

# VOICE of the WILD OLYMPICS

Olympic Park Associates

Founded in 1948



Volume 24  
Number 2  
Fall 2016

## Strong Public Support for Northwest Forest Plan

by Shelley Spalding



Photo by Louis Kirk. See back cover for further photo information.

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As we go to press with this issue of *Voice*, the scope and extent of impacts to the Northwest Forest Plan and important environmental laws from a republican in the White House and a GOP-controlled Congress is very much unsettled –and unsettling. Two important documents have recently been released that will help frame the coming discussions about our northwest forests.

*Continued on P. 3, Northwest Forest Plan*

OPA Meetings

Next: Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Place: Kingston Yacht Club

Regular Meetings Schedule: 4th Tuesday of odd-numbered months, except the 3rd Tuesday in November and no meeting in July.

OPA members are always welcome at Board meetings. Please join us.

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US House of Representatives, DC 20515

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www.herrerabeutler.house.gov

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www.kilmer.house.gov

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8 Rep. David G. Reichert (R)
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202-225-7761
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www.reichert.house.gov

9 Rep. Adam Smith (D)
2264 Russell HOB
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Renton 425-793-5180
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# Strong Public Support for Northwest Forest Plan

by Shelley Spalding

Continued from P. 3.



## Poll Results Show Strong Support for the Northwest Forest Plan

A key tool in protecting our magnificent forests is the Northwest Forest Plan. The Northwest Forest Plan is the science-based agreement that was struck to manage federal public lands, waters and old-growth forests in the Pacific Northwest.

A new poll revealed voters' priorities for the management of a 25-million-acre network of America's public lands, forests and rivers in Northern California, western Oregon, and western Washington. Survey respondents overwhelmingly supported public land management that prioritizes clean drinking water, water quality, and water supply protection, along with recreation and habitat protection for wildlife.

"The public lands in the Pacific Northwest contain most of the remaining ancient forests in the continental United States," said Denis Hayes, President of the Bullitt Foundation. "And these forests bring many benefits to the land and the people living nearby. Forest help regulate our climate, prevent erosion and act as water filters that collect and store water. These forests recharge underground aquifers that ultimately serve as drinking water, but they also contain vast biodiversity, greater than most other ecosystems on earth."

"Most everyone knows that water is essential for life to exist," said Lisa Grove, partner with Anzalone, Liszt, and Grove Research, who conducted the poll. "So it comes as no surprise that voters in the Pacific Northwest are telling us that protecting these sources of clean drinking water is very important to the quality of their lives. In fact, along with recreation and the protection of old-growth forests, water-related benefits are three of the top five values for which residents of the Pacific Northwest value their public lands. Voters put clean water and recreation as a much higher priority than extraction-based industries and the jobs they provide. They demand protection of this very basic and extremely valuable resource."

The telephone survey interviewed 600 registered voters in Washington, Oregon and California counties that fall within the Northwest Forest Plan region. Eighty-one percent of surveyed voters said protecting forests that are the sources of clean drinking water should be a top priority. In terms of new provisions for the Northwest Forest Plan, proposals that enhance recreation and restoration, protect water quality and old-growth forests were the most popular among those surveyed.

The poll highlights the growing need for elected officials, county leaders, and our federal land management agencies to work together in a coordinated, consistent way to protect the federal forest lands and waterways across the greater region covered by the Northwest Forest Plan. The goal of these protections is to ensure access to clean drink-

ing water, opportunities for recreation, and the traditional forest pastimes for local communities, recreationists, and future generations.

## Northwest Forest Plan Science Synthesis Is Available For Review and Comment

The United States Forest Service released for public and heightened peer review its anticipated science synthesis, which will inform potential revisions to the renowned Northwest Forest Plan.

Credentialed peer reviewers expect to complete their review by mid-February 2017. The science synthesis is available online at <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/research/science-synthesis/index.shtml>.

"We have learned a great deal about the public lands encompassed by the Northwest Forest Plan in the past 20 years of its application," said Nick Cady with Cascadia Wildlands. "While new information has surfaced – including, importantly, the impacts of climate change – many values endure, such as the importance of clean water, iconic wildlife such as salmon, and thriving forests to the residents of the Pacific Northwest. These principles remain as sound today as they were when the plan was written."

The topics addressed in the new science synthesis include old growth forest ecosystems, threatened and endangered terrestrial and aquatic species, climate change, socioeconomic considerations, scientific uncertainty, and restoration strategies, among many others. The Forest Service expects to publish a general technical report that encompasses the science synthesis.

"Healthy forests, lakes, and rivers are the backbone for the Pacific Northwest's exceptional recreation opportunities and the local economies supported by the recreation industry," said Katherine Hollis, Director of Conservation and Advocacy at The Mountaineers, "In Washington State alone, outdoor recreation employs 199,000 people and brings over \$2 billion in local and state taxes. The NWFP's science synthesis is a welcomed opportunity to study these socioeconomic benefits."

The public can provide input on the science content of the draft synthesis to the group of independent peer reviewers in two ways:

- From **November 10, 2016, through January 6, 2017:** Upload written input via <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/research/science-synthesis/index.shtml>.
- **On December 6, 2016:** Attend a public forum in Portland, Oregon, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Doubletree by Hilton Portland. The forum will also be broadcast live as a webinar, so interested parties outside of the Portland commuting area can participate. Additional information, along with a detailed agenda, is forthcoming and will be posted online at <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/research/science-synthesis/index.shtml>. For now, please save the date.

# We Mourn the Loss of Two Longtime OPA Board Members -



*Polly Dyer at her 90th Birthday party. Photo by North Cascades Conservation Council.*

## A Tribute to Polly Dyer: Wilderness Hero

1920 - 2016

Friends and fellow conservationists were saddened on November 20th by news of the death of OPA trustee and past president, Polly Dyer. Polly passed away in her sleep of natural causes. She was 96.

Polly was a legendary conservationist and a mentor and inspiration to generations of environmental activists. Her congenial approach combined with a fierce dedication to wildland preservation made her a force in Northwest conservation. Polly's devotion and hard work led to more than sixty years of conservation accomplishments. She helped found a half-dozen environmental organizations in the Northwest and she served as past-president and long-time trustee of OPA. She volunteered for years, thinking of herself as an ordinary citizen doing what she believed in passionately.

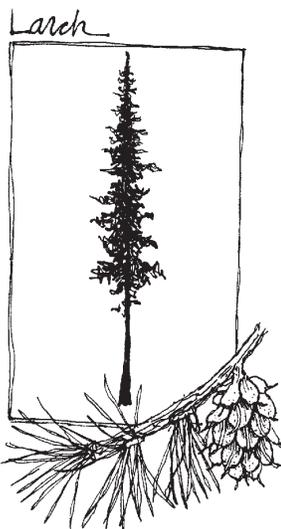
In the early 1950s, her husband, John, along with Polly, and Pat Goldsworthy, established a Northwest chapter of the Sierra Club – the first chapter outside of California. At the same time she served on a Governor's committee, as a minority conservation member, that resulted in *not* eliminating lowland rain forest valleys from Olympic National Park. Later she joined the OPA board and helped stop salvage logging in Olympic National Park.

Polly also helped establish the North Cascades Conservation Council, hosting board meetings in her living room, and helped to build the movement to create North Cascades National Park and surrounding complex. As president of OPA, Polly co-organized the two Olympic Coast hikes led by Justice William O. Douglas that kept the Olympic coast roadless.

In the 1960s Polly organized and testified in Washington D.C. to pass the landmark 1964 Wilderness Act and create Glacier Peak Wilderness. She wrapped up that decade with the bill that created North Cascades National Park.

In the mid-1960's, she began organizing the Northwest Wilderness Conferences. These conferences were held every other year for forty years, and drew participants from around the country. They highlighted the areas in the Northwest that needed protection and the problems in maintaining wilderness.

In the 1970s, as OPA president, Polly was instrumental in getting Shi Shi Beach, Point of the Arches, and the east shore of Lake Ozette added to Olympic National Park.



*Polly with a giant Douglas fir in the "Polly Dyer Grove," threatened with removal for a new road around the Dosewallips Road washout. Photo by Tim McNulty.*



## - Two Great Women Leaders in the Conservation World

In the 1980s Polly helped found Mount Rainier National Park Associates, and served on their board for a number of years. She helped pass the Washington Wilderness Act, which protected over a million acres of National Forest wilderness, including some 90,000 acres in Olympic National Forest. She worked with Senator Dan Evans to pass the Washington Parks Wilderness Act, which protected 95% of Olympic, North Cascades, and Mount Rainier National Parks as Wilderness.

In the early 1990s, after a half-century of conservation work, Polly showed no signs of slowing down. She helped pass the Elwha River Ecosystem Restoration Act which eventually removed two salmon-destroying dams on the Elwha River. And she helped create the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary and founded the Olympic Coast Alliance.

Polly's accomplishments were well recognized. She received more than a dozen awards from national and regional conservation organizations over her long career. Her honors included the 1979 Washington Environmental Council's Environmental Protection Award, and a decade later the National Parks Conservation Association's prestigious Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Award. In 2014 she received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Western Washington University for her work in conservation. On Polly's 90th birthday the mayor of Seattle proclaimed it "Polly Dyer Day." At her birthday party at The Mountaineers, Polly credited her beloved husband John (1911-2008) who supported her lifetime of activism.

As environmental historian, Mary Joy Breton wrote in *Women Pioneers for the Environment*, "Many people in Washington insist that the state's map would look much different today if it were not for Polly Dyer's years of volunteer work."

Polly's life and example continue to inspire us at OPA as she does for conservationists throughout the Northwest and the country.

A memorial gathering will be held in late spring or early summer.

## Laura Zalesky: Firm Hand in a Velvet Glove

by Donna Osseward, President, OPA

Olympic Park Associates has lost another of its hardest working and most passionate members. Laura handled OPA's membership rolls for more years than she and we can remember. But she was more than the Membership Chair. She cared about Olympic National Park. She and her husband, Phil, hiked and climbed in the park and came to personally know the birds, plants, animals, and geologic wonders by being there.

Laura, like her husband, Phil, was a teacher in the Everett School system. Her grade school students received the compassion she gave to all. She cared about wilderness as a place for the birds and animals, as a store of nature's bounty, a place to see and feel nature unencumbered by human-made noise and activity.

Born in California, Laura grew up in Klamath, Oregon, and lived most of her life in Everett. She died May 18, 2016 at 92 years of age. She was quick witted, caring, and dedicated to preserving wilderness. She and Phil hosted work parties to map areas that needed preservation, to strategize the political moves for saving nature, and even to help write the Wilderness Act of 1964. In 2000 Laura and Phil were honored by The Land Conservancy in Snohomish for their work in establishing the Snohomish Land Trust.

Olympic Park Associates will miss Laura's wisdom, reminders of past campaigns and lessons learned. Those of us who worked with her will dearly miss her passion, humanity, empathy, and sense of humor.

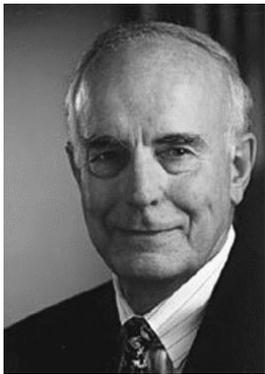


Laura Zalesky, here with her late husband, Phil. Photo by Andy Rogers of the Everett Herald.



# Congress Moves to Honor Dan Evans

by Tim McNulty



Governor Daniel J. Evans

With the exception of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, for whom creation of Olympic National Park was a top priority, no other elected official has done more to protect the wilderness of the Olympics than former Washington governor and U.S. senator, Daniel J. Evans.

Earlier this year, Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell and Representative Derek Kilmer introduced bills in the Senate and House to rename Olympic National Park's Olympic Wilderness as the Daniel J. Evans Wilderness. This fall the bill passed the Senate. It awaits action in the House.

Senator Evans grew up hiking in the Olympic Mountains and his deep love for the Olympics expressed itself in a remarkable run of legislation protecting the Park and National Forest wild lands.

As governor, Evans put together the agreement that led to legislation adding spectacular Shi Shi Beach, Point of the Arches, and the southern and eastern

shores of Lake Ozette to Olympic National Park. Today Shi Shi is the most popular backpacking designation on the Olympic coast.

As U.S. senator, Evans was instrumental in passing the 1984 Washington Wilderness Act, which brought permanent protection to nearly a million acres of the state's most outstanding wild lands, including five new Wilderness Areas in Olympic National Forest.

Senator Evans redrew boundaries for Olympic National Park to conform to watershed divides in a 1986 law that added ecologically sensitive areas and coastal intertidal lands to the Park. And of course he was the guiding sponsor of the 1988 act that designated vast sweeps of Wilderness in Washington's three national parks, including the 1,370-square-mile Olympic Wilderness.

For this – and for much more – visitors to Olympic National Park today owe a deep debt of gratitude to Daniel J. Evans.

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## Wild Fish are Returning to the Free-flowing Elwha

Good news continues to flow from the restored Elwha River. This fall, increasing numbers of chinook and sockeye salmon, summer-run steelhead, and bull trout made it above the former Glines Canyon dam site to spawn in the upper watershed.

A summer snorkel survey between Rica and Glines canyons revealed adult chinook, sockeye, and steelhead there. Sockeye were seen spawning near Boulder Creek in the bed of former Lake Mills. A later survey between Hayes River and Elkhorn in the upper watershed found chinook, summer steelhead, and bull trout. Data are still being processed, but as of late September some 70 chinook passed above the upper dam site.

Radio telemetry tagging also tracked returning fish throughout the watershed. One bull trout tagged near the river mouth was tracked 16 miles upstream to the river's confluence with the Goldie.

Rockfall that had blocked part of the river to salmon was removed by blasting last fall, and fish are now coming home to the upper Elwha in swelling numbers.

Other fish are returning to the lower portion of the undammed Elwha. Pink, coho, and chum salmon, and Pacific lamprey were observed above the lower Elwha dam site. OPA members reported seeing spawning chinook in the river reach between the two former dams.

Fish populations are now the highest they've been in the Elwha in 30 years, and this is before any of the out-migrating smolt salmon have returned as spawners.

The recovery has attracted international attention. In September, the Elwha restoration team was awarded the 2016 Thiess International Riverprize for the collaborative work of federal agencies and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe in restoring the river.



# Forty Years Later, Shi Shi Beach & Point of the Arches Shine a Beacon of Hope for the Future

by Tim McNulty

This year, 2016, is an important year for Olympic National Park, beyond the Park Service's centennial. Forty years ago, an unlikely coalition of local activists, urban conservationists, distinguished Northwest artists, legislators both Democratic and Republican, and timber land owners coalesced to preserve a spectacular reach of Olympic Peninsula coastline, Shi Shi Beach and Point of the Arches.

Prior to that, the seven-mile stretch of coast between the Makah Reservation and Cape Alava was owned by a half-dozen timber companies. Adjoining lands were being actively logged, and roads and clearcuts were moving relentlessly toward the coast.

A decade earlier, Clallam County identified Shi Shi as a potential site for a county park. Negotiations for land exchanges commenced. Acquisitions increased when Dr. Harry Lydiard, a veterinarian and old-school Republican conservationist, was elected to the County board of commissioners.

At the same time, a number of prominent Northwest artists began visiting the remote and little-known shoreline. These included sculptor and painter George Tsutakawa (known worldwide for his sculpted fountains), fine-art photographer Johsel Namkung, sculptor Richard Beyer (creator of the much-loved *Waiting for the Interurban* sculpture in Seattle), and poet Robert Sund. Through their works and shared enthusiasms the beauty of Shi Shi and Point of the Arches was introduced to the Seattle conservation community.

By 1970 an Olympic Park Associates proposal for a Point of the Arches National Seashore was gaining favor among conservation organizations and caught the interest of Senator Henry "Scoop" Jackson.

Still, the logging of the coastal plain north, east, and south of Lake Ozette proceeded apace.

It was about that time that I was mustered into the campaign to save this last reach of wild Olympic coastline. Photographer Steve Johnson, Robert Sund, Peninsula College botany professor Ed Tisch, and others had started a letter-writing campaign to build support for saving the coast as part of Olympic National Park. Steve Johnson in particular worked tirelessly, sending impassioned letters paired with his stunning black-and-white photographs to senators, congressmen, agency officials, local government representatives, conservation organizations, timber company executives...anyone he thought could help. He frequently followed his missives with personal meetings.

By the early 1970s Steve's efforts began to yield some results. He recruited U.S. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas to the effort as well as Washington Justice James Dolliver, then chief of staff to Governor Daniel J. Evans.

It was a disorganized and scattershot approach to be sure, mounted by a scruffy band of environmental greenhorns. But when Olympic National Park conducted its master plan hearings in November of 1973, Steve's work helped insure that Peninsula College's Little Theater was filled.

Representatives from Olympic Park Associates, Sierra Club, The Mountaineers, and other Seattle-based conservation organizations joined speakers from the Olympic Conservation Council, Klahhane Club, and local "unaffiliated" advocates in making a strong case for adding Shi Shi, Point of the Arches, and the east shore of Lake Ozette to Olympic National Park. When the Park released its mas-



*Shi Shi Beach, Point of the Arches. Photo by Chuck Easton.*

ter plan the following year, those areas were identified as priority future acquisitions.

It's a long trek from grass-roots organizing to permanent land protection. Then as now it depends on collaborative negotiations and bipartisan political support. Fortunately, Governor Evans took a personal interest in the area. He directed James Dolliver to meet with timber companies and find a feasible way forward. Conservationists didn't get all we were asking for -- we rarely do. But with the landowners on board, Evans and Dolliver drafted a bill that was introduced in the Senate by Scoop Jackson and in the House by Congressman Don Bonker.

So a bill...

- lobbied by country enthusiasts
- and their urban colleagues,
- drafted by a Republican governor and
- sponsored by two Democrats
- sailed through both houses. It was
- signed into law by a Republican president...

...40 years ago this year.

As we enter a time of deep uncertainty for wild lands and wild creatures -- as well as for the future of our planet -- it is worthwhile to remember how, in the past, good people have brought about good things.

# Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs Resolution on Despoiling Wilderness & National Park Values



[This resolution opposes the US Navy's plans to use the western Olympic Peninsula as a military electronic warfare range.]

In September 2016, at IslandWood, the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs adopted the following resolution.

## **Resolution 2016-5: Opposing Despoiling Wilderness & National Park Values on the Olympic Peninsula**

Submitted by Olympic Park Associates

### **Background**

Wilderness is the finest multiple-use of our land and water. Wilderness provides clean air and water to our land and people; gives a natural place for wildlife, native plants, and wild fish to live; protects genetic creations necessary for productive life in our future; makes available a place for appropriate human relaxation and recreation - recreation that does not render null and void the other values of wilderness. Over half of our pharmaceuticals come from the genetic material found in nature. Many agriculture advances come from nature. Wilderness preserves these critical elements necessary for future generations. One of our country's greatest assets is the wilderness that protects our creator's creations.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 preserves these values on "...undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable...."

The Forest Service permit would, by default, allow Navy planes to use the airspace over, or within a disruptive hearing distance, of designated wilderness on the Olympic peninsula. Specific wilderness areas affected are Olympic National Park's wilderness, USFWS Washington Islands Wilderness, and USDA Forest Service Colonel Bob Wilderness.

It would also use the airspace over the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, the Washington Islands National Wildlife Refuges, three Indian Reservations, Washington State Department of Natural Resources land, two towns, and thousands of acres of private land.

### **Resolution**

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs opposes any activities by government or citizens that would despoil any of the many values of wilderness including solitude by noise pollution created by aircraft.

The FWOC appreciates and supports the men and women who serve in our armed forces. It opposes training activities that would compromise wilderness values and the health or wellbeing of its citizens. The FWOC therefore, opposes the granting of permits by any government agency that would dilute the values of designated wilderness or cause health damage to its citizens. FWOC opposes the use of air craft over designated wilderness and national park airspace lower than 30,000 feet.

**Specifically, FWOC opposes the USDA Forest Service giving a permit to the U.S. Navy to use Forest Service land for deploying electromagnetic emitters on trucks on its Olympic National Forest roads.**

## OPA Welcomes Gordon Hempton to Our Board



At the September meeting OPA was happy to welcome Gordon Hempton to the Board of Directors. Gordon is an acoustic ecologist who has tracked down and collected rare sounds from nature all over the globe.

Hempton is the founder of One Square Inch, a "sanctuary of silence" concept arising from his discovery in the Hoh rainforest of what he believes may be the quietest place on earth. One Square Inch encourages the celebration of the absence of noise.

# Enchanted Valley Chalet Plans Elicit Flood of Comments

by *Tristan Baurick, Kitsap Sun, November 13, 2016.*

*[This is an edited version of a longer story that appeared in the Kitsap Sun, used with permission.]*

A log chalet that has charmed backcountry hikers for generations may have worn out its welcome. A flood of emails and letters sent to Olympic National Park tilt heavily in support of a plan to tear down the Enchanted Valley Chalet. Hundreds of comments favor removing the one human-made structure in an otherwise wild landscape.

Olympic National Park has received about 1,400 letters and emails since June, when the park announced it would seek a "final" solution for the 85-year-old chalet. Park spokeswoman Barb Maynes said the chalet generated more comments than any other issue in recent memory — more even than the controversial proposal to remove nonnative mountain goats.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the three-story, 10-room chalet is considered an icon of Olympic National Park. It

sits more than 14 miles from the nearest road in a scenic valley of waterfalls and glacier-capped peaks.

The chalet is threatened by the shifting course of the Quinault River. Building preservationists moved the chalet in September 2014, but the river quickly narrowed the distance. Less than 30 feet remain.

The park is considering three options for the chalet:

- Do nothing and let nature take its course.
- Take it apart before it tips into the river.
- Move the chalet another 450 feet to higher ground beyond the Quinault's floodplain.

Comments on the options streamed in from 105 cities in 48 states and 12 countries, including Australia, South Africa and the United Kingdom. About 30 percent

of the input came from Washington State.

Park staff analyzed the range of opinions and divided them among 30 topics. More than 500 comments advocated restoring the valley's "natural conditions." About 460 want the chalet dismantled and its materials reused, while 420 want it torn down and burned at the site.

About 125 comments backed the plan to move the chalet.

The lengthy, federally mandated assessment process the park must follow puts a final decision somewhere around spring 2018. The river appears to have let up on the chalet, at least for now. "But all it takes is a tree to fall and a log jam is created and reshapes the flow of the river. You never know. It's a very fluid, dynamic situation." Maynes said.

## Shell Anacortes Drops Oil-by-Rail Plan

Shell Oil has cancelled their proposal to build a crude-oil-by-rail facility at their refinery in Anacortes, thanks to people power.

Washington State's public environmental review process has issued an environmental statement that raised many disastrous impacts, such as oil spills into waterways, unavoidable derailments, and fires.

Stand Up To Oil, a coalition of concerned citizens and environmental organizations, worked for two years to force Shell and Skagit County to undertake a full environmental and public health review under the State Environmental Policy Act. That delay, growing lo-

cal and regional opposition, and uncertain economics contributed to Shell's decision.

"This is an extraordinary victory for the people of Skagit County and Washington State," said Kristen Boyles, an attorney at Earthjustice who represented conservation groups in their legal challenge. "Having a full and transparent public process exposed everyone — including apparently Shell itself — to the risks and harms of this project."

"Communities from Skagit County to Spokane can breathe a little easier knowing they won't be subjected to more dangerous oil train derailments, oil spills into our

waterways, pollution, and blocked traffic. There is overwhelming opposition to these types of projects, and today we celebrate the power of people," said Rebecca Ponzio, Oil Campaign Director at Washington Environmental Council. "This is a win for our communities, our waterways, and our climate."

"The writing was on the wall for Shell," said Alex Ramel of Stand.earth. "In the last two weeks two oil trains projects have been denied by city and county decision makers in California. From California to the Northwest, communities are saying no to dangerous oil trains."



# Know Before your Go: Sanitation in the Woods

by Tom Bihn, OPA Board.

“With a small garden trowel dig a *cathole* six to eight inches deep and four to six inches in diameter. Mix in dirt and cover, attempting to disguise the hole with brush and ground cover.”

*National Park Service, Wilderness Guidelines and Regulations*

**“YOU SHALL HAVE A PLACE OUTSIDE THE CAMP, AND YOU SHALL GO OUT TO IT. AND YOU SHALL HAVE A TROWEL WITH YOUR TOOLS, AND WHEN YOU SIT DOWN OUTSIDE, YOU SHALL DIG A HOLE WITH IT AND TURN BACK AND COVER UP YOUR EXCREMENT.”**

**DEUTERONOMY 23:12-13**

To whichever authority you defer, burying human waste is the right thing to do. Every hiker, whether just out for the day or on an extended trip into the wilderness, knows that eventually nature will call, and it’s your duty to be prepared.

## Just to make sure y’all know:

It is **NOT OK** to deposit human waste...

- within sight of a trail,
- or campsite,
- or within 200 feet of rivers or lakes.

It is **NOT OK** to simply cover it up with a rock or leaves.

It needs to get **BURIED**.

**Human waste**, surprisingly enough, *does not simply dissolve* the next time it rains; likewise, there are no ranger Poo-Patrols coming round to clean things up after you’ve gone. Some animals will dine on it and spread disease (yuck).

**Toilet Paper:** Either bury the toilet paper too, or pack that out. Certain rules apply to certain areas, so it’s best to *know before you go*, so to speak.

Using unscented, minimally processed tissue will allow for faster breakdown; recycled (“brown”) tissue is less visually intrusive than bright white, in the unfortunate event your cathole gets dug up by wildlife or is otherwise disturbed (yuck).

It’s up to all of us, which means it’s up to you, to **Leave No Trace**.

I offer here a short review of some of the commercially available trowels designed more-or-less to dig the aforementioned “cathole”. We’re not endorsing any of these, just letting the reader know some options. We are endorsing, however, carrying some sort of trowel and the strict use of catholes for the disposal of human waste in any backcountry area that lacks an official privy.



### Coughlan’s 2 oz, \$3, orange plastic

The ubiquitous orange plastic trowel is a fine option for occasional use. Mine is cracked, but it’s also at least ten years old, so I can’t really say there’s a quality issue, but it has let me down in rocky soil.



### TentLab Deuce of Spades 0.6 oz, \$20, thin edge aerospace aluminum

This all-aluminum trowel works well, and its incredible light weight gives you no excuse to leave it behind. Comes in a rainbow of sexy colors, which is cool; costs about five lattes at Starbucks.



### GSI Cathole trowel 3 oz, \$5, recycled plastic

At REI, 1% of sales of this goes to support Leave No Trace™. Five stars from a Leave No Trace Master Educator. “Such a great improvement over the orange trowel....We give it to all our LNT Trainers.” Serrated edges helpful in rocky soil.



### The U-Dig-It® Pro, 5 oz, \$15 stainless steel, folding handle, stuff sack.

The workhorse of this lineup -- the best choice if you’re tasked with digging a privy for a small group (is that a “cats’ hole”?). It can’t be accused of being light weight, but when we consider all the other stuff of questionable utility we tend to carry, a third of a pound might squeak by.

## Book Review

# Wolf Haven: Sanctuary and the Future of Wolves in North America

Photographs by Annie Marie Musselman, essay by Brenda Peterson.

Sasquatch Books, Seattle, 2016. \$24.95

Reviewed by LLyn De Danaan

Our relationship to wilderness can change instantly. It can overtake us in a moment of crisp, clear understanding of what we must do to save our natural world. For Aldo Leopold that moment came as he beheld the, “fierce green fire dying” from the eyes of a wolf that he and a band of young Forest Service employees had shot. Something he saw in those eyes changed his life and helped mold his conservation ethics and mission in life, he writes, in *Thinking Like a Mountain*. It was something that defied domestication but instead lived “self-willed.” This story is recounted by Brenda Peterson in the linked essays that accompany the beautiful collection of Annie Marie Musselman’s photographs in the book, *Wolf Haven: Sanctuary and the Future of Wolves in North America*.

The book is an homage to Wolf Haven and its work as much as to the wolves. The 82 acre Wolf Haven sanctuary in Tenino, Washington has provided homes for 200 displaced or captive-born wolves since 1982. Wolves, classified as a keystone species and top predator, have been hunted and killed as “pests” and “nuisances” for 500 years by European and Euro-American ranchers, farmers, and developers. Yet some have survived the ravages of prejudice and development. Wolf Haven has done its part to protect them and rehabilitate their reputation.

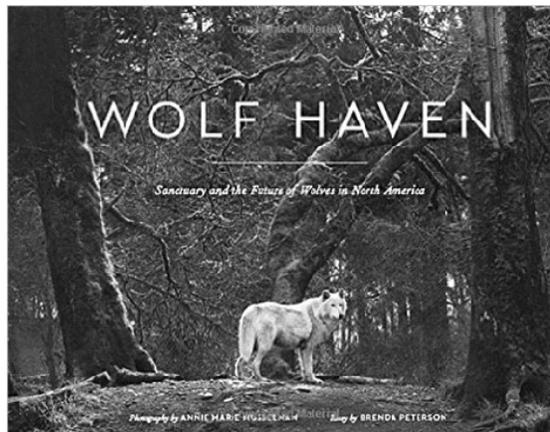
Indigenous peoples had a different thought about wolves. Northwest people, including those on the Olympic Peninsula, “celebrate Wolf as a spirit guide, family member, and mentor,” honoring its loyalty to protecting and feeding its family. It is a belief contrary to that held by many who see them as fair game.

Yet some of us raised outside the wisdom world of traditional cultures have seen deep into their eyes and do what we can to champion them. Peterson recounts successful reintroduction stories and

emphasizes the surprising ways in which wolves have helped to restore ecosystems. Still, in many places, wolf hunting is rampant. “The war against the wolf still rages,” though longitudinal research by scientists at Washington State University demonstrates that “killing wolves actually increases predation of livestock.”

El Lobo, the Mexican Grey Wolf, was nearly extinct. Wolf Haven has been involved, with others, in a loving attempt to breed and restore their populations. A significant portion of the book is devoted to that story and to the engaging photographs of Grey Wolf pups.

The photographs of wolves in their sanctuary, many of them compelling portraits of individual creatures, may occupy the casual reader for hours. However, the book is also a beautiful introduction to our complex history with a magnificent animal and all the good reasons to embrace and celebrate it.



### Recommended reading:

*The Wolf's Tooth: Keystone Predators, Tropic Cascades, and Biodiversity*, by Cristina Eisenberg

*A Sand County Almanac*, by Aldo Leopold

*Among Wolves*, by Gordon Haber and Marybeth Holleman

*Decade of the Wolf: Returning the Wild to Yellowstone*, by Douglas W. Smith and Gary Ferguson

*Wolfer: A Memoir*, by Carter Niemeyer



# Voice of the Wild Olympics

Sally W. Soest, Editor

Olympic Park Associates  
PO Box 27560  
Seattle, WA 98165-2560

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### Cover Photo:

“A year or two(?) ago all the interpretive displays were removed from the Hoh Visitor Center and someone, knowing that I am the person standing under the mossy maple to lend scale, thought that rather than dumping it, I might like to have it. Louis Kirk, Assistant Park Naturalist in the 1960s, took the picture—a 4x5-inch Ektachrome transparency.

“At the time, park field personnel sometimes originated exhibits rather than their coming from regional centers. The shelf with animal tracks is one rain forest display that I can’t help but wish had been kept in the current Hoh visitor center. It let people know what to watch for, and it did so by having them use their fingers as well as their eyes. The impressions of tracks were made from casts I’d taken while staying alone for a week at the patrol cabin eight miles farther up the Hoh, Every evening after supper, I’d walk along the trail or out on the river bar, carrying plaster of Paris that I’d mix and pour into tracks as I found them. It sets up quickly and on my return to cabin, I’d collect the casts. Of course the aim was to have tracks of all the residents of the Hoh, from elk and black bears to chickaree squirrels. Bobcats were almost a problem. It was my last evening before I found a bobcat track. As though a signature, it printed the trail a few yards from my cabin door. A hind foot left a particularly clear impression ideal for humans visiting the rain forest to touch.”

Ruth Kirk October 6, 2016, courtesy of Llyn DeDaanan.

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