NORTHWEST PIPE CO Form SC 13G February 12, 2003

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)*

Northwest Pipe Company

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

667746101

(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2002

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

[X] Rule 13d-1(b)
[_] Rule 13d-1(c)
[_] Rule 13d-1(d)

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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13G

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1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Liberty Wanger Asset Management, L.P. 36-3820584

Z. CHECK THE	APPI	ROPRIALE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*	(a) [_] (b) [_]
Not App	licak	ple	
3. SEC USE C	NLY		
4. CITIZENSH	IP OF	R PLACE OF ORGANIZATION	
Delawar	e		
NUMBER OF	5.	SOLE VOTING POWER	
SHARES		None	
BENEFICIALLY	6.	SHARED VOTING POWER	
OWNED BY		395,000	
EACH	7.	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	
REPORTING		None	
PERSON	8.	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER	
WITH		395,000	
9. AGGREGATE	AMOU	JNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTIN	G PERSON
395,000			
10. CHECK BOX	IF :	THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDE	S CERTAIN SHARES*
Not App	licak	ole	[-]
11. PERCENT C	F CLA	ASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9	
6.0%			
12. TYPE OF R	EPOR'	TING PERSON*	
IA			
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^{1.} NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

S.S OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) WAM Acquisition GP, Inc. 2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) [_] (b) [_] Not Applicable 3. SEC USE ONLY 4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware NUMBER OF 5. SOLE VOTING POWER SHARES None BENEFICIALLY 6. SHARED VOTING POWER OWNED BY 395,000 EACH 7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER REPORTING None PERSON SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 8. WITH 395,000 9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 395,000 10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* [-] Not Applicable 11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 6.0% 12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

CO

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1. NAME OF RES.S. OR I		G PERSON DENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON					
Liberty	Acorn	Trust					
2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) [_] (b) [_]							
Not Appl	licable						
3. SEC USE ON	NLY						
4. CITIZENSH	IP OR P	LACE OF ORGANIZATION					
Massachı	ısetts						
NUMBER OF	5. S	OLE VOTING POWER					
SHARES		None					
BENEFICIALLY	6. S	HARED VOTING POWER					
OWNED BY		395,000					
EACH	7. S	OLE DISPOSITIVE POWER					
REPORTING		None					
PERSON	8. S	HARED DISPOSITIVE POWER					
WITH		395,000					
9. AGGREGATE	AMOUNT	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON					
395,000							
10. CHECK BOX	IF THE	AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN	SHARES*				
Not App	licable		[-]				
11. PERCENT OF	F CLASS	REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9					
6.0%							

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

IV

Item 1(a)	Name of	of Issuer:			
		Northwe	st Pipe Company		
Item 1(b)	Address	of Issue	r's Principal Executive Offices:		
		Suite 1	W. Market Street 800 d, OR 97201		
Item 2(a)	Name of Person Filing:				
		WAM Acq	Wanger Asset Management, L.P. ("WAM") uisition GP, Inc., the general partner of WAM M GP") Acorn Trust ("Acorn")		
	- 11				
Item 2(b)	2(b) Address of Principal Business Office:				
		WAM, WA	M GP and Acorn are all located at:		
			t Monroe Street, Suite 3000 , Illinois 60606		
Item 2(c)	Citizens	zizenship:			
		GP is a	a Delaware limited partnership; WAM Delaware corporation; and Acorn is a usetts business trust.		
Item 2(d)	Title of	f Class of Securities:			
		Common	Stock		
Item 2(e)	CUSIP Nu	Number:			
		6677461	01		
Item 3	Type of	Person:			
		(d)	Acorn is an Investment Company under section 8 of the Investment Company Act.		
		(e)	WAM is an Investment Adviser registered under section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940; WAM GP is the General Partner of the Investment Adviser.		

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Item 4	Ownership (at December 31, 2002):				
	(a)	Amount owned "beneficially" within the meaning of rule 13d-3:			
		395,000			
	(b)	Percent of class:			
		6.0 % (based on 6,550,878 shares outstanding as of November 11, 2002).			
	(c)	Number of shares as to which such person has:			
		(i)	sole power to vote or to direct the vote: none		
		(ii)	shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 395,000		
		(iii)	sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: none		
		(iv)	shared power to dispose or to direct disposition of: 395,000		
Item 5	Ownership of Fiv	nership of Five Percent or Less of a Class: Not Applicable			
	Not App				
Item 6	Ownership of Mor	wnership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another erson:			
	acquire of WAM, WAM and dividen of, tho person from, a shares	The shares reported herein have been acquired on behalf of discretionary clients of WAM, including Acorn. Persons other than WAM and WAM GP are entitled to receive all dividends from, and proceeds from the sale of, those shares. Acorn is the only such person known to be entitled to all dividends from, and all proceeds from the sale of, shares reported herein to the extent of more than 5% of the class.			
Item 7		ntification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which uired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding pany:			
	Not App	olicable			
Item 8	Identification a	entification and Classification of Members of the Group:			
	Not App	olicable			
Item 9	Notice of Dissol	ution of Grou	p:		
	Not App	olicable			
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Item 10 Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 12, 2003

The undersigned corporation, on the date above written, agrees and consents to the joint filing on its behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with its beneficial ownership of the security reported herein.

WAM Acquisition GP, Inc.

for itself and as general partner of
LIBERTY WANGER ASSET MANAGEMENT, L.P.

By: /s/ Bruce H. Lauer

Bruce H. Lauer Senior Vice President and Secretary

The undersigned corporation, on the date above written, agrees and consents to the joint filing on its behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with its beneficial ownership of the security reported herein.

LIBERTY ACORN TRUST

By: /s/ Bruce H. Lauer

Bruce H. Lauer

Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary

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Exhibit Index

Exhibit 1

Joint Filing Agreement dated as of February 12, 2003 by and among Liberty Wanger Asset Management, L.P., WAM Acquisition GP, Inc. and Liberty Acorn Trust

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