

VOICE of the WILD OLYMPICS

Olympic Park Associates

Founded in 1948

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Contents

OPA Meetings	2
Congressional Contacts	2
NPS Will Fly Prefab Shelters into Wilderness	4
Park Service Ignores Wilderness Act	4
2004 Northwest Wilderness Conference	5
National Park Wilderness Is In Trouble	5
Monitoring the Olympic Coast	6
Robert L. Wood: In Memorium	7
Economic Serendipity	8
OPA Trustees Honored: Donna Osseward Polly Dyer John Anderson	9
Book Review: King of Fish	10
5th Annual Olympic Coast Cleanup	11
Protect the Peninsula's Future	12



Old-growth forest along the survey line for the bypass route around the Dosewallips road washout. Photo by Tim McNulty.

Conservationists Challenge Decision to Rebuild Dosewallips Road Through Ancient Forest

By Tim McNulty

If Dr. Edward Miles and his team of atmospheric scientists at University of Washington are correct, near-record floods like the ones experienced last fall in the Olympics and Cascades will become commonplace. Warmer, wetter winters will pitch Northwest rivers into flood stage with alarming frequency, exacting an increasing toll on roads, trails, bridges — and salmon. More and more, land managers will be faced with tough calls as recreational access clashes with resource protection.

In this sense, the controversy swirling around the Dosewallips River road may be a portent of things to come.

The upper Dosewallips road washed out in January of 2002, ten miles in from Highway 101 and five miles below the park service campground and trail head at road's end. The washout cut off motorized access to Elkhorn Campground in Olympic National Forest and Dosewallips Campground in Olympic National Park as well as the popular trail head to Anderson and Hayden passes.

Since then, Olympic National Forest has grappled with how to address the washout. Olympic Park Associates (OPA), Olympic Forest Coalition (OFCO) and several other environmental groups have urged the forest service to decommission the

(Continued on P. 3, Conservationists Challenge)

May Board Meeting: Time & Place Change

A special, all-day meeting in Sequim

Date: Saturday, May 15, 2004.

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Place: Dungeness River Audubon Center at Railroad Bridge Park, Sequim.

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

The regular OPA Board meetings are in the Kingston Community Center on the 4th Wednesday of odd-numbered months, except no meeting in July.

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From this number you can reach any member of the US Senate or House of Representatives.

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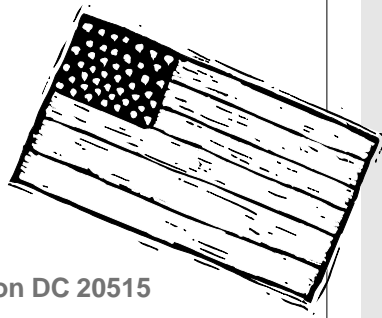
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Conservationists Challenge Decision on Dosewallips Road Washout

(Continued from P. 1.)

road at the washout and convert the upper road to a forest trail. A similar solution is being promoted for the problematic Carbon River road at Mount Rainier.

Local business interests and some recreationists want the forest service to rebuild the road. They say motorized access to the 20-site Elkhorn Campground and 30-site park service campground and trail heads are critical to the local economy. The rub — and it's a large one — is that road reconstruction poses unacceptable costs to endangered species, forests and fish. It is also in violation of the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan, the strongest legal protection we have for the old-growth forest ecosystem.

In March, Olympic National Forest announced their decision to construct a three-quarter mile bypass road up-slope from the washout. Unfortunately, the new road would cut a swath through a spectacular grove of ancient forest that borders the Buckhorn Wilderness, destroying more than 200 old-growth trees. This area has been identified as habitat for federally threatened spotted owls and marbled murrelets (though no recent surveys have been conducted). Further, bulldozing its steep, unstable slopes pose a threat to critical salmon habitat. Puget Sound chinook and Hood Canal chum salmon (both listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act) spawn in the Dosewallips. Coho salmon are known to spawn in an unnamed tributary just below the construction route.

OPA and OFCO plan to legally challenge this decision. We see the action as setting a dangerous precedent that will undermine the Northwest Forest Plan, and will further imperil wildlife and salmon stocks listed under the Endangered Species Act that occur along one of the Olympics' most spectacular wild rivers. While we are sympathetic to those who wish to drive to up-valley campgrounds and trail heads, we believe the environmental costs of rebuilding this road are just too severe.

In the decades before the creation of Olympic National Park, commercial interests pushed hard for a road across the Olympics. The Brinnon to Lake Quinault route was at the top of their list. Photographer Asahel Curtis was conscripted into the promotional effort, and by the 1930s CCC crews blasted a road up the steep grade of Dosewallips Falls to Muscott Flat. With the creation of Olympic National Park in 1938, road construction was thankfully halted.

This legacy of early road building abounds in the Olympics. Hikers today seldom notice that stretches of scenic hiking trails at Staircase, the North and East forks Quinault, Obstruction Point, Deer Park or Duckabush were at one time early roads. Trail conversions have lessened ecological impacts and created new recreational hiking opportunities that few regret. A Dosewallips trail would provide nearly year-round hiking, biking, and equestrian access through a magnificent valley forest. It would access two quiet, streamside campgrounds and a spectacular falls. After examining the options, we feel that this is by far the best choice for the Dosewallips.

The river seems to think so, too.

When floodwaters receded in 2002, the Dosewallips River had shifted its channel, flowing in a broad meander against a steep cutbank where the road had been. Soon after, salmon were seen spawning in the freshly deposited gravels. Last fall's floods extended the washout considerably.

The Forest Service released two environmental analyses over the past two years proposing to rebuild the road in its original lo-

cation using extensive rock riprap, fill, and constructed log jams. But during the agency's biological review, scientists determined that reconstruction would harm critical fish habitat and be in violation of aquatic conservation standards set forth in the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan. Last fall the agency withdrew plans to reconstruct the road in place.

The Northwest Forest Plan, which attempted to resolve the contentious issue of old growth logging on federal lands, identified the Dosewallips as a key watershed. As such, it is to be managed to preserve its native salmon, riparian forests and streamside habitats. Along with federally listed chinook and chum salmon, the river supports pink salmon and steelhead stocks that have been classified as "depressed" by state and tribal biologists. Federally listed bull trout may also be present.

The forest plan designates the upland forest as late-successional reserve, to be managed as habitat for old-growth and mature forest species, spotted owls and marbled murrelets among them. According to the forest service, road construction in reserves "is not generally recommended." The riverside forest is also a bald eagle management area.

The proposed bypass would construct a steep road grade across unstable hillsides, impact a coho salmon-spawning stream and destroy a four-acre swath of extraordinary old-growth forest. When OPA trustees visited the proposed bypass this past winter, we found several Douglas-firs larger than six feet in diameter. Impressive examples of western redcedar, western hemlock, and bigleaf maple were also present. Small fish were seen flitting through a tributary stream and there was sign that the forest was used by Roosevelt elk.

The Dosewallips forest exhibits all the characteristics of classic old-growth: a diversity of species and ages, a deep multi-storied canopy, standing snags for nest sites, and numerous down logs. We crossed several small streams tumbling down the mountainside, and bald eagles (feeding on spawning Coho salmon) sailed past along the river corridor.

Low-elevation forests like this have been identified throughout the Olympics as critical habitats for threatened spotted owls (which are declining rapidly in this part of their range), threatened marbled murrelets and other sensitive species. The Northwest Forest Plan is clear that old-growth forests in late successional reserves should be preserved.

We agree. OPA will continue its efforts to promote an ecologically sound and recreationally beneficial solution for the upper Dosewallips valley.

For background and updates on this issue, check OPA's web site

<www.drizzle.com/~rdpayne/opa.html>

and Olympic Forest Coalition's web site

<www.olympicforest.org>.



Dosewallips washout, looking west.

Park Decided to Fly Shelters In Next Fall



In January, Olympic National Park released its Shelter Repair Environmental Assessment (EA). The preferred alternative—after much public review but little consideration given to dissenting opinions—is to fly two prefabricated shelters to remote sites in the Olympic Wilderness. The flights will take place in October after the nesting season for northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets.

In our response, Olympic Park Associates contended that the EA's basic premise, that newly constructed shelters airlifted to subalpine sites are historic cultural features that enhance wilderness character, is deeply flawed.

We reminded the National Park Service that that the action is:

- unnecessary (under the National Historic Preservation Act),
- inappropriate (under the National Wilderness Act), and
- without justification (under NPS management directives).

The Wilderness Act specifically prohibits structures not essential for wilderness protection and management. The Historic Preservation Act allows structures to be documented and removed. And NPS Director's Order 41 states: "management actions affecting cultural resources in wilderness may include a variety of management options . . . and may include removal." These arguments were not adequately addressed in the EA, nor were they raised by other organizations. "[T]he decision in this document is how best to accomplish the proposed project, not whether to reconstruct these shelters or not." (EA, p. 8).

Olympic National Park's Shelter Establishment Criteria (1978) states: "Shelters will be located below mountain passes and subalpine areas to encourage the traveler to leave these risk areas during storms." And: "Shelters will

not be located in mountain passes, on lake shores, in meadows, or subalpine areas in order to protect the areas' fragile resources, or where they will intrude on outstanding scenery." Both shelter sites are subalpine, and Low Divide is a mountain pass. How did the EA get around these clear directives? The easy way. It didn't mention them.

The EA's minimum requirement worksheet, mandatory for actions that could impact wilderness character, is equally misleading. It justifies the project based on a 1974 document (language unspecified) and an unapproved draft wilderness plan (which is unmentioned elsewhere in the EA). It erroneously states that no aquatic resources are within 300 feet of the project zone(s) (there is a stream within 60 feet of the Home Sweet Home site). And, in a piece of logic that can only be described as Orwellian, the "no action" alternative, which would allow the sites of the former shelters return to natural conditions, is dismissed as having adverse impacts on wilderness. The impacts, understand, would be on the vanished shelters themselves.

The EA attempts to sell these shelters to the public based on their historic use as "safe haven" from rain and cold for "unprepared visitors." This is a dangerous departure from the park's long-established designation of shelters for emergency use only. The park's own shelter criteria (cited above) argue that emergency shelters are best place in lower forests to coax ill-prepared hikers out of high-risk areas. Placing new shelters there can have the opposite effect.

At a time when Olympic National Park faces close to a million dollars in storm damage to wilderness trails and bridges and administrative budget cuts that place essential interpretive and visitor service programs at risk this summer, the \$160,000 expenditure for this project suggests a distorted set of priorities. It also points to an incapacity on the part of Olympic to manage its world-class wilderness responsibly.

OPA's complete response to the Shelter Repair EA is available on our web site: <www.drizzle.com/~rdpayne/opa.html>.

Park Service Ignoring Letter & Spirit of the Wilderness Act.

From press release by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), January 24, 2004.

Less than 1/5 of wilderness parks [including Olympic National Park] have mandated wilderness management plans.... The Park Service is moving toward authorizing wholesale Wilderness Act violations by its own staff.

"The Park Service opposed its inclusion in the Wilderness Act forty years ago and acts

today like the Wilderness Act never applied to it," stated PEER Executive Director Jeff Ruch whose organization is litigating against and pressuring the Park Service to implement and enforce wilderness protections in parks across the country.

For more info: <www.peer.org>

2004 Northwest Wilderness Conference

The Next Forty Years?

Past Successes, Threats, & Lessons Learned

Celebrating the 40 Anniversary of the 1964 Wilderness Act,

Friday April 23rd - Saturday April 24th, 2004.

The Mountaineers Building

300 Third Avenue West

Seattle, Washington 9811

Registration and Information: <www.2004wilderness.org>



Highlights of Program

Friday

1964-2004 Successes, Continuing Threats, & Lessons Learned

- Introduction to Wilderness: Doug Scott
- Introduction to Native American Law
- Friday Keynote: Chris Morganroth III
- Regional Retrospective: Bob Freimark
- Three Themes: Threats, Opportunities and Values
- Grazing Buffet
- Some Fun! Wild evening, tall tales, special guest.

Saturday

Future Wilderness Visions

- Saturday Keynote: Elizabeth Furse
- Values and Opportunities: Diverse Perspectives on Wilderness
- The Future From the Past
- Making Wilderness a Public Issue
- The Next 40 Years: John Miles
- Honoring the Muries: Nancy Shea
- Banquet
- Banquet Keynote: Bill Meadows

Internal Memos Reveal Public Misled on Park Cuts

Employees Coached to Mislead News Media

Excerpted from March 17 press release from Coalition of Concerned National Park Service Retirees.

The National Park Service (NPS) has told park superintendents to reduce park maintenance and services, such as lifeguards on summer beaches and visitor center operations on Sundays and holidays, according to internal NPS memos. And the NPS coached park superintendents on how to mislead the news media and public about the cuts, to avoid “political controversy”.

[And to avoid the fate of U.S. Park Police Chief Teresa Chambers, who found herself on administrative leave in December after telling media that the Park Police had been forced to cut back on patrols because of a \$12 million budget shortfall. The Bush administration accused Chambers of breaking federal rules against public comment and lobbying.]

The NPS memo suggested to supervisors that “you state what the park’s plans are and not ... directly indicate that ‘this is a cut’ in comparison to last year’s operation.... [U]se the terminology of ‘service level adjustment’ due to fiscal constraints....”

Jeff McFarland, executive director of the Association of National Park Rangers, said, “The recent removal of the chief of the U.S.

Park Police [Teresa Chambers] sent a clear message to park superintendents — you may lose your job for telling the truth about your park budgets. As stewards of many of our nation’s most precious natural and cultural resources, we believe that national parks and the American people deserve better than this. The national parks do not belong to the federal government. They belong to the American people.”

An early example of the cuts: at Everglades, 20 percent of permanent staff positions, half of the staff that interact directly with the visiting public, and no evening programs.

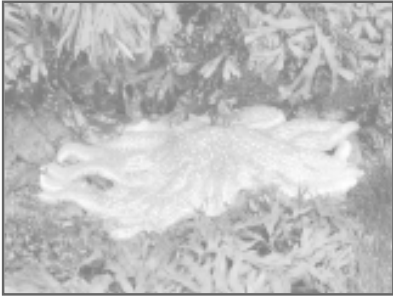
The Coalition of Concerned National Park Services Retirees has written to President Bush that “actions are being taken in the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service ... that are short-changing, ignoring or violating the long-standing legislation and policies comprising the mission of the National Park Service.” They asked him to halt efforts at the Interior Department to strip out its “conservation” mandate and, instead, to codify existing rules that already should make that mandate a top responsibility for the Department.

A point to ponder:

Is gutting the National Parks just another example of the Bush administration’s war against the environment? Or is it a symptom of a wider agenda that would bankrupt our nation’s public institutions and then privatize them?

Monitoring the Outer Olympic Coast

By Dr. Steven C. Fradkin, Coastal Ecologist, Olympic National Park



Chilean sun star, *Picnopodium helianthoides*, a sunflower seastar. Photos by Steven Fradkin.

The outer Olympic coast is an area of unparalleled beauty and biological richness, making Olympic National Park one of the jewels of the U.S. National Park Service. Once viewed as an area of dubious value, the intertidal zone of the coastal strip is now recognized as an ecologically important component of

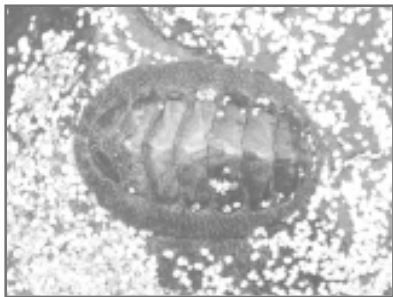
the Pacific Northwest marine ecosystem. The intertidal zone was officially added to the park in 1986, due in part to the advocacy of Olympic Park Associates. In 1988 the remote, rugged nature of the coast was recognized by the U.S. Congress when it designated most of the park coastline north of the Hoh River as Wilderness.

The 65-mile exposed coastline hosts a diverse array of habitats, from fine sand, gravel, and cobble beaches to boulder fields, rocky platforms, and drowned river mouth estuaries. The southern portion of the park is sand dominated, becoming more rocky as one moves northward. These habitats support one of the most diverse marine invertebrate and seaweed assemblages on the west coast of North America. More than 350 species of marine invertebrates and seaweeds, in addition to an estimated 80 species of fish, can be found in the Olympic intertidal.

Nearshore oceanographic processes help to structure both the physical and biological characteristics of the intertidal zone. Wave action and alongshore currents erode, distribute and sort sediments, in addition to dispersing larval stages. Coastal upwelling caused by summer north winds brings deep nutrient rich waters to the nearshore surface, fueling an incredibly productive marine foodweb. The distinct zonation of organisms apparent in the rocky intertidal is strongly influenced by both the differential physical tolerances of species to drying out and to competition for space and predation. The complex life-cycles of most of these intertidal organisms create a tight linkage between the intertidal zone and the nearshore coastal ocean.

A variety of stressors, such as oil spills, over-harvest, and global warming, have the potential to alter the fragile intertidal ecosystem. The National Park Service has a mandate to preserve park resources for the enjoyment of future generations

Woody chiton, *Mopalia lignosa*.



and to monitor long-term ecosystem trends to determine whether park resources are being impaired. A long-term ecological monitoring program has been implemented at Olympic National Park to gather basic information on park flora and fauna, and to determine the status and trends of key ecosystem indicator organisms and processes. In the intertidal zone, this program is being accomplished through the inventory of poorly known communities and monitoring of intertidal populations and communities. Examples of current inventory and monitoring coastal projects include:

- Intertidal Fish Inventory.** Over the past three years Olympic National Park has been conducting an inventory of intertidal fish in the park. Prior to this effort no systematic inventory of these peculiar fishes has been conducted. The intertidal zone is a harsh, wave-swept area that experiences variable periods of exposure and submersion. Many species of fish that live in this environment have evolved an array of behavioral and physical adaptations for dealing with the environmental rigors. Other species use the intertidal only when it is covered in water, or in their juvenile life-stages. Coast-wide sampling has focused on rocky shore tidepools and beach seine (net) sampling of sandy, cobble and rocky habitats. Eighteen coastal sites have been visited where 54 tidepools have been non-destructively sampled. Twelve coastal sites on the south coast have been sampled with a beach seine. Additional sites on the north coast will be inventoried this coming summer. To date, a total of 52 species have been verified to occur within the park intertidal. One species found at several sites along the coast, the spot-fin surfperch, had never been observed previously north of Seal Rock, Oregon.
- Intertidal Community Monitoring.** In response to coastal oil spills in the late 1980's and early 1990's preliminary monitoring of intertidal communities was begun to assess baseline conditions for oil spill damage assessment. In 1996 Olympic National Park implemented a long-term intertidal monitoring program to further determine baseline conditions for assessing natural trends and human effects on intertidal community structure in rocky platform, cobble, and sand beach habitats. Community monitoring in these habitats is conducted annually at 16 sites along the coast.
- Tube Worm Monitoring.** The rocky outcrops at

Continued on P. 7, Olympic Coast

Robert L. Wood

Olympic Writer, Photographer, and Hiker

1925 - 2003

Robert L. Wood was the first dues-paying member of Olympic Park Associates, back in 1947-48. Polly Dyer discovered this while browsing through one of OPA's founding officer's organizational files, now housed in the University of Washington's archives. When she told Bob, he was surprised to learn he was the "first". He also served as an at-large member of Olympic Park Associates' Board of Trustees in 1974-75, and for awhile was editor of OPA's newsletter, at that time called **Olympic Watchdog**.

Robert Wood was born in Missouri and came to the northwest at age 21 after a stint in the army during World War II. He fell in love with the mountains, lakes, and forests surrounding Puget Sound, and spent most of the rest of his life exploring and writing about the natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest, and especially the Olympics. He hiked their trails, studied their flora and fauna, and climbed Mt. Olympus 18 times.

Wood's books reflect his love of the Olympics. They range from historical accounts to hiking guides. He chronicled the 1889 exploration of the Olympics by the *Seattle Press* in *Across the Olympic Mountains: the Press Expedition, 1889-90*. His 1984 *Olympic Mountains Trail Guide* is in

its third printing and is still considered one of the best trail guides to the Olympics.

In later years Wood suffered from Parkinson's disease. His ashes were to be scattered on Mount Olympus.

Robert Wood can be credited with instilling the appreciation of wilderness in several generations of readers. That is a rich legacy.

Books by Robert L. Wood

Published by The Mountaineers Books.

Olympic Mountains Trail Guide: National Park and National Forest. 1984. (3rd edition, 2000.)

The Land that Slept Late: The Olympic Mountains in Legend and History. 1995

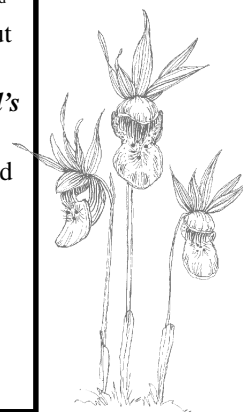
Across the Olympic Mountains: The Press Expedition, 1889-90. U of W Press, 1967. 2nd edition, The Mountaineers Books, 1989.) (Out of print.)

Men, Mules and Mountains: Lieutenant O'Neil's Olympic Expeditions. 1976. (Out of print.)

Trail Country: Olympic National Park. Foreword by John Osseward. 1968. (Out of print.)

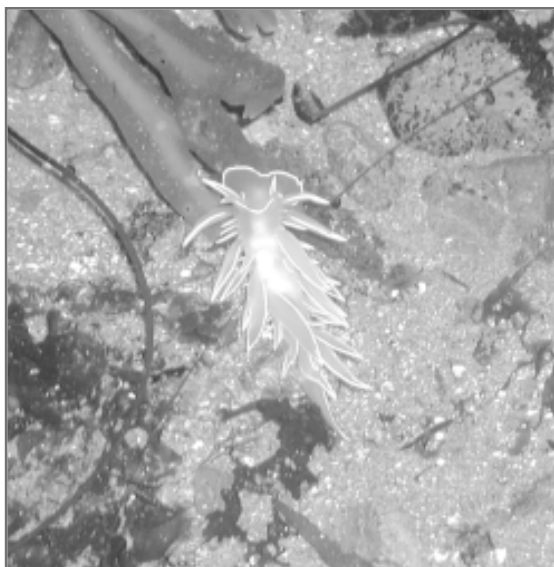
Wilderness Trails of Olympic National Park. 1970. (Out of print.)

[Note: some of the information in this story was taken from the **Seattle Times** obituary.]



Olympic Coast, *Continued from P. 6.*

Starfish Point in the southern portion of the park support numerous colonies of the parchment tubeworm, *Eudistylia vancouveri*. These colonies are a charismatic feature of the intertidal zone here, and provide a valuable refuge habitat for other intertidal organisms in this sand-blasted environment. However, very little is known about how long colonies persist, how they recruit, and how they grow or shrink over time. In the mid-1980's excessive bait collection by fishermen destroyed colonies and appeared to threaten the tubeworm population. A subsequent ban on bait collection has apparently reduced this threat. We are currently monitoring the recovery of the tubeworm population at Starfish Point to determine their status and to learn more about their population biology.



A beautiful nudibranch, *Dirona albolineata*.

Olympic National Park: Economic Serendipity

By Phil Zalesky, Secretary, Olympic Park Associates

In 1932 the Boone and Crockett Club asked provocative conservationist Willard van Name, a staff member of the American Museum of Natural History, to go to the Olympic Peninsula and report on the decline of the Roosevelt Elk. His report came back as a scathing indictment of management of Mount Olympus National Monument by the Forest Service. Zeroing in on what the Forest Service had written about designated Snow Peak Recreation Area, van Name charged that although the area “coincides in large part with the supposedly rigidly protected and inviolate National Monument, the land is to be leased for summer homes, summer hotels, and privately conducted resorts, and while ‘commercial cases and developments are to be carefully weighed,’ no promises are made that they will be prohibited.”

Van Name’s findings stirred to action the eastern leaders of the Emergency Conservation Committee, van Name, Rosalie Edge, and Irving Brant, to promote and create Olympic National Park. These individuals are primarily responsible for the park we have today. These three influential individuals enlisted the support of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace, and Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes.

Nowhere in all their efforts is there a motivation to establish Olympic National Park to benefit the economies of local communities. Their motivation can best be summarized by Harold Ickes in a headline in the Seattle Post Intelligencer after the park bill was passed: Keep Olympic Park A Wilderness Park, Ickes Urges in Talk Here. That it has benefited the local communities is serendipity, a fortunate and unexpected occurrence. Although the local communities, and especially Port Angeles, have benefited greatly economically from the park, they have been somewhat blind to this benefit. In fact, at every turn until recently the Port Angeles Chamber of Commerce has attempted to diminish the park.

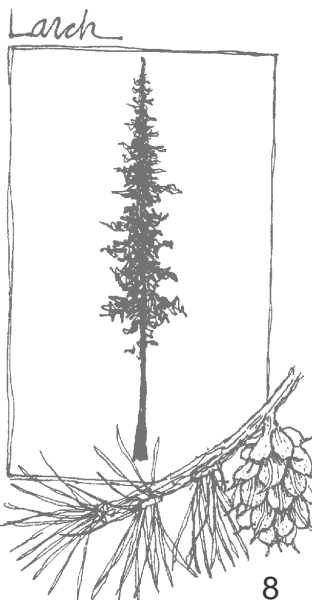
But unquestionably the park has proven to be an economic bonanza. Studies by Michigan State University for the National Park Service estimate the various economic benefits of a national park. As an example, they estimate that national parks in California contribute \$1 billion annually. The state of Washington estimates that total travel spending for Washington

State was at \$8 billion in fiscal year 1999, and acknowledges that the national parks in the state contribute greatly to this total. Olympic National Park in 2001 had approximately 3.5 million visitors. In that same year the park was responsible for bringing \$93.4 million into the local economy. Extrapolating the annual increase in visitor spending at approximately 3.7% per year, for 2004 the spending should be close to \$104 million. Tourism accounts for about 10% of Jefferson and Clallam counties’ income, and park visitors generate 62% of those tourist dollars.

Let’s look at specific benefits to the local counties. In the year 2002, direct personal income (wages and salaries) came to \$40.7 million. This includes the effects of a multiplier that accounts for secondary effects in the economy. (Secondary spending is money that flows out from the original money and through multiple hands for wages, groceries, etc.) Some might consider the Michigan State University study conservatively biased, for using 1.37 as the multiplier ratio. Most economists in the Puget Sound area consider the multiplier effect in the economy to be 2.5 to 3.3. In the year 2000, this secondary spending created 2,441 local jobs. Direct effects accrue primarily to hotels, restaurants, amusement, transportation, and retail trade sectors. The latter does not include retail spending on direct spending accounts, only for the margins on sales. In other words this does not include the purchase price of the product to the retailers. Park visitors account for 250,000 room-nights in motels, generating \$11 million in wages, salaries, plus payroll benefits and sole proprietor income. This amounts to 620 jobs in the area.

Beneficial as the park is to the Peninsula, we should never lose sight of its fundamental value of Olympic National Park as a natural wonder and part of our heritage. The National Parks and Conservation Association has written:

“Appreciating the delicate balance between the environment and the economy is essential for continued prosperity around our parks. Too much development and too little park preservation will deter visitors and kill the goose that laid the golden egg.”



Olympic Park Associates Trustees Honored

Donna Osseward Receives REI's First Conservation Award

Donna Osseward, Olympic Park Associates Vice President, was recently honored with REI's first Conservation Award, in recognition of her involvement as a tireless active conservationist. She is highly respected for her knowledge and understanding of environmental issues. Donna is equally known for her strong efforts to promote the exploration, preservation, and enjoyment of wild lands in the Pacific Northwest.

In addition to being a long-time OPA Board member and current VP, Donna currently serves on the Board of Trustees of The Mountaineers and is its Vice President for Recreational Properties. She is also on the Board of The Mountaineer Foundation.

The REI award came with \$20,000.00, for an organization of her choice. Donna designated it for The Mountaineers, specifically for Conservation Education.



Donna Osseward

Polly Dyer Chosen as Wilderness Hero

Polly Dyer, founding member of OPA and long-time Board member, recently was recognized as a Wilderness Hero by the Campaign for America's Wilderness, the Sierra Club, and The Wilderness Society, for her ceaseless volunteer efforts to preserve and protect Washington's wilderness. She has been in the forefront of every Washington wilderness campaign. She is recognized by all who know her as a skillful leader, mentor, and nurturing guide to new recruits.

While we at OPA know of her special attachment to the wild Olympic forests and coast, the fruits of Polly's leadership have blossomed wherever there is wilderness, from the first Wilderness Act of 1964 through WA State's three National Park

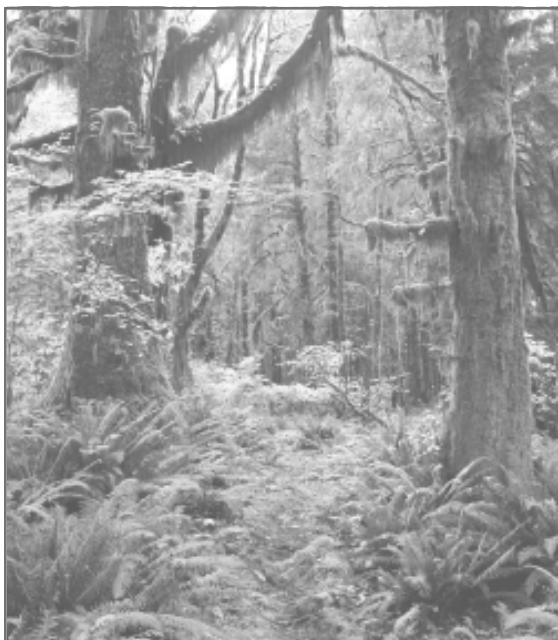
Wilderness Areas and our various National Forest Wilderness Areas. Legend has it that when Howard Zahniser was drafting the 1964 Wilderness Act, it was Polly Dyer who suggested the word "untrammled" to describe the character of the public lands that should be eligible for designation under the 1964 Wilderness Act.

Polly has been instrumental in organizing the Northwest Wilderness Conferences on every even-numbered year since 1964.

The Wilderness Heroes program is part of the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, and highlights the work of ordinary people making a difference in protecting the nation's public lands.



Polly Dyer



John Anderson Honored by Washington Environmental Council

John W. Anderson received WEC's Presidential Award at the celebration of WEC's 35th Anniversary on November 21, 2003. John has served as the tireless and generous volunteer bookkeeper and Treasurer of WEC for nearly 20 years.

John Anderson is also Treasurer for Olympic Park Associates and for the Northwest Wilderness & Parks Conference.



John Anderson

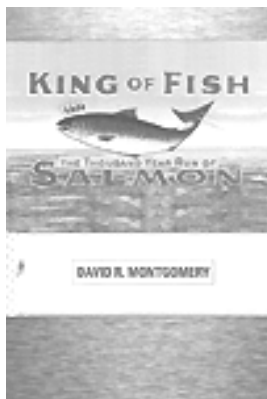
Queets rainforest. Photo by Bob Kaune.

Book Review

King of Fish: The Thousand-Year Run of Salmon

by David R. Montgomery, Published by Westview, \$26.

Reviewed by Tim McNulty in *The Seattle Times*.



David Montgomery has a unique perspective on salmon. As a geologist who studies the evolution of landscapes, he sees salmon as inseparable from the rivers that give them birth. In his compelling new book, “King of Fish,” he reminds readers that Pacific salmon grew up with our geologically youthful coastal landscape.

Volcano-driven landslides, ice-age glaciers, earthquakes, wildfires, floods. At heart, salmon are creatures that evolved with a dynamic, changing landscape. The only force they have not learned to cope with is us.

For millennia, salmon filled rivers and nourished human populations in North America, Europe and Asia. But in just a few centuries they have become rare, endangered or extinct across most of their range.

Montgomery suggests that humans have conducted at least three full-scale experiments on how well salmon can adapt to change: in Great Britain, New England and the Pacific Northwest. Salmon failed each time.

“King of Fish” is an insightful, scrupulously researched, sometimes painful account of the ways in which human progress have proved lethal to salmon. But it moves beyond the realm of environmental history to offer hope for saving the last great runs of the Northwest.

We can save our salmon, Montgomery tells us, if we learn some simple lessons from the past and make room for these magnificent fish in our increasingly crowded world.

Salmon’s historic importance is documented in the Magna Carta, which in 1216 established fishing regulations and measures to protect salmon streams.

Salmon recovery efforts began as early as 1712 in England. But the burgeoning industrial age in the 18th century, with its onslaught of dams, mills, commercial overfishing and pollution from growing urban centers, sent salmon into a downward spiral.

Montgomery, a professor of geomorphology at the University of Washington, points out that stiff laws to regulate the catch and protect habitat were in place throughout this time, but enforcement, left to local authorities, was lax. By the mid-20th century, Atlantic salmon were extinct across much of Europe. Today only four countries still maintain viable runs.

The same pattern repeated on a slower

timeframe across the Atlantic in New England. Atlantic salmon thronged rivers for 1,000 miles, from Long Island Sound to Hudson’s Bay. At the time of the American Revolution, the colonies were catching over 1 million fish a year. Eighteenth-century documents show that dam construction on New England rivers was quickly followed by declining commercial catches.

By 1850, half of New England’s streams were blocked to salmon spawning by dams — the rest were degraded by siltation following logging and clearing for agriculture. There were too few Atlantic salmon left to support a commercial fishery.

When artificial hatchery propagation boosted runs a century later, they, too, were overfished. As was the case in Europe, the public remained largely complacent throughout.

Here in the Northwest, the story sadly repeats. By 1867, canneries were shipping 30 million pounds of salmon annually from the Columbia River alone. Commercial exploitation was soon compounded by habitat destruction. Mills dumped mountains of sawdust into salmon streams.

Power dams blocked spawning access, and logging, draining and diking of valley bottoms eliminated side channels and spawning and rearing areas for fish.

Salmon harvest peaked in the Northwest during World War I. When runs declined, hatcheries came on line to fill in the slack. As Montgomery explains, they only compounded the problems for wild fish. As in Europe centuries earlier, state regulation was lax. Even with salmon in an acknowledged crisis, from the 1970s through the ’90s, commercial and sport fisheries were allowed to harvest 60 percent to 90 percent of the runs.

Currently, salmon returns to Northwest rivers amount to 6 percent to 7 percent of historic runs. But as Montgomery reminds us, salmon are nothing if not resilient. Their quick return to rivers draining Mount St. Helens following its eruption dramatized that.

Based on his studies of rivers and his review of the historic record, Montgomery offers 4 common-sense steps needed to recover salmon. He recommends a network of River Keepers to oversee restoration efforts and report destructive

Continued on P. 11, Salmon.

Fifth Annual Olympic Coast Cleanup

April 24, 2004

You're invited! Sign up here or online: <<http://olympiccoastcleanup.us>>

Thank you for helping!

We will haul marine debris off of Washington's Olympic Ocean beaches and pile it at trail heads or at cache sites for disposal.

Our new web site has a registration form, maps, FAQs, and a list of the partners that energize this annual event: community organizations, businesses, and tribal and government agencies.

Please join this community/volunteer effort. Spend the weekend in a splendid setting and help preserve our ocean beaches.

Register before April 9, 2004.

Please plan to attend an orientation meeting if possible.

- For insurance reasons, every volunteer must **sign in at a Check-in Station** before starting cleanup to get required permits and an Information Packet.
- You may **check in on the day you start** at any convenient location EXCEPT for tribal areas, where you must check-in at the suggested locations.
- Only one registration is required for a group going to a single area.

For more information: call Jan Klippert, 206-364-2689

Registration for 2004 Olympic Beach Cleanup

Name (First, Last): _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Address (optional): _____

Preferred Contact Mode: email regular mail phone

Beach Selection: choose a beach for me drive to or near one day hike-in multi-day hike-in
OR name a beach _____

Number in Group: _____

Inspection-hike beaches before Apr 2? No Yes Propose a beach or area: _____

Be a "Welcoming Volunteer" at: Forks Info Center Mora Kalaloch Ozette Ranger Station

Send more info on:

- Olympic National Park Volunteering
- Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary

Remarks: _____

Mail for to: Jan Klippert, 14036 Meridian Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98133

Salmon, Continued from P. 10.

activities; a system of sanctuariews where rivers and salmon can carry out natural processes unmolested; a 5- to 10-year fishing moratorium on all at-risk runs, and maximum 50% harvest of returning salmon.

If these measures seem radical, it may be because our current, consensus-driven restoration efforts are meek by comparison. Montgomery presents a clear, insightful analysis of a crisis centuries in the making. To his credit, he points to a sound and workable way through it.



A big haul from Beach 2 during the 2003 Beach Cleanup.



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Membership Application

Membership includes subscription to the OPA publication, **Voice of the Wild Olympics**.

- \$250 Individual Life
- \$50 Associate Organization
- \$35+ Contributing
- \$25 Family
- \$20 Individual Member
- \$5 Student / Low Income
- \$___ Gift (not tax-deductible)

The value of an organization endeavoring to promote the protection and integrity of a World Heritage Site and its wilderness is infinite.

Name _____ Date _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please mail to:
Laura Zalesky, Membership Chair
2433 Del Campo Drive, Everett, WA 98208

Protect the Peninsula's Future

Excerpted from **Voices**, Autumn 2003, a publication of the Washington Environmental Council.



Protect the Peninsula's Future (PPF) has been working diligently since 1973 to achieve that very objective, benefiting both those that currently enjoy the area and its many treasures, and assuring that the same enjoyment for future residents of the North Olympic Peninsula. Its mission – protect the delicate environment of the peninsula, thereby enhancing the quality of all life it sustains. Thirty years after the organization's formation its members are more dedicated than ever to accomplish what the founders set out to do. PPF's many successes include major victories against irresponsible proposals by industry and developers. Victories like preventing a nuclear power plant from calling Miller Peninsula home, and later, blocking attempts to use that same location as an off-road vehicle park, and even a large scale resort/housing enclave. That much-sought-after property has since been declared a state park, a magnificent 2800-acre tract of land that fronts both the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Discovery Bay.

In Port Angeles, PPF fought two major oil-port proposals, and won... PPF, along with WEC, challenged Clallam County's Critical Areas Ordinance under the Growth Management Act as being inadequate, [which] ultimately led to improved protections for fish and wildlife...

PPF's membership consists of over 100 devoted individuals, mainly local, that know the intricacies of the peninsula like they know their own heart.

PPF's Web site is: <www.olympus.net/community/oec/ppf.htm>.