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*The newsletter of the non-profit WI&M Ry HPG. Organized for railroad historians, enthusiasts, and modelers interested in the Washington, Idaho & Montana Railway, from its origins in 1905 through it's ownership of today.*

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Mission Statement of the Washington, Idaho & Montana Railway History Preservation Group:

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"To locate, preserve, and archive all items of a historical nature relating to the history of the WI&MRy; to issue publications on this and related subjects; to encourage public interest in the history of the WI&M and the Potlatch Lumber Company; and, to acquire objects and property appropriate for a museum and/or any of the purposes listed above."

# THE WHITE PINE ROUTE QUARTERLY

**The Washington, Idaho & Montana Railway  
History Preservation Group, Inc.**



**The Potlatch Depot** is awaiting its restoration and renovation into an integral part of Potlatch daily life. This February 10 digital photo was included in the \$500,000 Depot Enhancement application delivered to the Idaho Transportation Dept. on February 16. *HPG*

## **Y1K—WATCO AGREES TO SELL DEPOT PROPERTY TO THE HPG FOR \$1000**

The WI&M Ry History Preservation Group received word on February 16, 2001 that Ed McKechnie, Watco's Director of Government Affairs, had negotiated a price of \$1000 for our purchase of the Potlatch WI&M depot.

He also stated that Watco would donate the adjacent property as detailed in Addendum C and D of the Potlatch Depot business plan. This "house track" property will allow the depot to be moved and provide parking areas and a walking path. It lies between the Palouse River & Coulee City mainline and State Highway 6. It is 140' in width, less highway and rail-

road right of ways, providing usable property of 100' in width and 1365' in length (approximately 3 acres). The north and south boundaries are the centerlines of Ninth and Fifth streets.

The HPG received the letter signed by Mr. McKechnie from Watco Companies, Inc., dated February 16, which stated in part: "The selling price will be \$1000 with the balance of the property's fair market value to be considered a donation to the depot's restoration effort. The legal description of said property and the conditions of sale will be sent in additional correspondence."