43,885)	(15,505)		(59,390)
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	14,263	4,561		18,824
Premises and equipment, net	88,865	19,466		108,331
Mortgage servicing rights	10,890			10,890
Goodwill and other intangibles	408,503	33,177	254,043 (a2)	695,723
Other assets	108,411	44,318	(145)(a3)	152,584
Total assets	\$ 5,360,639	\$ 1,292,573	\$ 243,998	\$ 6,897,210
Non-interest bearing deposits	\$ 987,714	\$ 276,667	\$	1,264,381
Interest bearing deposits	3,298,552	772,028	(1,300)(a1)	4,069,280
Total deposits	4,286,266	1,048,695	(1,300)	5,333,661
Borrowed funds	117,049	66,000	(200)(a1)	182,849
Junior subordinated debentures	165,725	37,116		202,841
Other liabilities	53,338	10,530	20,526 (a4)	84,394
Total liabilities	4,622,378	1,162,341	19,026	5,803,745
Stock and surplus	564,579	71,042	284,162 (a5)	919,783
Retained earnings	183,591	58,855	(58,855)(a6)	183,591
Accumulated other comprehensive income	(9,909)	335	(335)(a6)	(9,909)
Total shareholders equity	738,261	130,232	224,972	1,093,465
Total liabilities and shareholders equity	\$ 5,360,639	\$ 1,292,573	\$ 243,998	\$ 6,897,210

See notes to the Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information

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UMPQUA / WESTERN SIERRA
PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED STATEMENT OF INCOME

The following unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of income combines the historical statements of income of Umpqua and Western Sierra assuming the companies had been combined on January 1, 2005, on a purchase accounting basis.

For the Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2005

	Umpqua Holdings Corporation	Western Sierra Bancorp	Pro Forma Adjustments	Pro Forma Combined
(dollars in thousands except per share data)				
Interest income	\$ 282,276	\$ 76,729	\$ 1,302 (b1)	\$ 360,307
Interest expense	72,994	17,301	1,500 (b1)	91,795
Net interest income	209,282	59,428	(198)	268,512
Provision for credit losses	2,468	2,050		4,518
Non-interest income	47,782	13,198		60,980
Non-interest expense	146,794	42,358	2,440 (b2)	191,592
Merger expense	262	400		662
Income before provision for income taxes	107,540	27,818	(2,638)	132,720
Provision for income tax	37,805	10,072	(1,055)(b3)	46,822
Net income	\$ 69,735	\$ 17,746	\$ (1,583)	\$ 85,898
Earnings per common share basic	\$ 1.57	\$ 2.30		\$ 1.51
Earnings per common share diluted	\$ 1.55	\$ 2.23		\$ 1.49
Weighted average shares basic	44,438,021	7,706,824	4,701,163	56,846,008
Weighted average shares diluted	45,010,563	7,950,964	4,732,023	57,693,550

See notes to the Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information

Table of Contents**NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION***Note 1 Basis of Presentation*

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet as of December 31, 2005 is presented as if the merger was consummated on that date. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of income for the year ended December 31, 2005 is presented as if the merger had occurred on January 1, 2005.

Note 2 Merger-Related Costs and Expenses

The table below reflects Umpqua's and Western Sierra's current estimates, for pro forma presentation purposes, of the merger-related costs incurred or expected to be incurred with respect to the merger:

	Umpqua/ Western Sierra
	(in thousands)
Employee severance and continuation costs	\$ 9,724
Investment banking and other professional fees	4,761
Contract termination fees and other costs	6,041
Total merger costs	20,526
Less estimated tax benefit	6,306
Merger-related costs after tax	\$ 14,220

The estimated tax benefit is based on a marginal income tax rate of approximately 40%. Many of the cost estimates are forward-looking. The type and amount of actual costs could vary from these estimates if future developments differ from the assumptions used by management to determine the current estimate of merger-related costs. For additional factors that may cause actual results to differ, see **RISK FACTORS** on page 18.

Note 3 Pro Forma Adjustments

Summarized below are the pro forma adjustments necessary to reflect the merger based on the purchase method of accounting.

Table of Contents**NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED
FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)*****Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Balance Sheet***

(a1) Preliminary fair value adjustments based on estimates.

(a2) New goodwill of \$257.9 million plus new core deposit intangible of \$29.3 million, less existing Western Sierra intangible assets. Estimated new goodwill consists of:

	December 31, 2005
	(dollars and shares in thousands)
Western Sierra common stock outstanding	7,804 Shares
Exchange Ratio	1.610
Total Umpqua Common Stock to be issued	12,564 Shares
Purchase price per Umpqua common share	\$27.26
	\$ 342,489
Fair value of outstanding employee and non-employee stock options	12,715
	355,204
Net assets acquired	
Western Sierra stockholders' equity	130,232
Western Sierra goodwill and intangible assets	(33,177)
Estimated adjustments to reflect assets acquired at fair value:	
Securities	
Loans and leases	(9,900)
Core deposit intangible	29,289
Other assets	(145)
Estimated amounts allocated to liabilities assumed at fair value:	
Deposits	1,300
Long-term debt	200
Other liabilities	(20,526)
	97,273
	\$ 257,931
Goodwill resulting from merger	\$ 257,931

The core deposit intangible amount represents the estimated future economic benefits resulting from the acquired customer deposit balances and relationships and this intangible asset will be amortized to expense over the estimated life of the deposits acquired using an accelerated method. The core deposit intangible asset will be periodically reviewed for impairment.

(a3) Deferred tax asset adjustment related to pro forma adjustments.

(a4) Merger-related cost accrual.

(a5) Value of consideration paid via stock issuance from Umpqua to Western Sierra shareholders of approximately \$355.2 million less Western Sierra stock of approximately \$71 million.

(a6) Remove retained earnings and accumulated other comprehensive income.

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**NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED
FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)**

Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Statement of Income

(b1) Amortization or accretion of adjustments made to assets acquired and liabilities assumed to reflect fair value at the acquisition date. The estimated adjustment to fair value of the loan and lease portfolio will be recognized over seven years using a straight-line method. The estimated adjustment to interest bearing deposit liabilities and borrowed funds is based on current rates for similar instruments and will be recognized over twelve months.

(b2) Core deposit intangible amortization of \$3.2 million less existing pro forma Western Sierra core deposit intangible amortization. The core deposit intangible will be amortized on a double declining balance basis over its estimated life of 10 years. The value of the core deposit intangible represents the estimated future economic benefit resulting from the acquired customer balances and relationships, which was estimated by considering cash flows from the current balances of accounts, expected growth or attrition in balances and the estimated life of the relationships.

(b3) Adjustment to record the tax effect of the pro forma adjustments using a marginal income tax rate of approximately 40%.

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DESCRIPTION OF UMPQUA CAPITAL STOCK

In the merger, Western Sierra shareholders will exchange their shares of Western Sierra common stock for Umpqua common stock. The following summarizes the material features of Umpqua common stock and is subject to the provisions of Umpqua's articles of incorporation and bylaws and the relevant portions of the Oregon Business Corporation Act, or OBCA.

Description of Common Stock

Umpqua is authorized to issue up to 100 million shares of common stock without par value and 2 million shares of preferred stock without par value. As of April 7, 2006, there were 44,723,982 shares of common stock outstanding. Following the merger, a total of approximately 57,386,474 shares are expected to be outstanding. No preferred shares have been issued. The terms of the preferred stock are not established in the articles of incorporation, but may be designated in one or more series by the board of directors when the shares are issued. Umpqua's board of directors is authorized to issue or sell additional capital stock of Umpqua, at its discretion and for fair value, and to issue future cash or stock dividends, without prior shareholder approval, except as otherwise required by law or the listing requirements of the Nasdaq National Market.

A total of 2 million shares of common stock are reserved for issuance under Umpqua's 2003 Stock Incentive Plan. As of April 7, 2006 there were a total of 1,246,300 shares in the plan available for future grants and options to purchase 589,500 shares outstanding, of which 121,400 were immediately exercisable. Awards of stock options and restricted stock grants under the plan, when added to options under all other plans, are limited to a maximum 10% of Umpqua's outstanding shares on a fully-diluted basis. An additional 978,834 shares are reserved for issuance under grants made under Umpqua's 2000 Stock Option Plan and other equity based award plans, of which 878,010 were immediately exercisable. Approximately 810,550 additional Umpqua shares will be reserved for the exercise of awards granted under Western Sierra's stock incentive plans, which will be assumed by Umpqua.

Voting and Other Rights

Each outstanding share of common stock has the same relative rights as each other share of common stock, including rights to the net assets of Umpqua upon liquidation. Each share is entitled to one vote on matters submitted to a vote of shareholders. A majority of the votes cast on a matter is sufficient to take action upon routine matters. The affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares is required to approve a merger or dissolution or sale of all of Umpqua assets. In general, amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation must be approved by a majority of the outstanding shares. Amendments to Umpqua's articles of incorporation concerning the following subject matters, however, currently require the approval of at least 75% of all votes entitled to be cast on the amendment:

number of directors,

classified board of directors,

removal of directors,

board vacancies,

limitation of director liability,

indemnification of directors, and

anti-takeover provisions.

As discussed above, Umpqua's shareholders are being asked to approve an amendment to Umpqua's articles of incorporation to eliminate the classified board of directors, to elect each director annually and to allow directors to be removed without cause. Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast.

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Umpqua's directors are currently split into three classes, with elected directors generally serving three-year terms. Holders of common stock may not cumulate votes in the election of directors. All issued and outstanding shares are, and all shares to be issued to Western Sierra shareholders pursuant to the merger will be, fully paid and non-assessable.

In the event of Umpqua's liquidation, holders of Umpqua's common stock will be entitled to receive *pro rata* any assets legally available for distribution to Umpqua shareholders, subject to any prior rights of any Umpqua preferred stock then outstanding.

Umpqua's common stock does not have any preemptive rights, sinking fund provisions, redemption privileges or conversion rights. Umpqua's articles of incorporation permit the repurchase of outstanding shares of common stock.

Mellon Investor Services, LLC is the registrar and transfer agent for Umpqua's common stock.

Dividend Rights

Subject to any prior rights of any outstanding preferred stock, holders of Umpqua's common stock are entitled to receive dividends or distributions, whether payable in cash or otherwise, as Umpqua's board of directors may declare out of funds legally available for these payments. The board of directors' dividend policy is to review Umpqua's financial performance, capital adequacy, regulatory compliance and cash resources on a quarterly basis, and, if such review is favorable, to declare and pay a cash dividend to shareholders. Umpqua's ability to pay cash dividends is largely dependent on the dividends it receives from its principal subsidiary, Umpqua Bank. Although Umpqua expects to continue to pay cash dividends, future dividends are subject to the discretion of the board.

Anti-Takeover Provisions

Umpqua's articles of incorporation authorize the board of directors, when evaluating a merger, tender offer or exchange offer, to consider the social, legal and economic effects on employees, customers and suppliers of the company, and on the communities and geographical areas in which the company operates, as well as the state and national economies and the short- and long-term interests of the company and its shareholders. This provision may be amended only by the affirmative vote of at least 75% of the outstanding shares. Such provision may have the effect of discouraging potential acquirers, and may be considered an anti-takeover defense. Under the OBCA, a proposed merger or plan of exchange requires the approval of the board of directors and the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares.

Umpqua's articles of incorporation contain other provisions that could make more difficult their acquisition by means of an unsolicited tender offer or proxy contest. Umpqua's articles of incorporation authorize the issuance of voting preferred stock, which, although intended primarily as a financing tool and not as a defense against takeovers, could potentially be used by management to make uninvited attempts to acquire control more difficult by, for example, diluting the ownership interest or voting power of a substantial shareholder, increasing the consideration necessary to effect an acquisition, or selling unissued shares to a friendly third party.

Umpqua's articles of incorporation currently provide for removal of directors only for cause and by the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares, and provide for a board of directors divided into three classes, with as close as possible to one-third of the directors elected annually for three-year terms. Only one class of directors is elected in any particular year. The existence of a classified board and limitations on removal of directors may have the effect of discouraging persons from proposing to acquire Umpqua in a transaction, such as a tender offer, not approved by the board because of the difficulty in gaining control of the board promptly after the transaction.

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COMPARISON OF RIGHTS OF SHAREHOLDERS

Umpqua and Western Sierra are incorporated in Oregon and California, respectively. Upon consummation of the merger, the rights of Western Sierra shareholders who receive Umpqua common stock in exchange for their shares will be governed by Umpqua's articles of incorporation and bylaws and by the Oregon Business Corporations Act, or OBCA.

The following table presents a comparison of the rights of Western Sierra and Umpqua shareholders. It is not a complete statement of the provisions affecting and the differences between the rights of Western Sierra and Umpqua shareholders. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to Umpqua's and Western Sierra's respective articles of incorporation and bylaws, as each has been amended or restated, and to the OBCA and the California General Corporations Law, or CGCL.

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AUTHORIZED CAPITAL STOCK

Common Stock. 100,000,000 shares authorized, of which 44,723,982 were issued and outstanding as of April 7, 2006.

Common Stock. 15,000,000 shares authorized, of which 7,864,902 were issued and outstanding as of April 7, 2006.

Preferred Stock. 2,000,000 shares authorized, none of which have been issued. The board of directors may issue preferred stock and designate the rights and preferences.

Preferred Stock. 10,000,000 shares authorized, none of which have been issued. The board of directors may issue preferred stock and designate the rights and preferences.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Umpqua's bylaws set the number of directors at not less than 6 nor more than 19 directors with the number of directors to be set by the board. The number of directors is currently set at 14 but will be increased to 15 upon completion of the merger.

Western Sierra's bylaws set the number of directors at not less than 8 nor more than 15 directors with the number of directors set by the board, by approval of shareholders or by a bylaw or amendment approved by a majority of the shares entitled to vote or by the written consent of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote. The number of directors is currently set at 11.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS; CUMULATIVE VOTING

The OBCA provides that shareholders do not have a right to cumulate their votes unless the corporation's articles of incorporation so provide. Umpqua's shareholders are not entitled to cumulate their votes for the election of directors. Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast.

Western Sierra's shareholders are entitled to cumulate their votes for the election of directors. The CGCL provides for cumulative voting for directors, unless the corporation's articles or bylaws provide otherwise. Western Sierra's bylaws specifically provide for cumulative voting.

Cumulative voting allows a shareholder to cast a number of votes equal to the number of directors to be elected, multiplied by the number of shares held in the shareholder's name on the record date. This total number of votes may be cast for one nominee or may be

distributed among as many of the candidates as the shareholder desires.

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CLASSIFIED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The OBCA permits classification of an Oregon corporation's board of directors. Umpqua's board is divided into three classes, with as close as possible to one-third of the directors elected annually for three-year terms. Generally, only one class of directors is elected in any particular year.

The CGCL permits classification of a California corporation's board of directors. Western Sierra does not have a classified board of directors. Western Sierra's bylaws require that all directors be elected at each annual meeting of shareholders for a term of one year.

Proposed Amendment. Umpqua's board of directors has proposed an amendment to the articles of incorporation that would eliminate classification of the board. The amendment must be approved by the affirmative vote of 75% of all of the votes entitled to be cast. If the amendment is approved, Umpqua's directors would be elected at each annual meeting of shareholders for a term of one year.

REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

The OBCA provides that directors may be removed with or without cause, unless the corporation's articles of incorporation provide that directors may be removed only for cause.

Under Umpqua's articles of incorporation, shareholders holding a majority of shares entitled to vote for election of directors may remove any director only for cause.

Cause means a breach of the duty of loyalty to Umpqua or its shareholders; acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or knowing violation of the law; an unlawful distribution under applicable state or federal law; or a transaction from which the director received improper personal benefit.

Proposed Amendment. Umpqua's board of directors has proposed an amendment to Umpqua's articles of incorporation that would eliminate the provision that directors may only be removed for cause. The amendment must be approved by the affirmative vote of 75% of all the votes entitled to be cast. If the amendment is approved, a director may be removed by a majority vote with or without cause.

The CGCL provides that directors may be removed without cause, if the removal is approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote. The CGCL further provides that, with respect to directors of corporations not having classified boards of directors, no director can be removed (unless the entire board is removed) if the votes cast against removal of the director would be sufficient to elect the director if voted cumulatively (without regard to whether cumulative voting is permitted) at an election at which the same total number of votes were cast and the entire number of directors authorized at the time of the director's most recent election were then being elected.

Western Sierra's bylaws substantially restate the applicable CGCL provisions.

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FILLING VACANCIES ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The OBCA provides that, unless the corporation's articles of incorporation provide otherwise, a vacancy on the board of directors may be filled by shareholders or the board of directors.

Umpqua's articles of incorporation provide that only the board of directors may fill vacancies.

The CGCL provides that vacancies created by removal of a director may be filled only by shareholder approval unless the corporation's articles of incorporation or bylaws provide otherwise.

The CGCL provides that in other cases, vacancies may be filled by approval of the board. Shareholders may elect a director at any time to fill any vacancy not filled by the directors.

Western Sierra's bylaws substantially restate the statutory provisions.

SHAREHOLDER NOMINATIONS

Umpqua's bylaws provide that shareholder nominations may be brought before an annual meeting only upon delivery of a notice to Umpqua's Secretary not later than the close of business 90 calendar days before the calendar date of Umpqua's proxy statement released to shareholders in connection with the previous year's annual meeting.

Western Sierra's bylaws provide that shareholder nominations for election of directors must be delivered to Western Sierra's President by the later of (i) the close of business 21 days prior to any meeting of shareholders called for the election of directors, or (ii) 10 days after the date of mailing of notice of a meeting to shareholders.

SHAREHOLDER VOTING

Election of Directors. Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast.

Vote for Approval of Action. Actions other than the election of directors are approved if the votes cast in favor exceed the votes opposed, unless a greater number is required by the OBCA or the articles of incorporation.

Extraordinary Transactions. The OBCA generally requires approval of a merger, consolidation, dissolution or sale of all or substantially all of a corporation's assets by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote on the matter.

Election of Directors. Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast.

Vote for Approval of Action. Actions other than the election of directors are approved by the affirmative vote of the majority of the shares represented and voting at a meeting at which a quorum is present, unless a greater number is required by the CGCL or the articles of incorporation.

Extraordinary Transactions. The CGCL generally requires approval of a merger, consolidation, dissolution or sale of all or substantially all of a corporation's assets by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote on the matter. Western Sierra's articles of incorporation require the affirmative vote of 66-2/3% of the outstanding shares for mergers or consolidations, upon consummation of

which Western Sierra's shareholders will own less than 50% of the voting power of the surviving entity, or for the sale or other disposition of 50% or more of the corporation's assets or the combined assets of the corporation and its subsidiaries.

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SPECIAL MEETINGS OF SHAREHOLDERS

Under the OBCA, a corporation's board of directors, shareholder(s) (holding at least 10% of the votes entitled to be cast for any proposition at the special meeting, by a demand in writing) and other persons designated in the corporation's articles or bylaws have the authority to call special meetings of shareholders. Umpqua's bylaws also authorize the Chief Executive Officer to call a special meeting.

The OBCA permits a corporation, in its articles of incorporation, to require a greater percentage than 10%, up to 25%, but Umpqua's articles of incorporation do not require more than 10%.

Under the CGCL, the board of directors, chair of the board, president, shareholder(s) (holding at least 10% of the votes entitled to be cast for any proposition at the special meeting, by a demand in writing), and such other persons designated in the corporation's articles or bylaws have the authority to call special meetings of shareholders.

Western Sierra's bylaws substantially restate the statutory provisions and do not specify any additional persons.

ACTION BY SHAREHOLDERS WITHOUT A MEETING

Under the OBCA and Umpqua's bylaws, any action required or permitted to be taken at a shareholder meeting may be taken without a meeting if all shareholders entitled to vote execute a written consent describing the action. The OBCA permits a corporation to provide in its articles of incorporation that action may be taken without a meeting if the action is taken by not less than the minimum number of votes that would be necessary to take such action at a meeting at which all shareholders entitled to vote on the action were present and voted. Umpqua's articles do not include such a provision.

The CGCL provides that, unless otherwise provided in the articles of incorporation, any action that may be taken at a special or annual meeting of shareholders may be taken without a meeting and without prior notice if a consent in writing, setting forth the action taken, is signed by the holders of outstanding shares having not less than the minimum number of votes that would be necessary to authorize or take such action at a meeting at which all shares entitled to vote thereon were present and voted.

Except with respect to filling vacancies on the board of directors, other than vacancies created by removal, the CGCL does not permit election of directors by written consent except by unanimous written consent of all shares entitled to vote in the election of directors.

ANTI-TAKEOVER PROVISIONS

Umpqua's articles of incorporation permit the board to consider factors in determining what is in the best interest of the corporation including a merger's or reorganization's social, legal, and economic effect on employees, suppliers, customers, the community, the economy of the state and nation, short- and long-term interests Umpqua and its shareholders, and other relevant factors.

Western Sierra's articles of incorporation require the affirmative vote of 66-2/3% of the outstanding shares to effect a merger or consolidation, upon consummation of which Western Sierra's shareholders will own less than 50% of the voting power of the surviving entity, or for the sale or other disposition of 50% or more of the corporation's assets or the combined assets of the corporation and its subsidiaries.

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AMENDMENT TO CHARTER DOCUMENTS

Articles of Incorporation. The OBCA provides that amendments to the articles of incorporation must be approved by the board of directors and by the holders of a majority of the shares entitled to vote on the amendment (if the amendment gives rise to dissenters' rights) or by a vote of shareholders with the votes cast in favor of the amendment exceeding the votes cast in opposition to the amendment (if the amendment does not give rise to dissenters' rights). The board alone may adopt immaterial amendments.

Umpqua's articles of incorporation require a supermajority vote to amend provisions relating to board size, classified board, removal of directors, filling of board vacancies, the limitation of director's liability and indemnification, and consideration of other constituencies in the context of a merger or similar extraordinary transaction. These provisions may be amended or revised only by approval of holders of at least 75% of the shares entitled to vote. Amendments to include other terms that would be inconsistent with the provisions above must also be approved by holders of at least 75% of the shares entitled to vote.

Bylaws. The OBCA provides that the corporation's board may amend or repeal the corporation's bylaws unless the articles of incorporation reserve the power exclusively to the shareholders in whole or in part or the shareholders in amending or repealing a particular bylaw provide expressly that the directors may not amend or repeal that bylaw. The OBCA permits shareholders to amend or repeal bylaws. Umpqua's bylaws substantially restate the statutory provisions.

Articles of Incorporation. To amend the articles of incorporation, the CGCL requires the approval of the corporation's board of directors and a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote. Western Sierra's articles also require 66-2/3% to amend the provision requiring a supermajority for certain business combinations and sale of all or substantially all of the corporation's assets.

Bylaws. The CGCL provides that holders of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote and the corporation's board of directors each have the power to adopt, amend or repeal a corporation's bylaws, although the articles or bylaws of the corporation may restrict or eliminate the power of the board to take such action. The fixed number or the minimum number of directors may not be reduced to less than five if the votes cast against adoption of the amendment to the bylaws or articles are equal to or more than 66-2/3% of the outstanding shares entitled to vote.

Neither Western Sierra's articles nor bylaws restrict the power of the board to adopt, amend or repeal its bylaws, other than amendments to the bylaws specifying or changing a fixed number of directors or the maximum or minimum number or changing from a fixed to a variable board or vice versa.

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LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of Umpqua common stock to be issued in the merger will be passed upon for Umpqua by its counsel, Foster Pepper Tooze LLP, Portland, Oregon.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Umpqua Holdings Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2005 and for the year ended December 31, 2005, incorporated in this registration statement by reference from Umpqua's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, have been audited by Moss Adams LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference, and has been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2004 and for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2004, incorporated in this registration statement from Umpqua Holdings Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference, and has been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Western Sierra Bancorp and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2005 and 2004 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2005, incorporated in this registration statement from Western Sierra Bancorp's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, have been audited by Perry-Smith LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference, and has been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

PROPOSALS OF SHAREHOLDERS

Any Umpqua shareholder who wishes to submit a proposal for consideration at Umpqua's 2007 annual meeting must submit the proposal on or before December 20, 2006. An Umpqua shareholder who wishes to submit a proposal to be included in Umpqua's proxy statement for the 2007 annual meeting must submit the proposal no later than January 19, 2007. All proposals must be submitted to Umpqua's corporate Secretary at Umpqua Holdings Corporation, Legal Department, 675 Oak Street, Suite 200, Eugene, Oregon 97440.

Western Sierra will hold an annual meeting of its shareholders in 2006 and 2007 only if the merger is not completed. If Western Sierra's holds an annual meeting in 2007, the proxy statement for the 2006 annual meeting, if one is held, will include the date by which any Western Sierra shareholder who wishes to submit a proposal for consideration at the annual meeting must submit the proposal and the date by which any Western Sierra shareholder who wishes to submit a proposal to be included in Western Sierra's proxy statement for the 2006 annual meeting, if one is held, must submit the proposal. All proposals must be submitted in writing to Western Sierra's corporate Secretary at Western Sierra Bancorp, 4080 Plaza Goldorado Circle, Cameron Park, California 95682.

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UMPQUA ANNUAL MEETING PROPOSALS

The following sections of this document include a description of two proposals to be considered and voted on by Umpqua shareholders at the Umpqua annual meeting and information relevant to those proposals. The Other Business of the Umpqua Annual Meeting section sets forth the two proposals and other information regarding the proposals. The remaining sections contain information relevant to the two proposals and that is typically found in Umpqua's proxy statement for its annual meetings of shareholders. References in this section to we, our, us and the Company to Umpqua only and not to Western Sierra.

Other Business of the Umpqua Annual Meeting

Proposal 2. Annual Election of Directors

Our articles of incorporation currently provide that Umpqua's board of directors is divided into three classes and each year the term of office of one class expires. A board divided into multiple classes is often referred to as a classified or staggered board.

On July 20, 2005, our board of directors adopted a resolution recommending that shareholders approve an amendment to our articles of incorporation to remove the classified board provisions and provide for the annual election of all directors.

If Umpqua shareholders approve the amendment to provide for annual election of all directors, the terms of all directors elected this year will expire at the 2007 annual meeting. If this proposal is not approved, our board of directors will remain classified and Scott D. Chambers, Raymond P. Davis, Diana E. Goldschmidt, Lynn K. Herbert and Theodore S. Mason will stand for election to three year terms that will expire at the 2009 annual meeting, and Stephen M. Gambee, who was appointed to the board of directors after our last annual meeting, will stand for election to a one year term that will expire at the 2007 annual meeting.

The board of directors also recommends that the articles of incorporation be amended to eliminate the provision that directors may only be removed for cause.

Vote Required to Approve the Amendments

Our articles of incorporation require that these amendments be approved by the affirmative vote of at least 75% of the outstanding shares.

Reasons for the Recommended Amendments

Proponents of classified boards generally argue that they provide continuity and stability in the management of the company's business and affairs since a majority of the directors always will have prior experience as directors of the company. Proponents also argue that classified boards promote the independence of directors because directors elected for multi-year terms are less subject to outside influence.

However, classified board structures have been criticized from a corporate governance perspective because they do not allow for an annual shareholder referendum on the performance of the board. The election of directors is the primary avenue for shareholders to influence corporate governance policies and to hold management accountable for implementing those policies. Classified boards also tend to discourage unsolicited tender offers or proxy contests because of the difficulty in gaining control of the board soon after the transaction.

The removal for cause provisions in the articles of incorporation are related to the classified board requirement and serve to discourage unsolicited tender offers or proxy contests.

Our Executive/ Governance Committee reviewed these competing considerations and concluded that the proposed amendments to provide for annual election of directors and permit directors to be removed

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without cause are more consistent with good governance practices and provide greater accountability of the board to the Company's shareholders. The Committee therefore recommended the proposed amendments to the board, which adopted resolutions recommending that the shareholders approve amendments to the articles, deleting Articles VB and VE and amending Article VC and replacing them with the following:

B. Election of Directors. Each director shall be elected to serve a term of one year, with each director's term to expire at the next annual meeting following the director's election as a director. Notwithstanding the expiration of the term of a director, the director shall continue to hold office until his or her successor has been elected and qualified. A decrease in the number of directors will not have the effect of shortening the term of any incumbent director. At each annual meeting, the shareholders will elect directors by a plurality of the votes cast by the shares entitled to vote in the election.

C. Removal of Directors. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, any director of the Corporation may be removed at any time with or without cause, and except as otherwise required by law, only by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Corporation entitled to elect such director, at a meeting of the shareholders called for that purpose, and the meeting notice must state that the purpose, or one of the purposes, of the meeting is removal of the director. If the director is elected by a voting group of shareholders, only the shareholders of that voting group may participate in the vote to remove the director.

The complete text of the articles of incorporation, as amended by this proposal, is attached as Appendix F to this document. Upon approval of this amendment, the board of directors will make corresponding amendments to the Company's bylaws.

Board Recommendation

The board of directors recommends a vote FOR this proposal. The individuals appointed as proxies in the enclosed proxy intend to vote FOR this proposal.

Proposal 3. Election of Directors

Umpqua's articles of incorporation and bylaws currently provide that directors are elected to serve staggered three-year terms of office. We propose to amend the articles of incorporation to provide for the annual election of directors. Our articles of incorporation establish the number of directors at between six and nineteen, with the exact number to be fixed from time to time by resolution of the board of directors. The number of directors is currently set at fourteen. Directors are elected by a plurality of votes, which means that the nominees receiving the most votes will be elected, regardless of the number of votes each nominee receives. Shareholders are not entitled to cumulate votes in the election of directors.

In July 2005, Stephen M. Gambee was appointed to the board. To comply with applicable law, he must stand for election by the shareholders at this year's annual meeting.

As of the annual meeting, five Umpqua directors, Scott D. Chambers, Raymond P. Davis, Diana E. Goldschmidt, Lynn K. Herbert and Theodore S. Mason, are completing their current terms. Each has been nominated for re-election to the board.

The board of directors has nominated all current directors for election to one-year terms that will expire at the 2007 annual meeting, anticipating that the articles of incorporation will be amended, as provided in Proposal 2. If Proposal 2 is not approved, our board of directors will remain classified and Scott D. Chambers, Raymond P. Davis, Diana E. Goldschmidt, Lynn K. Herbert and Theodore S. Mason will stand for election to three year terms that will expire at the 2009 annual meeting and Stephen M. Gambee will stand for election to a one year term that will expire at the 2007 annual meeting.

Each of the nominees currently serves as a director of Umpqua and of Umpqua Bank. The individuals appointed as proxies in the enclosed proxy intend to vote FOR the election of the nominees listed above. If any nominee is not available for election, the individuals named in the proxy intend to vote for such

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substitute nominee as the board of directors may designate. Each nominee has agreed to serve on the board and we have no reason to believe any nominee will be unavailable.

Board Recommendation

The board of directors recommends a vote FOR the election of all nominees.

Information About Umpqua's Directors and Executive Officers

Directors

The age (as of March 1, 2006), business experience, and position of each of the directors currently serving are as follows:

Ronald F. Angell, age 63, was appointed to the Board in July 2004. He served as a Director of Humboldt Bancorp from 1996 until it was acquired by Umpqua in 2004. He served as a director of Humboldt Bank from 1989 to the date of the merger. Mr. Angell is a retired attorney and was a partner in the Eureka, California firm of Roberts, Hill, Bragg, Angell & Perlman.

Scott D. Chambers, age 46, has served as a Director since 1999. Mr. Chambers is President of Chambers Communications Corp. of Eugene, Oregon, a telecommunications company that owns and operates a cable television system, network broadcast television stations, and a film and video production company.

Raymond P. Davis, age 56, serves as Director, President and Chief Executive Officer of Umpqua, positions he has held since Umpqua's formation in 1999. Mr. Davis has served as a Director of Umpqua Bank since June 1994. He has served as Chief Executive Officer of Umpqua Bank from June 1994 to December 2000 and from November 2002 to the present. He has also served as President of Umpqua Bank from June 1994 to December 2000 and from March 2003 to the present. Prior to joining Umpqua Bank in 1994, he was President of US Banking Alliance in Atlanta, Georgia, a bank consulting firm. He has over 20 years experience in banking and related industries.

Allyn C. Ford, age 64, serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors and has served as a Director since Umpqua's formation in 1999 and as a Director of Umpqua Bank for 30 years. Mr. Ford is President of Roseburg Forest Products, a fully integrated wood products manufacturer located in Roseburg, Oregon. Mr. Ford has over 30 years of management experience with Roseburg Forest Products.

David B. Frohnmayer, age 65, has served as a Director since Umpqua's formation in 1999 and as a Director of Umpqua Bank since 1996. Mr. Frohnmayer is the President of the University of Oregon in Eugene, and has served in that capacity since 1994. He is the former Dean of the University of Oregon School of Law and former Attorney General of the State of Oregon. Until December 2003, he served on the board of Tax-Free Trust of Oregon.

Stephen M. Gambee, age 42, was appointed to the Board in July 2005. He is the President and CEO and a shareholder of Rogue Valley Properties, Inc. and a Managing Member of Rogue Waste Systems LLC, solid waste collection and disposal businesses. Prior to assuming the duties of the family businesses, Mr. Gambee was employed by Robert Charles Lesser & Co./Hobson & Associates as the Pacific Northwest Director of Consulting.

Dan Giustina, age 56, serves as Vice-Chair of Umpqua's Board and has served as a Director since the Centennial Bancorp merger in November 2002. He served as a Director of Centennial Bancorp and Centennial Bank from 1995 to 2002. Mr. Giustina is managing partner of Giustina Resources, which owns and manages timberland, and a member and manager of G Group LLC, which owns and manages residential and commercial real estate. Mr. Giustina is the past Chairman of the University of Oregon Foundation, a board member of the Oregon Forest Industries Council, and serves on the advisory boards of University of Oregon's Lundquist College of Business and States Industries, Inc.

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Diana E. Goldschmidt, age 58, was appointed as a Director of Umpqua in May 2003 and was elected to the Board in 2004. Since 1999, she has been the owner of Urban Design Works, LLC, a consulting firm in Portland, Oregon. She is also the former Vice Chair of the Oregon Investment Council and previously served on the Advisory Board of Directors for Key Bank of Oregon from 1997 to 2003. In 1999, she served as interim superintendent of the Portland Public School District. Her principal career was spent in the senior human resources and later senior operations executive officer positions of Pacific Power & Light Company and Pacific Telecom, Inc.

Lynn K. Herbert, age 54, has served as a Director since Umpqua's formation and as a Director of Umpqua Bank since 1993. Mr. Herbert is General Manager of Herbert Lumber Company in Riddle, Oregon, and has served in that capacity since 1988. Mr. Herbert has over 20 years of management experience with Herbert Lumber Company.

William A. Lansing, age 60, has served as a Director since December 2001. He previously served as a Director of Independent Financial Network, Inc. and its subsidiary Security Bank from 1991 until its merger with Umpqua in December 2001. Mr. Lansing is President and Chief Executive Officer of Menasha Forest Products Corporation in North Bend, Oregon, and has over 35 years of experience in the forest products industry.

Theodore S. Mason, age 63, was appointed to the Board in July 2004 and elected in May 2005. Mr. Mason is retired and he was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Humboldt Bancorp from January 1996 to April 2002 and of Humboldt Bank from 1989 to 2000. He served as a director of Humboldt Bancorp from 1996 to 2004 and as a director of Humboldt Bank from 1989 to 2004.

Diane D. Miller, age 52, was appointed to the Board in July 2004 and elected in May 2005. She has been President of Wilcox, Miller & Nelson an executive search and outplacement firm since August 1986. Ms. Miller served as a director of Humboldt Bancorp and Humboldt Bank from January to July 2004.

Bryan L. Timm, age 42, was appointed to the Board in December 2004 and elected in May 2005. He is the Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of Columbia Sportswear Company, a global leader in the design, sourcing, marketing, and distribution of active outdoor apparel and footwear. Prior to joining Columbia Sportswear in 1997, Mr. Timm, a CPA, held various financial positions for another Portland based public company, Oregon Steel Mills, Inc. He began his financial career with the international accounting firm of KPMG LLP. The Board has determined that Mr. Timm is independent and qualifies as an audit committee financial expert under applicable regulations.

Thomas W. Weborg, age 63, was appointed to the Board in July 2004 and elected in May 2005. He is the retired President and Chief Executive Officer of Java City, a wholesale supplier and retailer of coffee-related products and services. Mr. Weborg served on the board of Humboldt Bancorp from November 2000 to July 2004. He was a director of Humboldt Bank from June 2002 to July 2004 and prior to that, chairman of Capitol Valley Bank from 1999 until June 2002.

Executive Officers

The age (as of March 1, 2006), business experience, and position of our executive officers other than Raymond P. Davis, about whom information is provided above, are as follows:

Barbara J. Baker, age 56, serves as Executive Vice President – Cultural Enhancement at Umpqua and Umpqua Bank, positions she has held since September 2002. Ms. Baker served as Oregon site executive for IBM's server division (formerly Sequent Computer Systems, Inc.), where she managed human resources services and programs as well as corporate communications and community relations. Prior to joining Sequent, Ms. Baker served as Vice President of Human Resources for First Interstate Bank (now Wells Fargo).

Brad F. Copeland, age 57, serves as Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer of Umpqua and Umpqua Bank. He has served as Chief Credit Officer since December 1, 2000. Mr. Copeland served as Executive Vice President and Credit Administrator of VRB Bancorp and Valley of

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the Rogue Bank from January 1996 until their merger with Umpqua and Umpqua Bank in December 2000.

David M. Edson, age 56, serves as Executive Vice President of Umpqua and as President Umpqua Bank Oregon, positions he has held since joining Umpqua in October 2002. Prior to that time, he served as President of Bank of America, Idaho. Mr. Edson has over 25 years of experience in banking in the Pacific Northwest including as Executive Vice President for First Interstate Bank and as Chairman, CEO and President of First Interstate Bank of Idaho.

Ronald L. Farnsworth, age 35, serves as Senior Vice President Finance of Umpqua, a position he has held since September 2004 and Principal Accounting Officer of Umpqua, a position he has held since March 2005. From January 2002 to September 2004, Mr. Farnsworth served as Vice President Finance of Umpqua. Mr. Farnsworth served as Chief Financial Officer of Independent Financial Network, Inc. and its subsidiary Security Bank from July 1998 to the time of their acquisition by Umpqua in December 2001.

William T. Fike, age 58, serves as Executive Vice President of Umpqua and as President Umpqua Bank California, positions he has held since joining Umpqua in May 2005. Prior to that time, he served as Executive Vice President of Bank of the West in Walnut Creek, California, a position he held since 1999.

Steven L. Philpott, age 54, serves as Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Umpqua and Umpqua Bank, positions he has held since November 2002. He has served as Corporate Secretary of Umpqua and Umpqua Bank since 2004. Mr. Philpott served as General Counsel for Centennial Bancorp from October 1995 until its merger with Umpqua in November 2002. Prior to that time, he was in private practice in Eugene, Oregon.

Daniel A. Sullivan, age 54, serves as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Umpqua and Umpqua Bank. He has served as Chief Financial Officer of the Company since 1997. Prior to that time, Mr. Sullivan served as Vice President of Finance for Instromedix of Hillsboro, Oregon and as Senior Vice President and Controller for US Bancorp in Portland, Oregon.

Umpqua's Corporate Governance

Our Board of Directors believes that its primary role is to ensure that we maximize shareholder value in a manner consistent with legal requirements and the highest standards of integrity. The Board has adopted and adheres to a Statement of Governance Principles, which the Board and senior management believe promote this purpose, are sound and represent the best practices for our Company. We continually review these governance principles and practices in light of Oregon law, Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) regulations, the rules and listing standards of the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD) as well as best practices suggested by recognized governance authorities.

Statement of Governance Principles and Charters

Our Statement of Governance Principles and the charter of each of our Board committees can be viewed on our website at www.umpquaholdingscorp.com/corporate-governance. Each Board committee operates under a written charter.

Meetings and Committees of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors met 5 times during 2005, including a three-day strategic planning retreat. At this annual retreat, the Board and executive management focus on how to best balance the Company's growth while maintaining Umpqua's unique culture and commitment to community banking. All Board committees have regularly scheduled meetings except the Nominating Committee, which meets as appropriate, upon the call of its chairman. Board committee chairs call for additional regular and special meetings of their committees, as they deem appropriate. Each director attended at least 75% of the 2005 Board meetings, as well as meetings of committees on which such director served. The Board and each of our Board committees regularly meet in executive session.

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Stephen Gambee became a director in July 2005 and he attended all Board meetings after that date.

At December 31, 2005, the Board of Directors had seven active Board committees: The Audit and Compliance Committee, the Budget Committee, the Compensation Committee, the Executive/ Governance Committee, the Financial Services Committee, the Loan and Investment Committee, and the Nominating Committee.

The table below shows current membership information for each Board committee:

	C Chairperson V Vice Chair I Member						
	Audit and Compliance	Budget	Compensation	Executive/ Governance Committee	Financial Services	Loan and Investment	Nominating
Ronald F. Angell	1			1		C	1
Scott D. Chambers		1	1	1	C		1
Raymond P. Davis		1		1	1	1	
Allyn C. Ford				C			C
David B. Frohnmayer	1				1		
Stephen M. Gambee		1	1			1	
Dan Giustina	C			1			1
Diana E. Goldschmidt	V				V	1	
Lynn K. Herbert	1					V	
William A. Lansing		C	C	1			1
Theodore S. Mason					1	1	
Diane D. Miller	1	V	V				
Bryan L. Timm	1	1	1				
Thomas W. Weborg		1	1			1	

Audit and Compliance Committee

The Board of Directors has a standing Audit and Compliance Committee that meets with our independent registered public accounting firm to plan for and review the annual audit reports. The Committee meets at least four times per year and is responsible for overseeing our internal controls and the financial reporting process. As of January 1, 2006, the members of the Committee were Directors Giustina (Chair), Angell, Frohnmayer, Goldschmidt (Vice Chair), Herbert, Miller and Timm. Each member of the Committee is independent, as independence is defined under Rule 4200(a)(15) of the listing standards of the NASD. The Board of Directors has adopted an Audit and Compliance Committee Charter, a copy of which is attached to this proxy statement as Appendix B. That charter provides that only independent directors may serve on the Committee. The charter further provides that at least one member shall have past employment experience in finance or accounting, requisite professional certification in accounting, or any other comparable experience or background which results in the individual's financial sophistication, including being or having been a chief executive officer, chief financial officer or other senior officer with financial oversight responsibilities. The Board of Directors has determined that Bryan L. Timm meets the SEC criteria for an audit committee financial expert. The Board of Directors believes that each of the current members of the Committee has education and/or employment experience that provides them with appropriate financial sophistication to serve on the Committee. In 2005, the Audit and Compliance Committee met 12 times, including 5 special meetings. In addition, the Committee previews earnings releases and periodic reports to be filed with the SEC and it often meets by telephone conference to discuss those documents.

Budget Committee

The Budget Committee reviews and oversees our budgeting process, including the annual operating budget and the capital expenditure budget. It also oversees dividend planning and our stock repurchase

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programs. Effective January 1, 2006, the members of the Committee were Directors Lansing (Chair), Chambers, Davis, Gambee, Miller (Vice Chair), Timm and Weborg. The Committee meets at least quarterly. In 2005, the Budget Committee met 6 times, including 2 special meeting.

Compensation Committee

The Compensation Committee carries out the Board's overall responsibilities with respect to executive compensation, director compensation and review of the Company CEO's performance. The Committee also oversees administration of the Company's employee benefit plans. All Committee members are required to meet the NASD and SEC independence and experience requirements. Effective January 1, 2006, the members of the Committee were Directors Lansing (Chair), Chambers, Gambee, Miller (Vice Chair), Timm and Weborg. The Compensation Committee must meet at least quarterly. In 2005, the Committee met 9 times, including 4 special meeting.

Executive/ Governance Committee

The Executive/ Governance Committee may, subject to a few limitations, exercise all authority of the full Board when the full Board is not in session. This Committee is responsible for the review and oversight of the Company's strategic planning process, corporate governance, consideration of the Company's merger and acquisition opportunities and oversight of the Board's structure. This Committee is comprised of the chairman of the Board, the chair of each Board committee and Umpqua's CEO. Effective January 1, 2006, the members of the Committee were Directors Ford (Chair), Angell, Chambers, Davis, Giustina and Lansing. This Committee meets at least quarterly. In 2005, the Executive/ Governance Committee met 5 times.

Financial Services Committee

The Financial Services Committee reviews and oversees the operations of Strand Atkinson Williams & York, Inc. and Umpqua Bank's Private Client Services division. This Committee serves as Strand's board of directors, as well as the board of directors of Bancorp Financial Services. Effective January 1, 2006, the members of the Committee were Directors Chambers (Chair), Davis, Frohmayer, Goldschmidt (Vice Chair) and Mason. This Committee must meet at least quarterly and in 2005, the Committee met 4 times.

Loan and Investment Committee

The Loan and Investment Committee approves certain loans, approves charge-offs to the loan loss reserve, sets investment and liquidity policies and monitors compliance with those policies and reviews Umpqua's loan and investment portfolios. Effective January 1, 2006, members of the Committee were Directors Angell (Chair), Davis, Gambee, Goldschmidt, Herbert (Vice Chair), Mason and Weborg. The Loan and Investment Committee meets at least quarterly and in 2005 it met 4 times.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee proposes nominees for appointment or election to the Board of Directors and conducts searches to fill any vacancy in the positions of President and CEO. The Committee is comprised of the chairman of the Board and the chair of each Board committee. All of the directors serving on the Nominating Committee are independent, as defined in the NASD listing standards. Effective January 1, 2006, the members of the Committee were Directors Ford (Chair), Angell, Chambers, Giustina and Lansing. The Nominating Committee meets as often as it deems appropriate and in 2005, the Committee met 2 times.

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Family Relationships

There are no family relationships among any of the directors or executive officers of the Company.

Nomination Procedures

Our Statement of Governance Principles describes the qualifications that the Company looks for in its nominees to the board of directors. Directors should possess the highest personal and professional ethics, integrity and values and should be committed to representing the long-term interests of our shareholders. The Board will consider the policy-making experience of the candidate in the major business activities of the Company and its subsidiaries. The Board will also consider whether the nominee is representative of the major markets in which the Company operates. Directors must be willing to devote sufficient time to effectively carry out their duties and responsibilities and must be committed to serve on the Board for at least the term to which they are elected. Nominees should not serve on more than three boards of public companies in addition to the Company's Board. The Board's policy provides that no person shall be eligible for election or reelection as a director if that person will reach the age of 70 at the time of that person's election or reelection, provided that a director who reaches age 70 during his or her term, shall complete the term for which that director was elected.

A shareholder may recommend a candidate to the Board and that recommendation will be reviewed and evaluated by our Nominating Committee. Our Committee will use the same procedures and criteria for evaluating nominees recommended by shareholders as it does for nominees selected by the Company. Shareholder recommendations for Board candidates should be submitted to the Company's Corporate Secretary, Steven Philpott at Umpqua Holdings Corporation's Legal Department, P.O. Box 1560, Eugene, OR 97440.

In 2005, we received no recommendations for Board candidates from shareholders who do not now sit on our Board except that James Coleman recommended the appointment of Stephen Gambee to the Board at a time when Mr. Coleman was still a member of the Board.

Changes in Nomination Procedures

There have been no material changes to the procedures by which shareholders may recommend nominees to our board of directors since our procedures were disclosed in the proxy statement for the 2005 annual meeting.

Shareholder Communications

Our directors are active in their respective communities and they receive comments, suggestions, recommendations and questions from shareholders, customers and other interested parties on an ongoing basis. Our directors are encouraged to share those questions, comments and concerns with other directors and with our CEO. Comments and questions directed to our Board should be submitted to the Company's corporate Secretary, Steven Philpott at Umpqua Holdings Corporation's Legal Department, P.O. Box 1560, Eugene, OR 97440. These comments will be communicated to the Board at its next regular meeting. No communications of this type were received from shareholders in 2005. The Company has no policy regarding the attendance of directors at the annual meeting of shareholders. Two directors attended the 2005 annual meeting.

Employee Code of Conduct

The Company has adopted a code of conduct, referred to as the Business Ethics and Conflict of Interest Code. We require all employees to adhere to this code in addressing legal and ethical issues that they encounter in the course of doing their work. This code requires our employees to avoid conflicts of interest, comply with all laws and regulations, conduct business in an honest and ethical manner and otherwise act with integrity and in the Company's best interest. During 2005, all of our employees were required to certify that they reviewed and understood this code. In addition, all senior management officers

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were required to certify and disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest involving them or their affiliates.

This code provides that our employees may forward confidential or anonymous complaints to our Chief Auditor, who is independent of executive management and who reports directly to our Audit and Compliance Committee. Employees are encouraged to report any conduct that they believe in good faith to be an actual or apparent violation of our Business Ethics and Conflict of Interest Code.

In addition, the Company has adopted a Code of Ethics for Financial Officers, which applies to our chief executive officer, our chief financial officer, our principal accounting officer, our controller and all other officers serving in a finance, accounting, tax or investor relations role. This code for financial officers supplements our Business Ethics and Conflict of Interest Code and is intended to promote honest and ethical conduct, full and accurate financial reporting and to maintain confidentiality of the Company's proprietary and customer information.

A copy of our Business Ethics and Conflict of Interest Code and our Code of Ethics for Financial Officers is posted on our website at http://www.umpquaholdingscorp.com/corporate_governance.

Compliance with Section 16 Filing Requirements

Based solely upon our review of (i) Forms 3, 4 and 5 that we filed on behalf of directors and executive officers, or received from them with respect to the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005, and (ii) their written representations that no Form 5 is required, we believe that all reporting persons made all required Section 16 filings with respect to the 2005 fiscal year on a timely basis, except that due to the Company's administrative oversight, Ronald Farnsworth was late filing his initial Form 3 following his appointment as principal accounting officer.

Audit and Compliance Committee Report

The Audit and Compliance Committee of the Board of Directors oversees the accounting, financial reporting and regulatory compliance processes of the Company, the audits of the Company's financial statements, the qualifications of the public accounting firm engaged as the Company's independent auditor and the performance of the Company's internal and independent auditors. The Committee's function is more fully described in its charter, which the Board has adopted. The Committee reviews that charter on an annual basis.

The Board annually reviews the Nasdaq listing standards definition of independence for audit committee members and has determined that each member of the Committee meets that standard.

Management is responsible for the preparation, presentation and integrity of the Company's financial statements. Management must adopt accounting and financial reporting principles, internal controls and procedures that are designed to ensure compliance with accounting standards, applicable laws and regulations.

As a Committee, we met with management periodically during the year to consider the adequacy of the Company's internal controls and the objectivity of its financial reporting. The Committee discussed these matters with the Company's independent auditors and with appropriate Company financial personnel and internal auditors. The Committee also discussed with the Company's senior management and independent auditors the process used for certifications by the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer, which are required for certain of the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Committee is responsible for hiring and overseeing the performance of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. The Company's independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for performing an independent audit of the consolidated financial statements and expressing an opinion on the conformity of those financial statements with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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The Audit and Compliance Committee engaged Deloitte & Touche LLP (Deloitte) as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm, to perform the audit of the Company s financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2004. Deloitte had been engaged in this capacity for several years, based on the Committee s review of Deloitte s performance and independence from management.

The Committee has adopted a policy to review the engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm at least every five years. In 2005, the Committee reviewed the outside audit firm engagement and invited several major accounting firms to present to the Committee their qualifications for the engagement.

On August 9, 2005, acting upon the Committee s prior approval and direction, the Company dismissed Deloitte as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm and two days later, with the Committee s prior approval and direction, the Company engaged Moss Adams LLP (Moss Adams) as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm, after reviewing Moss Adams s qualifications and independence from management. Moss Adams was engaged to audit the Company s financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2005 and to review the Company s condensed consolidated financial statement for the periods ending September 30, 2005. In accordance with NASD Rule 4350, Moss Adams is registered as a public accounting firm with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

The Audit and Compliance Committee reviewed with management and Moss Adams the Company s audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2005 and met separately with both management and Moss Adams to discuss and review those financial statements and reports prior to issuance. Management has represented, and Moss Adams has confirmed to the Committee, that the financial statements were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

The Audit and Compliance Committee received from and discussed with Moss Adams the written disclosure and the letter required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1 (Independence Discussions with Audit Committees) and SEC Regulation S-X, Rule 2-02. The Committee also discussed with Moss Adams those matters required to be discussed by the Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61 (Communication with Audit Committees) of the Auditing Standards Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, to the extent applicable. The Committee reviewed audit and non-audit services performed by Moss Adams and discussed with the auditors their independence.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Audit and Compliance Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Company s audited financial statements be included in the Company s annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005.

Submitted by the Audit and Compliance Committee:

Dan Giustina (Chair)

Ron Angell

David Frohnmayer

Diana Goldschmidt

Lynn Herbert

Diane Miller

Bryan Timm

Executive Compensation

The following table sets forth all compensation paid during the last three calendar years to the Chief Executive Officer and the four executive officers (Named Executive Officers), other than the Chief Executive Officer, who had the highest total annual salary and bonus in excess of \$100,000 in 2005.

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Name and principal position	Year (1)	Annual Compensation			Long Term Compensation		All other compensation(\$) (5)
		Salary(\$) (2)	Bonus(\$) (3)	Other annual compensation(\$) (4)	Awards	Payouts	
					Restricted Securities		
				stock award(s)(\$) (4)	Underlying Options/SARs (#) (#)	L TIP (\$) (#)	
Raymond P. Davis President and Chief Officer, Executive Umpqua Holdings Corporation/Umpqua Bank	2005	\$ 608,000	\$ 513,000	\$ 18,300		75,000	\$ 577,623
	2004	\$ 446,875	\$ 267,188	\$ 15,330			\$ 925,512
	2003	\$ 374,339	\$ 195,000	\$ 17,810		150,000	\$ 321,877
David M. Edson Executive Vice President, Umpqua Holdings Corporation President, Umpqua Bank-Oregon	2005	\$ 275,000	\$ 162,500	\$ 18,060		40,000	\$ 16,580
	2004	\$ 238,500	\$ 150,000	\$ 11,120			\$ 16,330
	2003	\$ 197,313	\$ 79,500	\$ 39,482	\$ 95,050	10,000	\$ 47,493(6)
William T. Fike Executive Vice President, Umpqua Holdings Corporation President, Umpqua Bank-California	2005	\$ 213,076	\$ 120,000	\$ 19,970		50,000	\$ 7,680
Daniel A. Sullivan Executive Vice President/Chief Financial Officer, Umpqua Holdings Corporation/Umpqua Bank	2005	\$ 265,000	\$ 132,500	\$ 10,752		40,000	\$ 15,826
	2004	\$ 223,500	\$ 135,000	\$ 8,052			\$ 15,575
	2003	\$ 195,989	\$ 78,800	\$ 8,944	\$ 95,050	10,000	\$ 13,729
Brad F. Copeland Sr. Executive Vice President/Chief Credit Officer, Umpqua Holdings Corporation/Umpqua Bank	2005	\$ 265,000	\$ 166,000	\$ 14,969		40,000	\$ 15,895
	2004	\$ 223,000	\$ 135,000	\$ 12,364			\$ 15,646
	2003	\$ 189,037	\$ 80,000	\$ 11,295	\$ 95,050	15,000	\$ 13,313

(1) Mr. Fike commenced employment with the Company on May 12, 2005.

(2) Includes salary deferred by Mr. Fike pursuant to a deferred compensation plan.

(3) Includes bonuses paid, or to be paid, during the subsequent year but attributable to the year indicated.

(4) At December 31, 2005, the value of these 2003 restricted stock awards, if they were fully vested, is \$142,650 for Mr. Edson, Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Copeland calculated at \$28.53 per share, the closing price on December 30,

2005, for 5,000 shares each. Each of the restricted stock grants vests 1,000 shares per year commencing September 30, 2004.

- (5) Includes amounts contributed to a supplemental (Top Hat) non-qualified retirement plan and/or to Umpqua s 401(k) and Profit Sharing Plan for the executive s benefit. For Mr. Davis, this also includes the annual accrual for his supplemental retirement plan. See Supplemental Retirement (Top Hat) Plan and Retirement Plan for Mr. Davis for more information.
- (6) A housing allowance of \$35,493 was paid on Mr. Edson s behalf in 2003.

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The following table itemizes the Other Annual Compensation column in the preceding table, which is the perquisite compensation paid in 2005 on behalf of the CEO and the other Named Executive Officers.

Executive	Annual Car Allowance	Annual Auto Use Value	Annual Paid Parking	Annual Club Memberships	Total	Bank Owned Life Insurance(1)
Raymond P. Davis	\$ 9,000	\$ 0	\$ 2,700	\$ 6,600	\$ 18,300	Y
David M. Edson	\$ 0	\$ 10,500	\$ 2,700	\$ 4,860	\$ 18,060	Y
William T. Fike	\$ 0	\$ 11,750	\$ 0	\$ 8,220	\$ 19,970	N
Daniel A. Sullivan	\$ 6,000	\$ 0	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,052	\$ 10,752	Y
Brad F. Copeland	\$ 0	\$ 10,500	\$ 0	\$ 4,469	\$ 14,969	Y

(1) BOLI plans pay \$100,000 to the executive's beneficiary upon the death of the executive

Executive Compensation Plans and Agreements

We have entered into special agreements with our Named Executive Officers. These agreements are intended to motivate the executives to remain employed by us, to work hard for us, to meet regulatory and compliance objectives and to help the Company achieve financial performance goals set by the Board of Directors.

Employment Agreement with Raymond P. Davis

Our agreement with Raymond P. Davis, effective July 1, 2003, provides for his employment as President and Chief Executive Officer. It has no specific term and we may terminate his employment at any time for any reason or for no reason at all. However, if we terminate his employment without cause or if he leaves our employ for good reason, as defined in that agreement, he is entitled to a severance benefit equal to twice his base salary just prior to termination and twice his bonus received the prior year. Should Mr. Davis' employment terminate as a result of a change in control, his employment agreement provides for payment of a severance benefit equal to three years base salary and three times the bonus that he was targeted to receive that year, payable over 36 months. In addition, the Company, or its successor, would be obligated to pay health and welfare benefits for three years following termination. Further, all of Mr. Davis' unvested stock options would immediately vest and he would receive an additional credit to and vesting under his supplemental executive retirement plan. However, if the sum of the change in control benefits exceed the maximum amount permitted in accordance with Internal Revenue Code section 280G and would result in any portion not being deductible by the Company for federal income tax purposes, the amount of such benefits will be reduced to permit full deductibility.

Retirement Plan for Mr. Davis

We entered into a Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan with Mr. Davis on July 1, 2003, as amended and restated January 1, 2006, that provides for retirement benefits to be paid to him if he retires on or after June 3, 2011. The Davis SERP also provides for adjusted payments if Mr. Davis is terminated or leaves Umpqua prior to June 3, 2011. The annual retirement benefit payable under the Davis SERP is equal to Mr. Davis' Final Average Compensation multiplied by the product (not to exceed 60%) of three percent and the number of years of service with Umpqua. Final Average Compensation means the highest three-year average annual total Compensation out of the final five years of employment. Compensation means base salary and cash bonus paid under Mr. Davis' Employment Agreement and is the same as the salary and bonus reported on the Summary Compensation Table.

The table below shows the estimated annual pension benefits payable at normal retirement in the Davis SERP, which is a non-qualified defined benefit plan. For the purposes of the Davis SERP and the table below, the table describes the annual benefit payable as a single life annuity beginning at age 62 (17 years of service) and at ages through 65 when he will have been with Umpqua for 20 years. For

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purposes of the Davis SERP, Mr. Davis had 11.5 years of service as of December 31, 2005. Although not reflected in the table below, the benefits payable under the Davis SERP by us are reduced by the amounts otherwise provided by Social Security and other retirement benefits paid by us.

PENSION PLAN TABLE

Final Average Compensation	17 Years of Service	18 Years of Service	19 Years of Service	20 or More Years of Service
\$ 570,000	\$ 290,700	\$ 307,800	\$ 324,900	\$ 342,000
\$ 710,000	\$ 362,100	\$ 383,400	\$ 404,700	\$ 426,000
\$ 850,000	\$ 433,500	\$ 459,000	\$ 484,500	\$ 510,000
\$ 990,000	\$ 504,900	\$ 534,600	\$ 564,300	\$ 594,000
\$1,130,000	\$ 576,300	\$ 610,200	\$ 644,100	\$ 678,000
\$1,270,000	\$ 647,700	\$ 685,800	\$ 723,900	\$ 762,000
\$1,410,000	\$ 719,100	\$ 761,400	\$ 803,700	\$ 846,000

The payout under the Davis SERP is adjusted in the event of a termination with or without cause, based on the vesting schedule set forth below. Had Mr. Davis terminated his employment without cause or had the Company terminated his employment for cause on December 31, 2005, he would have been entitled to receive benefits with a present value of \$519,239. Had the Company terminated his employment without cause or had Mr. Davis terminated his employment for good reason on December 31, 2005, he would have been entitled to receive benefits with a present value of \$865,399. During 2005, the Company accrued \$544,006 with respect to the Davis SERP. In the event of Mr. Davis' disability or death prior to age 62, he or his estate would be entitled to the full amount the Company had accrued through such date.

DAVIS SERP VESTING SCHEDULE

Prior to 12 Months Ended	Voluntary Termination by Mr. Davis or Termination by Umpqua with Cause(1)	Termination by Umpqua Without Cause or by Mr. Davis for Good Reason(1)
6/30/2004	20%	30%
6/30/2005	25%	40%
6/30/2006	30%	50%
6/30/2007	35%	60%
6/30/2008	40%	80%
6/30/2009	60%	100%
6/30/2010	80%	100%
6/30/2011	90%	100%
Thereafter	100%	100%

(1) Vesting percentage represents the percentage of the amounts actually accrued by the Company as of that date to which Mr. Davis is entitled, not the percentage of the projected retirement benefit.

If Mr. Davis is terminated without cause or he terminates his employment for any reason within two years of a change of control in the Company, Mr. Davis is credited with additional years of service equal to one half of the time remaining between his actual years of service and 17, his earliest retirement date at age 62. If there had been a change in control during 2005 and his employment terminated December 31, 2005, Mr. Davis would have been credited with an additional 2.75 years of service, for a total of 14.25 years of service, and his estimated annual benefit commencing at age 62 would have been \$342,637, based on a Final Average Compensation of \$801,467, which includes Mr. Davis 2005 salary and bonus.

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Employment Agreements with Other Named Executive Officers

We have entered into Terms of Employment and Severance Agreements with David M. Edson, Daniel A. Sullivan, Brad F. Copeland and William T. Fike. These agreements expire five years after commencement, but provide for employment at will. However, if we terminate the executive's employment without cause or if the executive leaves our employ for good reason, as defined in that agreement, the executive is entitled to a severance benefit equal to the greater of (i) nine months of the executive's base salary or (ii) two weeks for every year of employment, paid over nine months.

Should the executive's employment terminate as a result of a change in control, his employment agreement provides for payment of a severance benefit equal to two times base salary and two times the bonus he received the prior year, payable over twenty-four months. In addition, if the executive remains employed for twelve months following a change in control, he will receive a bonus equal to twelve months base salary and 100% of the bonus paid the prior year, payable over twelve months.

With respect to Mr. Fike, if his employment terminates within six months prior to the Company entering into an agreement that results in a change in control and he is entitled to a severance benefit, he will receive a supplemental benefit equal to fifteen months base salary and two times the bonus he received the prior year, paid over fifteen months.

Supplemental Retirement (Top Hat) Plan

We maintain a non-qualified deferred compensation plan for executive managers selected by the Board. Under the plan eligible executives may defer a portion of their compensation into the plan. The Company may make discretionary matching contributions or other discretionary contributions to the plan. The plan is designed to be administered under Sections 201(2) and 301(a)(3) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Deferred Compensation Agreement with Mr. Fike

On June 13, 2005, the Company entered into a 2005 Executive Deferred Compensation Agreement with William Fike, pursuant to which Mr. Fike is permitted to defer a portion of his annual compensation. The Company has established an account of the deferrals, which will be credited with interest at the end of each year. The interest credited is equal to the 5-year Treasury Constant Maturity as of the last business day of the preceding year.

Incentive Plan for Senior Management

Effective January 1, 2005, the Company adopted a Performance-Based Executive Incentive Plan. The Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee and it continues in effect until December 31, 2008. In 2005, the Plan provided for bonuses to be awarded to the Chief Executive Officer and our Named Executive Officers upon achievement of performance objectives established by the Compensation Committee for Mr. Davis and individual performance objectives established by Mr. Davis for the other named executives. The plan is designed to tie a significant portion of annual compensation to performance and to provide incentives to executive officers to achieve results tied to important objective business criteria. In addition, incentive compensation is tied to performance goals established by the Compensation Committee for specific divisions and the Company as a whole.

Each executive is assigned a target bonus, which is a percentage of base salary. Achievement of the target bonus in 2005 was based on the success of the Company and the individual executive in two objective performance areas:

Company financial goals based on earnings per share, and

supervisory ratings issued by regulatory agencies for the Company and its subsidiaries.

The Company awarded additional incentive amounts based on achievement of subjective leadership and personal goals. Payments of all bonuses are subject to the negative discretion of the Compensation

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Committee or by Mr. Davis with respect to the other named executives. Please refer to the Compensation Committee's Report on Executive Compensation for more information.

Under section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, the Company is generally prohibited from deducting for federal income tax purposes employee compensation that would otherwise be deductible to the extent that the compensation exceeds \$1,000,000 for any covered employee in any fiscal year. However, compensation that is performance-based as defined in the Code is not subject to the deductibility limits. The Plan is intended to ensure that performance-based compensation awarded to the Company's executives is deductible.

2003 Stock Incentive Plan

We have a stock incentive plan that was approved by shareholders in 2003. Two million shares of common stock were reserved for issuance under the 2003 plan. The plan is administered by the Board's Compensation Committee. Under the 2003 plan, non-qualified stock options, incentive stock options and restricted stock grants may be issued to employees and directors of the Company and its subsidiaries as recommended by the Committee and approved by the Board.

Under the terms of the 2003 plan, awards of stock options and restricted stock grants, when added to options under all other plans, are limited to a maximum of ten percent of the outstanding shares on a fully diluted basis. During 2005, we granted options to purchase 507,500 shares to employees under the 2003 plan and we granted 8,000 shares of restricted stock. As of February 28, 2006, there were a total of 1,237,100 shares in the 2003 plan available for future grants, of which all were immediately available for issuance under the ten percent limitation.

*Option and Restricted Stock Grants***Option Grants in 2005**

	Individual Grants				Potential Realizable Value at Assumed Annual Rates of Stock Price Appreciation for Option Term		
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Name	Number of Securities Underlying Options/SARs Granted (#)	Percentage of Total Options/SARs Granted to Employees in Fiscal Year	Exercise Price (\$/Sh)	Expiration Date	5%(\$)	10%(\$)	
Raymond P. Davis	75,000	14.22%	\$ 24.71	01/02/2015	\$ 1,165,499	\$ 2,953,603	
David M. Edson	40,000	7.58%	\$ 23.49	01/20/2015	\$ 590,909	\$ 1,497,480	
William T. Fike	50,000	9.48%	\$ 21.95	05/11/2015	\$ 690,212	\$ 1,749,132	
Daniel A. Sullivan	40,000	7.58%	\$ 23.49	01/20/2015	\$ 590,909	\$ 1,497,480	
Brad F. Copeland	40,000	7.58%	\$ 23.49	01/20/2015	\$ 590,909	\$ 1,497,480	

No restricted stock was granted to the CEO or the Named Executive Officers in 2005.

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The following table summarizes stock option exercises by the Chief Executive Officer and the Named Executive Officers during 2005 and the value of unexercised options held by them at December 31, 2005:

Aggregate Option Exercises in 2005 and Year-End Option Values(1)

	Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized (3)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options at Year-End (#)		Value of Unexercised In-the- Money Options at Year-End (\$) (2)	
			Shares Exercisable	Shares Unexercisable	Value Exercisable	Value Unexercisable
Raymond P. Davis	60,000	\$ 1,302,652	181,829	190,000	\$ 2,962,430	\$ 1,360,550
David M. Edson			19,000	56,000	\$ 236,660	\$ 368,140
William T. Fike				50,000		\$ 302,500
Daniel A. Sullivan	10,000	\$ 105,800	69,000	51,000	\$ 1,169,610	\$ 307,640
Brad F. Copeland			42,630	52,750	\$ 700,821	\$ 316,285

- (1) All share amounts have been adjusted to reflect any stock dividends and stock splits subsequent to the date of grant.
- (2) The value of unexercised in-the-money options is calculated as follows for each grant: (the closing price of Umpqua common stock at December 30, 2005 minus the option exercise price), multiplied by the number of shares subject to the option. On December 30, 2005, the closing price of Umpqua's common stock was \$28.530 per share.
- (3) Based on two exercises by Mr. Davis: (i) 51,595 shares on February 15, 2005 at an exercise price of \$2.6956 per share and a closing price of \$24.4142 per share and (ii) 8,405 shares on February 16, 2005 at an exercise price of \$2.6956 per share and a closing price of \$24.25 per share. Based on two exercises by Mr. Sullivan: (i) 5,000 shares on April 21, 2005 at an exercise price of \$12.00 per share and a closing price of \$22.94 per share and (ii) 5,000 shares on May 2, 2005 at an exercise price of \$12.00 per share and a closing price of \$22.22 per share.

Director Compensation

The Board of Directors has adopted a Director Compensation Plan that sets forth the terms and manner in which non-employee directors will be compensated for their service on the Board of Directors and committees of Umpqua and its subsidiaries.

In December 2005 and January 2006, the Compensation Committee undertook a review of director compensation as compared with a peer group of companies. The Committee looked at director compensation paid by the same peer group of companies that it used for review of the CEO's compensation.

In January 2006, the Board of Directors, acting upon a recommendation from the Compensation Committee, increased the Board meeting participation fee from \$3,000 to \$4,000 per meeting. As of January 2006, each non-employee director receives a quarterly retainer of \$2,500, a participation fee of \$4,000 for each regular Board meeting and a participation fee of \$500 for each committee meeting attended. The Board chair receives a quarterly retainer of \$3,000 and a participation fee of \$4,500 for each regular Board meeting attended. Committee chairs receive

a slightly higher participation fee for chairing their committee meetings; \$700 for the Audit and Compliance Committee chair and \$600 for the chairs of other committees.

All director fees are payable in shares of Umpqua Holdings Corporation common stock, purchased periodically on the open market by a brokerage firm for the account of each director with funds provided by the Company. Directors may choose to receive compensation on a deferred basis.

Under the Plan, director fees are paid quarterly, in arrears, after review of attendance records. Directors may attend committee meetings by teleconference, but they are allowed to attend only one

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regular Board meeting per year by teleconference and they must be personally present at all other regular Board meetings to receive any meeting participation fee. The Director Compensation Plan also reiterates the directors obligations under applicable securities laws, Umpqua's Insider Trading Policy, and obligates the directors, if requested to do so, to execute a lockup agreement in the event of a firmly underwritten public offering of our securities.

Director Compensation 2005

The following table shows the compensation earned in 2005 by each director with respect to each category of compensation. Although each director is paid in Company stock, this table shows the cash contributed by the Company to the Director Compensation Plan to purchase that stock.

Name	Retainer	Board Participation	Committee Participation	Total
Ronald F. Angell	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 9,900	\$ 34,900
Scott D. Chambers	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 7,400	\$ 32,400
Allyn C. Ford	\$ 12,000	\$ 17,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 32,500
David B. Frohnmayer	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 29,500
Stephen M. Gambiae	\$ 5,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 17,000
Dan Giustina	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,900	\$ 35,900
Diana E. Goldschmidt	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 9,500	\$ 34,500
Lynn K. Herbert	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 32,000
William A. Lansing	\$ 10,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 7,300	\$ 29,300
Theodore S. Mason	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 31,000
Diane D. Miller	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 35,000
Bryan L. Timm	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 6,500	\$ 31,500
Thomas W. Weborg	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 6,500	\$ 31,500

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Compensation Committee Report

**REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE
ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The Compensation Committee has several important responsibilities. First, it oversees the administration of the Company's compensation plans and agreements, including incentive stock option plans, 401(k) and profit sharing plans, supplemental executive retirement plans, BOLI assets and employment/ compensation agreements with the Company's CEO. In addition, the Committee reviews the performance of the CEO, reviews with the CEO and approves or ratifies the compensation levels of his direct reports and compares the performance of the CEO and his direct reports to Company goals, in order to establish compensation and annual incentives awards. The Committee also evaluates and recommends to the full Board the compensation for Company directors. The Committee is composed entirely of independent non-employee members of the Board of Directors. No former employee of the Company serves on this Committee. The Committee's activities are governed by a written charter adopted by the Board and reviewed annually by the Committee.

Goals and Principles

The goal of our executive compensation program is to attract, motivate and retain the highly talented senior managers the Company needs to develop and deliver innovative banking and financial products and services to our customers. The following principles influence the design and administration of our compensation program:

1. **Individual and Company Performance.** A significant component of compensation should be related to performance. We believe that an employee's compensation should be tied to how well the employee's team and the Company perform against both financial and non-financial goals and objectives. The Board annually establishes the financial goals for the incentive compensation program. Non-financial goals include satisfactory performance on all internal and external regulatory exams and audits and achievement of the personal goals assigned to each executive.
2. **Short-Term and Long-Term Incentives.** Incentive compensation should balance short and long term performance. We look to balance the focus of all employees on achieving strong short-term or annual results in a manner that will ensure the Company's long-term viability and success. Therefore, to reinforce the importance of balancing these perspectives, senior management is regularly provided with both annual and long-term incentives. Participation in long-term incentive programs increases with higher levels of responsibility, as employees in these leadership roles have the greatest influence on the Company's strategic direction and results over time.
3. **Competitiveness.** Compensation levels should be competitive to achieve our goals. The Committee reviews compensation survey data from multiple external sources to ensure that our total compensation program is competitive and sound. The Committee often asks outside counsel to attend its meetings for advice on best practices. All compensation programs are reviewed annually to gauge their effectiveness in attracting and retaining executive management.
4. **Equity Orientation.** Our executive officers are expected to be Company shareholders and to maintain a material ownership position in Company stock while they are employed with the Company. We provide our employees at all levels with various methods to become shareholders. We make stock option grants to valued employees from time to time and we make restricted stock grants to employees who are outstanding performers, but not necessarily executives or managers. In addition, we sponsor a 401(k) and profit sharing plan that provides for discretionary matching and profit sharing contributions by the Company to eligible employees. The Company's plan contributions are made 50% in Company stock and 50% in cash.

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5. **Components of Executive Compensation.** The basic components of executive compensation are:
- Annual cash compensation, including base salary and annual incentive payments;
 - Long-term incentive compensation, including stock options and grants of restricted shares;
 - Deferred compensation plans, SERP benefits (for the CEO only) and a supplemental retirement (top hat) plan;
 - Competitive fringe benefits, such as group health, life and disability insurance and perquisites.

6. **Annual Cash Compensation.**

6.1 **Base Salary.** The purpose of base salary is to create a secure base of cash compensation for executives that is competitive with the market. Executive salary increases do not necessarily follow a preset schedule or formula; however, the following are considered when determining appropriate salary levels and increases:

- The individual s current and sustained performance results and the methods utilized to achieve those results; and

- Non-financial performance indicators to include strategic developments for which an executive has responsibility (such as product development, expansion of markets, increase in same-store loan or deposit growth and acquisitions) and managerial performance (such as service quality, sales objectives and regulatory compliance).

On an annual basis, at the end of each fiscal year, the Company s CEO recommends the compensation of individual executive officers reporting to him, as well as the compensation of executive officers covered by NASD Rule 4350, and the Committee reviews that compensation and compares it with market information to ensure that executive compensation is competitive and that the CEO is exercising his discretion appropriately. The Committee reviews, and ratifies or approves, all components of the compensation for executive officers covered by NASD Rule 4350, including salary, bonus, equity and long-term incentive compensation. Based on this review, the Committee found the CEO s 2006 recommendations for the Named Executive Officers total compensation to be appropriate and approved them.

6.2 **Annual Incentives.** The purpose of annual incentive plans is to provide cash compensation on an annual basis that is at risk and contingent on the achievement of annual business and operating objectives, as well as personal goals and objectives.

Each of the Named Executive Officers (excluding the CEO) was eligible for target incentives in 2005 up to 50% of their base salary. Achievement of the target bonus in 2005 was based on success in three performance areas: (i) corporate financial targets (50%); (ii) leadership and personal goals (35%); and (iii) regulatory and compliance goals (15%).

7. **Long-Term Incentive Compensation.** There are two forms of long-term incentives normally granted to our executives: stock options and the award of restricted shares.

Stock Options. The purpose of stock options is to provide equity compensation whose value is directly related to the creation of shareholder value and the increase in Company stock price. Stock options provide executives a vehicle (subject to vesting requirements) to increase equity ownership and share in the appreciation of the value of Company stock.

Restricted Stock Grants. Restricted stock grants are awarded subject to vesting requirements and, in some cases, subject to the Company achieving predetermined financial goals. Restricted shares serve to help retain key executive talent, as well as retain non-executive employees who make a significant contribution to the Company. 45 employees received option grants in 2005, totaling 507,500 shares. 13 employees received restricted share grants in 2005, totaling 8,000 shares.

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8. **Compensation for the Chief Executive Officer.** Mr. Davis led the Company to solid financial performance in 2005, a year that also saw the Company's stock price reach an all-time high. At the same time, Mr. Davis continued to emphasize the Company's vision and mission, which is to create a unique and memorable banking environment in which our customers perceive the bank as an indispensable partner in achieving their financial goals; our people achieve unparalleled personal and professional success; our shareholders achieve the exceptional rewards of ownership; and our communities benefit from our involvement and investment in their future.

At meetings in December 2005 and January 2006, the Committee reviewed all components of Mr. Davis's compensation including salary, bonus, equity and long-term incentive compensation, accumulated realized and unrealized stock option, restricted stock gains, SERP plan benefits and various perquisites and other personal benefits. The Committee reviewed tally sheets setting forth the components of Mr. Davis's compensation prepared by outside counsel, together with tally sheets from peer companies, a compensation review of specified peer financial institutions performed by a nationally recognized third party compensation consultant, as well as salary survey data provided by that consultant. The peer group of companies was selected by the Committee based on recommendations of the compensation consultant. The Committee also looked at the benefits that the CEO would receive pursuant to his employment agreements under various severance and change in control scenarios. Throughout this process, the Committee received advice from the Company's outside counsel.

Based on this information, the Committee felt that an adjustment to Mr. Davis's compensation was appropriate. Effective January 1, 2006, Mr. Davis's base salary increased from \$608,000 to \$658,000 and his targeted annual incentive remains at 75% of base salary. For 2006, Mr. Davis's incentive compensation is based on success in three performance areas: corporate financial targets (65%), leadership and personal goals (20%) and regulatory and compliance goals (15%). In addition, effective January 18, 2006, the Committee awarded Mr. Davis a stock option grant of 25,000 shares at the then current market price vesting over a four year period.

9. **Internal Pay Equity.** In December 2005 and January 2006, the Committee performed an internal pay equity review of the total compensation paid to the CEO, as compared to the other Named Executive Officers and the CEO's other direct reports. The Committee commissioned a nationally recognized compensation consultant to survey the compensation paid to the Named Executive Officers by the same peer group of companies that the Committee used to review the CEO's compensation. That survey demonstrated that the compensation paid to the Named Executive Officers, as compared with the CEO's compensation (excluding the CEO's SERP) is in the same percentage range as the peer group companies.

When the Committee considers the compensation payable to the CEO and the other Named Executive Officers the aggregate amounts and mix of all components, including accumulated (realized and unrealized) option and restricted stock gains are taken into consideration.

10. **Performance-Based Executive Incentive Plan.** Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code generally disallows federal income tax deductions by publicly traded companies for compensation in excess of \$1 million per year paid to those executive officers whose compensation is detailed in the Summary Compensation Table. Under an exception to the general rule of non-deductibility, the \$1 million deduction limit does not apply to qualified performance-based compensation. In 2005, the Company's shareholders approved the Umpqua Holdings Corporation 2005 Performance-Based Executive Incentive Plan (the "2005 Plan"), which the Company believes will qualify the short-term incentive compensation it makes available to its executive officers for the performance-based exception to non-deductibility under Section 162(m). The Committee believes that the Company will not be subject to any Section 162(m) limitations on the deductibility of compensation paid to the Named Executive Officers for fiscal year 2005.

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At this time, it is the policy of the Compensation Committee to ensure that all compensation payable to the CEO and the other Named Executive Officers is fully deductible for federal income tax purposes consistent with Section 162(m).

11. **Director Compensation.** The Committee's practice is to engage an outside advisor once every three years to review director compensation paid by a peer group of companies to ensure that the compensation we pay to our directors is competitive given Company performance, Board performance and our community bank philosophy. As noted above, the Compensation Committee recommended increasing director compensation and the Board approved an increase to the Board meeting participation fee by \$1,000 per meeting. The Committee reported to the Board that even with this increase in the Board meeting participation fee, total compensation paid to each director is below the median paid by the peer group of companies.

Summary and Conclusions

The Committee believes the executive compensation policies and programs described in this report serve shareholder interests and the Company. Compensation to executives is aligned with Company performance and individual performance. We will continue to evaluate and, as necessary, update our compensation programs to assure that they remain performance driven, are competitive, serve to retain the best talent and reinforce equity ownership.

Based on our review, the Committee finds that the aggregate compensation payable to the Company's CEO and the other Named Executive Officers (including the potential payouts under various severance and change in control scenarios) is reasonable and not excessive.

Submitted by the Compensation Committee:

Bill Lansing (Chair)

Scott Chambers

Stephen Gambee

Diane Miller

Bryan Timm

Tom Weborg

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The following chart compares the yearly percentage change in the cumulative shareholder return on our common stock during the five fiscal years ended December 31, 2005, with (i) the Total Return Index for The Nasdaq Stock Market (U.S. Companies) (ii) the Standard & Poor's 500 and (iii) the Total Return Index for Nasdaq Bank Stocks, as reported by the Center for Research in Securities Prices. This comparison assumes \$100.00 was invested on December 31, 2000, in our common stock and the comparison indices, and assumes the reinvestment of all cash dividends prior to any tax effect and retention of all stock dividends. Price information from December 31, 2000 to December 30, 2005, was obtained by using the Nasdaq closing price as of the last trading day of each year.

Index	Period Ending				
	12/31/01	12/31/02	12/31/03	12/31/04	12/31/05
Umpqua Holdings Corporation	\$ 161.13	\$ 220.02	\$ 252.70	\$ 309.85	\$ 354.26
Nasdaq Bank Stocks	\$ 108.27	\$ 110.84	\$ 142.58	\$ 163.17	\$ 159.40
Nasdaq U.S.	\$ 79.32	\$ 54.84	\$ 81.99	\$ 89.22	\$ 91.12
S&P 500	\$ 86.96	\$ 66.64	\$ 84.22	\$ 91.79	\$ 94.55

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The following table sets forth the shares of common stock beneficially owned as of April 7, 2006, by each director and each Named Executive Officer, the directors and executive officers as a group and those persons known to beneficially own more than 5% of Umpqua's common stock.

Name and Position	Number of Shares Beneficially Owned (1)	Percentage of Class
Lynn K. Herbert, Director	570,525(2)	1.28%
Raymond P. Davis, Director, President/ Chief Executive Officer	332,981(3,4)	*
Allyn C. Ford, Chairman	161,000(5)	*
Theodore S. Mason, Director	155,151(6)	*
Ronald F. Angell, Director	131,783(7)	*
Daniel A. Sullivan, EVP/ Chief Financial Officer	121,280(8)	*
Dan Giustina, Director	113,107(9)	*
Brad Copeland, SEVP/ Chief Credit Officer	74,356(3,10)	*
David Edson, President Umpqua Bank-Oregon	42,731(11)	*
Thomas W. Weborg, Director	35,623(12)	*
William Lansing, Director	32,735(3)	*
William Fike, President Umpqua Bank-California	20,158(13)	*
David Frohnmayer, Director	13,126(3)	*
Scott Chambers, Director	11,058	*
Stephen M. Gambie, Director	6,202	*
Diana Goldschmidt, Director	5,681	*
Diane D. Miller, Director	4,896(3)	*
Bryan L. Timm, Director	1,736	*
All directors and executive officers as a group (21 persons)	1,900,971(2 14)	4.25%
Capital Research and Management Company 333 South Hope Street, 55th Floor, Los Angeles, CA	3,099,700(15)	6.93%
Select Equity Group, Inc., Select Offshore Advisors, LLC and George S. Loening (combined) 380 Lafayette Street, 6th Floor, New York, NY	3,583,325(16)	8.01%

* Less than 1.0%

(1) Shares held directly with sole voting and investment power, unless otherwise indicated. Shares held in the Dividend Reinvestment Plan have been rounded down to the nearest whole share. Includes shares held indirectly in Director Deferred Compensation Plans, 401(k) Plans and IRAs.

(2) Includes shares held jointly with his spouse. Also includes shares held as trustee.

(3) Includes shares held with or by his/her spouse.

- (4) Includes 182,500 shares covered by options exercisable within 60 days.
- (5) Includes 129,643 shares held as Agent for Ford Family Investment Pool.
- (6) Includes 67,517 shares covered by options exercisable within 60 days.
- (7) Includes 20,208 shares covered by options exercisable within 60 days.
- (8) Includes 70,000 shares covered by options exercisable within 60 days.
- (9) Includes 8,510 shares covered by options exercisable within 60 days.

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- (10) Includes 52,880 shares covered by options exercisable within 60 days.
- (11) Includes 27,000 shares covered by options exercisable within 60 days.
- (12) Includes 10,227 shares covered by options exercisable within 60 days.
- (13) Includes 10,000 shares covered by options exercisable within 60 days.
- (14) Includes 24,296 shares covered by options exercisable within 60 days.
- (15) This information is taken from a Form 13G filed February 10, 2006 with respect to holdings as of December 31, 2005. The reporting person has disclaimed beneficial ownership pursuant to Rule 13d-1.
- (16) This information is taken from a Form 13G/ A filed February 15, 2006 with respect to holdings as of December 31, 2005.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

The following table sets forth information about equity compensation plans that provide for the award of securities or the grant of options to purchase securities to employees of Umpqua and its subsidiaries that were in effect at December 31, 2005.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

Plan category	(a) Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (1)	(b) Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	(c) Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans excluding securities reflected in column (a)(2)(3)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	1,892,710	\$ 13.41	1,349,780
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	0	0	0
Total	1,892,710	\$ 13.41	1,349,780

- (1) Includes 240,575 shares issued under Centennial Bancorp's stock option plans, having a weighted average exercise price of \$7.252 per share at December 31, 2005. Includes 449,345 shares issued under Humboldt Bancorp's stock option plans, having a weighted average exercise price of \$8.1391 per share at December 31, 2005. In connection with mergers, Umpqua assumed Centennial's and Humboldt's obligations under their respective stock option plans.

- (2) Includes 3,000 unvested restricted stock award shares under Humboldt Bancorp plans that were assumed in connection with the acquisition of Humboldt Bancorp in July 2004.
- (3) At Umpqua's 2003 Annual Meeting, shareholders approved the 2003 Stock Incentive Plan. The plan authorized the issuance of 2,000,000 shares of stock through awards of incentive stock options, nonqualified stock options or restricted stock grants; provided awards of stock options and restricted stock grants under the 2003 Stock Incentive Plan, when added to options outstanding under all other plans, are limited to a maximum 10% of the outstanding shares on a fully diluted basis.

Transactions with Directors and Officers

Many of our directors and officers, their immediate family members and businesses with which they are associated, borrow from and have deposits with Umpqua Bank. All such loans are made in the ordinary course of Umpqua Bank's business, and on substantially the same terms, including interest rates paid or charged and collateral required, as comparable transactions with unaffiliated persons. The transactions did not and do not involve more than the normal risk of collection or present other unfavorable features to Umpqua Bank.

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As of December 31, 2005, the aggregate outstanding balance of all loans to executive officers, directors, principal shareholders and their businesses was approximately \$11.7 million, which represented approximately 1.6% of the consolidated shareholders' equity at that date. All such loans are currently in good standing and are being paid in accordance with their terms.

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Moss Adams LLP (Moss Adams), independent Certified Public Accountants, audited our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2005. One or more representatives of Moss Adams are expected to be present at the annual meeting, will be given the opportunity to make a statement, and will be available to respond to any appropriate questions.

On August 9, 2005, we informed Deloitte & Touche LLP (Deloitte) that Deloitte had been dismissed as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm effective August 9, 2005, the date Deloitte completed its procedures on our unaudited interim financial statements for the quarter ended June 30, 2005 and with respect to the Form 10-Q in which those financial statements were included.

Umpqua's Audit & Compliance Committee (the Committee) approved and directed Deloitte's dismissal, following the Committee's review of the audit engagement.

Deloitte's report for the years ending December 31, 2004 and 2003 contain no adverse opinion or a disclaimer of opinion nor were those reports qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope, or accounting principles.

During the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003 and through August 9, 2005 (the Relevant Period) there were no disagreements with Deloitte on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure or auditing scope or procedure which, if not resolved to Deloitte's satisfaction, would have caused it to make reference thereto in their reports on the financial statements for such years.

During the Relevant Period, there were no reportable events as described in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K (Reportable Events) issued by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission).

We asked Deloitte to furnish us with a letter addressed to the Commission stating whether or not they agreed with our conclusion that there were no Reportable Events during the Relevant Period. Deloitte provided such a letter dated August 10, 2005, which is included as Exhibit 16.1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-4 of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part.

On August 10, 2005, we engaged Moss Adams as our independent registered public accounting firm to audit our financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2005 and to review our condensed consolidated financial statements for the periods ending September 30, 2005. The Committee approved and directed our engagement of Moss Adams.

During the Relevant Period, neither the Company nor (to the Company's knowledge) anyone acting on behalf of the Company consulted with Moss Adams regarding: (i) the application of accounting principles to a specified transaction (either completed or proposed), (ii) the type of audit opinion that might be rendered on the Company's financial statements, (iii) any matter that was the subject of a disagreement, as defined in Item 304(a)(1)(iv) of Regulation S-K or (iv) any Reportable Event.

Table of Contents*Independent Auditors Fees*

The following table shows the amounts billed by Moss Adams in 2005 and Deloitte & Touche LLP, the member firms of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, and their respective affiliates (collectively the Deloitte Entities) in 2004:

	2005 Moss Adams	2004 Deloitte Entities
	(\$ in thousands)	
Audit Fees(a)	\$ 545	\$ 800
Audit-Related Fees(b)	5	26
All other fees(c)	\$ 5	
Tax Fees(d)		\$ 66
Planning and Advising-Tax Fees(e)		22
Total Tax Fees		\$ 88
Total Fees	\$ 555	\$ 914

(a) Fees for audit services billed in 2005 are:

For audit of the Company's annual financial statements

For reviews of the Company's quarterly financial statements

Accrual-basis fees related to the year-end audit, whether paid prior or subsequent to December 31.

Fees for audit services billed in 2004 consisted of:

Audit of the Company's annual financial statements

Reviews of the Company's quarterly financial statements

(b) Fees for audit-related services billed in 2005 are:

Modified cash-basis fees represents all billings during the 12-months ended December 31

Include fees billed for out of pocket costs

Fees for audit-related services billed in 2004 consisted of:

Due diligence associated with mergers/acquisitions

Financial accounting and reporting consultations

Employee benefit plan audits

Agreed-upon procedures engagements

(c) All other fees for 2005:

Include consulting services regarding implementation of SFAS 123R and attendance at Audit Committee Meetings

Modified cash basis fees represents all billings during the 12 months ended December 31

(d) Fees for tax services billed in 2004 consisted of tax compliance and tax planning and advice:

Tax compliance services are services rendered based upon facts already in existence or transactions that have already occurred to document, compute, and obtain government approval for amounts to be included in tax filings and consisted of:

i. Federal, state and local income tax return assistance

ii. Sales and use, property and other tax return assistance

iii. Assistance with tax return filings in certain foreign jurisdictions

iv. Research & Development tax credit documentation and analysis for purposes of filing amended returns

v. Transfer pricing documentation

vi. Requests for technical advice from taxing authorities

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- (e) Tax planning and advice are services rendered with respect to proposed transactions or that alter a transaction to obtain a particular tax result. Such services consisted of:
- i. Tax advice related to structuring certain proposed mergers, acquisitions and disposals

	2005	2004
Memo: Ratio of Tax Planning and Advice Fees and All Other Fees to Audit Fees, Audit-Related Fees and Tax Compliance Fees	0.9%	2.8%

In considering the nature of the services provided by the independent auditor, the Audit and Compliance Committee determined that such services are compatible with the provision of independent audit services. The Committee discussed these services with the independent auditor and Company management to determine that they are permitted under the rules and regulations concerning auditor independence promulgated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) to implement the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as well as the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Pre-Approval Policy

The services performed by Moss Adams for the 2005 audit engagement were pre-approved by the Audit and Compliance Committee at its July 19, 2005 meeting, in accordance with the Committee's pre-approval policy and procedures. This policy describes the permitted audit, audit-related, tax, and other services (collectively, the Disclosure Categories) that the independent auditor may perform. The policy requires that a description of the services (the Service List) expected to be performed by the independent auditor in each of the Disclosure Categories be pre-approved annually by the Committee.

Services provided by the independent auditor during the following year that are included in the Service List were pre-approved following the policies and procedures of the Committee.

Any requests for audit, audit-related, tax, and other services not contemplated on the Service List must be submitted to the Committee for specific pre-approval and cannot commence until such approval has been granted. Normally, pre-approval is provided at regularly scheduled meetings. However, the authority to grant specific pre-approval between meetings, as necessary, has been delegated to the Chair of the Audit and Compliance Committee. The Chair must update the Committee at the next regularly scheduled meeting of any services that were granted specific pre-approval.

In addition, although not required by the rules and regulations of the SEC, the Committee generally requests a range of fees associated with each proposed service on the Service List and any services that were not originally included on the Service List. Providing a range of fees for a service incorporates appropriate oversight and control of the independent auditor relationship, while permitting the Company to receive immediate assistance from the independent auditor when time is of the essence.

The policy contains a de minimis provision that operates to provide retroactive approval for permissible non-audit services under certain circumstances. The provision allows for the pre-approval requirement to be waived if all of the following criteria are met:

1. The service is not an audit, review or other attest service;
2. The aggregate amount of all such services provided under this provision does not exceed the lesser of \$5,000 or five percent of total fees paid to the independent auditor in a given fiscal year;
3. Such services were not recognized at the time of the engagement to be non-audit services (to date the SEC has not provided any guidance with respect to determining whether or not a service was recognized at the time of the engagement. We believe that the SEC intended the term recognized to mean identified);
4. Such services are promptly brought to the attention of the Audit and Compliance Committee and approved by the Audit and Compliance Committee or its designee; and

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5. The service and fee are specifically disclosed in the Proxy Statement as meeting the de minimis requirements.

Other Business

The board of directors knows of no other matters than those set forth in this document to be brought before the shareholders at the annual meeting. In the event other matters are presented for a vote at the meeting, the proxy holders will vote shares represented by properly executed proxies at their discretion in accordance with their judgment on such matters. At the meeting, management will report on our business and shareholders will have the opportunity to ask questions.

Incorporation by Reference

The sections in this joint proxy-statement prospectus entitled Report of Compensation Committee on Executive Compensation , Stock Performance Graph and Audit and Compliance Committee Report do not constitute soliciting material and should not be deemed filed or incorporated by reference into any other Company filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, except to the extent the Company specifically incorporates any such Reports or the Stock Performance Graph by reference therein.

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INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

Umpqua and Western Sierra file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information that the companies file at the SEC public reference room at 100 F. Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference room. Western Sierra and Umpqua public filings are also available to the public from commercial document retrieval services and at the free web site maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Umpqua has filed a registration statement on Form S-4 to register with the SEC the shares of Umpqua common stock to be issued to Western Sierra shareholders in the merger. This document is a part of that registration statement and constitutes a prospectus of Umpqua and a proxy statement of Umpqua and Western Sierra for the Umpqua annual meeting of shareholders and the Western Sierra special meeting of shareholders.

The SEC allows Umpqua and Western Sierra to incorporate information into this document by reference to other information that each company has filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is deemed to be part of this document, except for any information superseded by information in this document.

This document incorporates by reference the documents set forth below that Umpqua and Western Sierra have previously filed with the SEC. These documents contain important information about the companies. You should read this document together with the documents incorporated by reference.

Umpqua SEC Filings

1. Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005.
2. Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on March 21, 2006; March 10, 2006; March 8, 2006; February 8, 2006; January 25, 2006; and January 4, 2006.
3. The description of Umpqua common stock contained in the registration statement filed by Umpqua pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act, and any amendment or reports filed for the purpose of updating that description.

Western Sierra SEC Filings

1. Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005.
2. Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on February 13, 2006; February 8, 2006; and February 3, 2006.
3. The description of Western Sierra common stock set forth in the registration statement filed pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating that description.

Western Sierra (File No. 0-25979) and Umpqua (File No. 0-25597) incorporate by reference any documents that they may file under the Exchange Act with the SEC between the date of this document and the dates of their respective shareholder meetings. These include periodic reports, such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, as well as proxy statements.

Western Sierra has supplied all information contained or incorporated by reference in this document relating to Western Sierra, and Umpqua has supplied all such information relating to Umpqua.

Documents incorporated by reference are available from the companies without charge, excluding all exhibits unless specifically incorporated by reference as an exhibit to this document. Umpqua or Western Sierra shareholders may obtain documents incorporated by reference into this document by requesting

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them in writing or by telephone from the appropriate company at the following addresses and telephone numbers:

Umpqua Holdings Corporation
Michelle Bressman, Investor Relations
Umpqua Bank Plaza
One SW Columbia Street, Suite 1200
Portland, OR 97258
(503) 727-4109
michellebressman@umpquabank.com

Western Sierra Bancorp
Patrick J. Rusnak, Executive Vice President
and Chief Operations Officer
4080 Plaza Goldorado Circle
Cameron Park, CA 95682
(530) 698-2286
prusnak@wsnb.com

Umpqua and Western Sierra make all of their SEC filings available on their respective web sites <http://www.umpquaholdingscorp.com> and <http://www.westernsierrabancorp.com>.

If you would like to request documents from either company, please do so by May 16, 2006 to receive them before the shareholder meeting. If you request any incorporated documents from us, we will mail them to you within one business day of your request by first-class mail, or similar means.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this document to vote your shares at the shareholder meeting. Umpqua and Western Sierra have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different from what is contained in this document.

This document is dated April 12, 2006. You should not assume that the information contained in this document is accurate as of any date other than that date, and neither the mailing of this document to shareholders nor the issuance of Umpqua common stock in the merger will create any implication to the contrary.

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APPENDIX A

AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF REORGANIZATION

by and among

Umpqua Holdings Corporation,

Umpqua Bank,

Western Sierra Bancorp,

Auburn Community Bank,

Central California Bank,

Lake Community Bank, and

Western Sierra National Bank

February 7, 2006

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