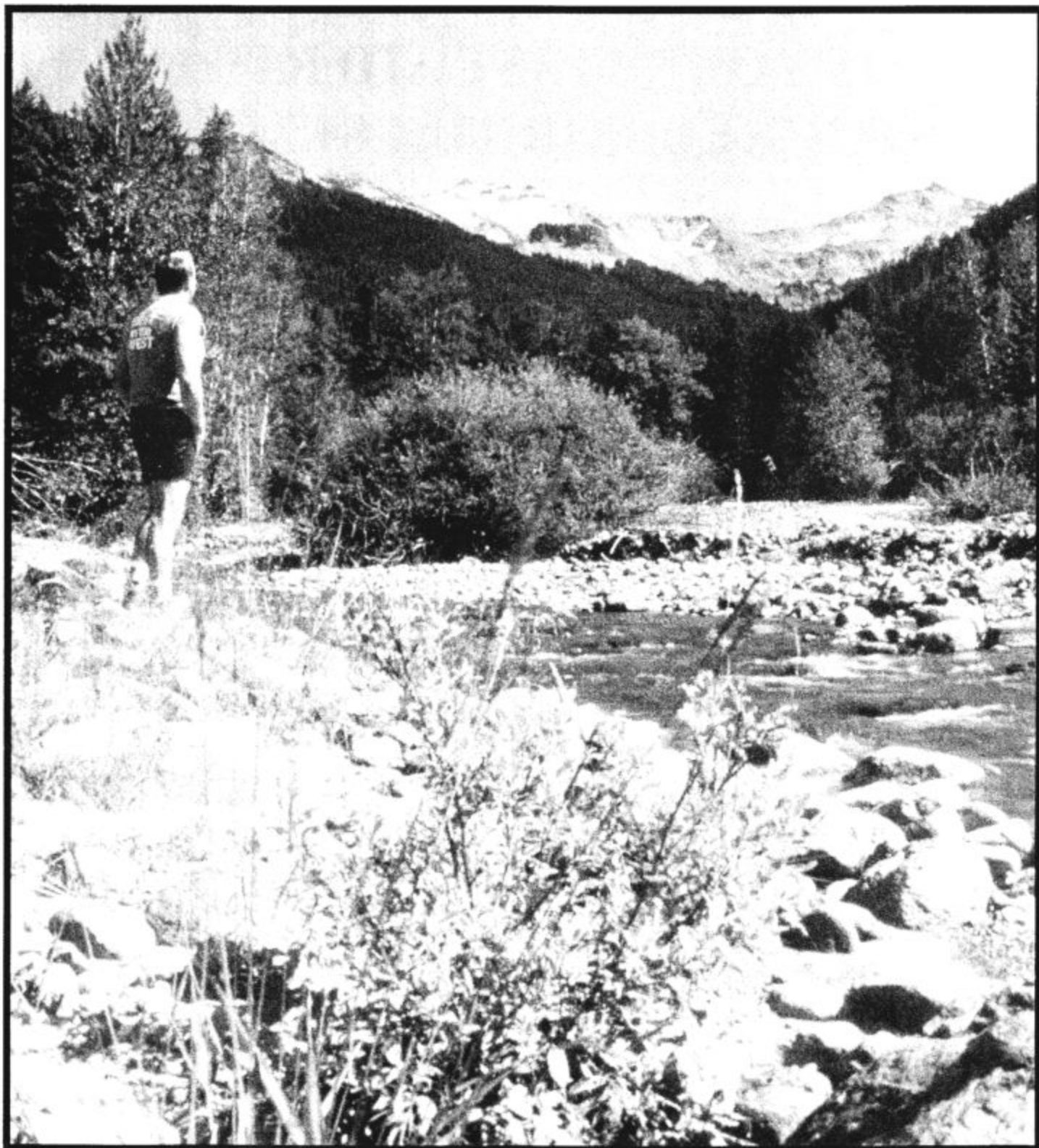


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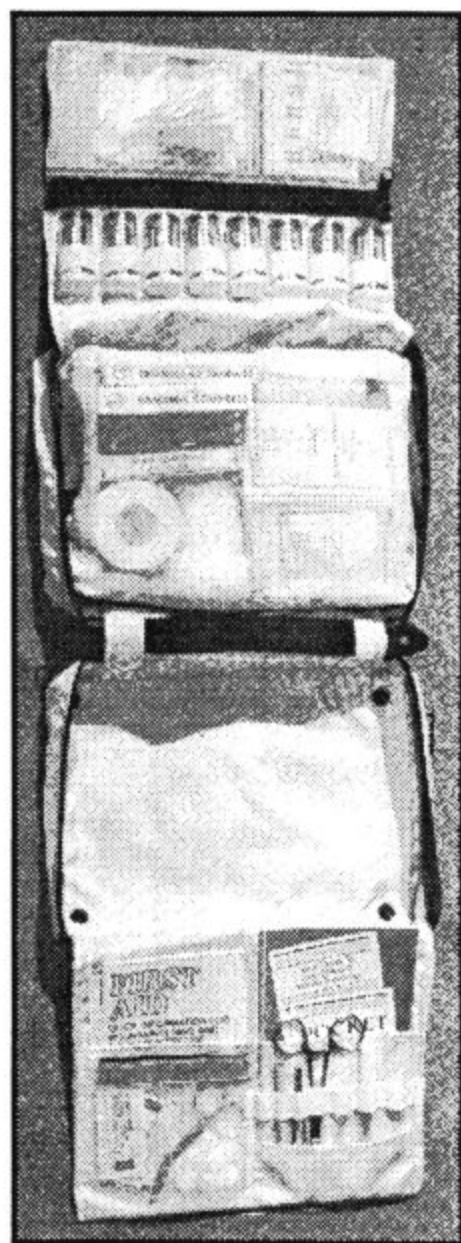
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VOLUME 3, NUMBER 6

RANDOM VIEW—



Rosie Bodien

Mountaineer Mid-Weekers have lunch at Upper Crystal Lake.

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COVER PHOTO:

Looking toward the Cascade Crest peaks from Upper Lake Creek basin. Goat Rocks Wilderness, Washington. Photo by Carl Nyberg.

HOW TO BE A PACK & PADDLE CONTRIBUTOR:

Send us your stories, reports, and photographs. *Pack & Paddle* is written by its readers and we welcome your ideas, input, and material. Submissions are considered contributions—if payment if requested it will be a modest amount. We take great care in handling your work, but we cannot guarantee against damage to or loss of materials. Please don't be offended if we can't use your stories or photos.

Need more guidance? We'll send our Writers' Guidelines; just ask. And we're always happy to discuss an idea with you on the phone: 206-871-1862.

• • •

Hiking, backpacking, climbing, skiing, snowshoeing, canoeing, kayaking and related activities are potentially hazardous. It is the responsibility of the individual to learn and understand the proper techniques associated with safe participation in these activities, and to fully accept and assume all risks, damages, injury or death which may result from following route descriptions or other advice in this publication. This publication is not meant as a substitute for personal instruction by a qualified person.

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LETTERS to the EDITOR

This is an open forum and does not necessarily express the opinions of the publishers

BEST ARTICLE EVER

I have been laughing my head off at the hilarious trip story by Jim Klima! ("Gold in Them Thar Hills," *May*, page 12). I think this is the best article I have ever read in *Pack & Paddle*. I sure hope that Jim will come up with another article in the future.

To Jim: thanks for the laughs, buddy.

Lisa Bliss Darling
Seattle, Washington

ENDANGERED BOOTS

Rare and endangered species alert: leather-lined hiking shoe on page 45 of REI's 1994 camping catalog—the Raichle "Vista."

Please encourage them by buying a pair if you'd like leather linings to survive.

Eric Burr
Mazama, Washington

CORRECTION:

A reader called to correct a photo caption in the story "The Gods of Olympus" (*May*, page 17). Although the caption says that's Lake Billy Everett in the lower right, it really isn't. Lake Billy Everett is down in the meadows closer to 5000 feet. The pictured lake is an unnamed tarn at about 5500 feet.

Says author Jim Miller: "When most of the names are hearsay anyway and not on the map, it's easy to goof up!"

TRAILHEAD ALERT

LISTING OF TRAILHEADS WHERE VANDALISM HAS BEEN A REPORTED PROBLEM

We asked ranger districts all over the state to tell us which trailheads had suffered car vandalism in the last month, and this is what we found. This isn't a scientific report, and it is not meant to suggest that some areas are vandalism-free. If a district or area isn't listed, it's because no vandalism had occurred yet. We'll update this list next month. Remember to leave nothing valuable in your car. All vandalism should be reported to the county sheriff of the county in which it happened, and notify the Ranger Station too.

OLYMPICS

Lake Ozette—Windows were smashed in a car parked at Swan Bay recently.

This is a continuing problem. Cars are generally safe at the Ozette trailhead.

Shi Shi—Cars were damaged recently at the old trailhead, and also at Isabelle's parking pasture—the first time this has happened in one of the private parking lots.

Second and Third Beaches—Car windows were smashed at Second Beach, and shot out with a BB gun at Third Beach recently. Some people now are taking advantage of the trailhead service offered by Three Rivers Resort and La Push Ocean Park Resort—they will ferry you to the trailhead and pick you up.

Elwha trails—The Whiskey Bend and Hot Springs trailheads are the usual problem spots.

Hoh trails—Break-ins do occur at the main trailhead, but rarely. Even Rugged Ridge and the South Fork have few problems.

Kalaloch trails—Beaches 1 through 6 have occasional car break-ins during day-time hours; two incidents occurred over the winter.

Staircase trails—Sorry, "everyone" was out on a rescue while we were putting this together and we weren't able to collect any information.

Sol Duc trails—It's rare to go a whole summer without a car break-in. There are usually a couple of incidents each summer at the Sol Duc trailheads, but nothing this early in the year.

Hood Canal District—Lena Lk, Ducka bush and Mt Ellinor trailheads all have had car break-ins in the last month.

Quilcene District—No problems recently. But anywhere up the Dungeness road system you can expect some problems over the summer.

Quinault District—Some damage to Forest Service facilities at Pete's Creek and West Fork trailheads recently. These are frequent problem areas.

CASCADES, WEST SIDE

Mt Baker District—No problems recently. Can usually expect problems at the Hot Springs trailhead, and along the Cascade River trailheads during the summer.

North Cascades Natl Park—Any break-ins are random and sporadic, but places like Cascade Pass and Ross Dam trailheads have been sites of vandalism in the past.

Darrington District—In last month, Mt Pilchuck, Heather Lk and Barlow Pass all had car break-ins.

Skykomish District—No problems recently. Necklace Valley and Trout Lk trailheads along the Foss River road have been problems in the past.

Mt Rainier National Park—Sorry, we couldn't connect with anyone at the Park before press time.

Packwood District—Some damage to Forest Service property (including a stolen vehicle) occurred over the winter.

Mt Adams District—Generally vandalism isn't a problem, but usually can ex-

pect some on north side of district some time during summer.

Wind River District—No incidents have occurred recently, but the Thomas Lake and Siouxeon trailheads are problem spots.

Beacon Rock State Park—Car break-ins occur at this trailhead even in broad daylight; a continuing problem.

CASCADES, EAST SIDE

Okanogan Natl Forest—None this year; very little expected on any of the districts.

Lk Wenatchee District—No incidents recently, but the Merritt Lk trailhead is the usual problem spot.

Leavenworth District—Nothing yet this year, but the Icicle road trailheads are the usual spots.

Cle Elum District—Too early yet, but Rachel Lk, Mt Margaret, North Fork Teanaway and Cooper Lk trailheads all have continuing problems.

Naches District—Seems the closer to the highway the trailhead is, the more problem there is, so Chinook Pass and White Pass have the most incidents, but even that is maybe once or twice a season, not every weekend.

EASTERN WASHINGTON

The Colville, Kettle Falls, Newport, Republic and Sullivan Lake Districts reported—total—some shot-up outhouses and 1 broken-into truck in an entire year.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS





REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

INTRODUCTION

See "How to be a *Pack & Paddle* contributor" on page 3. All readers are encouraged to contribute to *Backcountry News*. Information that is particularly helpful includes: distance & elevation gain, condition of trail or route, hazards such as tidal currents, rockfall, avalanche danger, washouts, bees' nests, etc. and pleasant or fun things you encountered.

Space is limited; we may have to cut your report to fit available space. Typing is not necessary; we can read just about anyone's handwriting. We're interested in ALL trips, easy and hard, ordinary and exotic.

We use the following symbols to help you plan your trips.

-  —Climbing, scrambling, mountaineering, off-trail and cross-country travel.
-  —Hiking, backpacking on trails.
-  —Canoeing, kayaking and water trips.
-  —Snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.



PENINSULA



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow level between 3000 to 4000 feet, depending on exposure. Most roads are open. Obstruction Point road will open about mid-summer.

OZETTE RESTRICTIONS—As we told you last month (*May, page 6*), a quota system will begin on the Ozette Loop this summer.

The quota will restrict camping on the Ozette loop beaches from the north side of Ozette River to Yellow Banks.

Here are the basics:

- the quota will be in effect from 7/15 through Labor Day weekend.
- reservations can be made 30 days in advance. The reservation phone number is 206-452-0300 ... but *don't call it yet* because it won't start until 6/15.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS DEADLINE: June 21

Submit your trail reports by this date for the next issue. (Deadline for other departments is earlier, check with us for details.)

—the limit will be 300 people per night. Ozette Ranger Kevin McCartney told *Pack & Paddle* that nice holiday weekends in the hiking season can bring as many as 1000 people out to camp on the beach.

"Besides the impact that 1000 people can have on each other as far as a wilderness experience goes, we have a huge sanitation problem," he explained. "We have to replace outhouses every year now, with gigantic holes—and this is in an archaeologically sensitive area."

The large numbers of campers also increase soil erosion and human-wildlife conflicts, Kevin said.

Permits made over the phone will be confirmed in writing. When you go to Ozette, bring the confirmation sheet with you so the actual permit can be issued to you at the Ranger Station.

Ranger Station hours will be 8am to 4:30pm Monday through Thursday, and 8am to 10pm Friday and Saturday.

Signs will be posted at Sappho, the Highway 112/101 junction, and east of Port Angeles to tell hikers about the new system.—AM, 5/17.



BOGACHIEL TRAIL

(Olympic Natl Park; USGS Reade Hill, Indian Pass, Hunger Mtn, Slide Pk)—Take road 2932 directly across from Bogachiel State Park. Drive the road 4.5 miles until you come to the trailhead. A 2-hour drive from Westport put us at Bogachiel State Park (\$10.00 fee) at 7:30pm, where we had the entire campground to ourselves.

Wednesday morning we were on the

trail at 8am, with blue sky and sunshine above us (forecast was rain). The first 1.6 miles are in Olympic National Forest. The trail is in that sloppy, squishy clay mud stage where every step is a slider.

Signs of spring were everywhere. Trilliums bloomed along the edges of the trail. Different colored slugs slithered along. Bees zoomed by in front of us. Some of the largest skunk cabbage we had ever seen was giving off its aroma. Chipmunks darted about and birds chirped happily. The black beetles that always seem to be going uphill were on the trail around us.

The next 4.1 miles the trail rises and dips slightly with constant views of the Bogachiel River. Campsites are very few (we counted three). Roughly 1 mile before reaching the ranger station is a massive blowdown of trees that hides the trail. We fought through limbs, climbed up, down, over, under, and by staying to the far left we found the trail. Coming out the next day we found and flagged an easier route.

We counted (and did) 42 blowdown with 20 of them needing a chainsaw before any horses are to make it through, and the rest (depending on how tired you are) inconvenient. The majority of them are from the ranger station to Flapjack Camp. The trail sign for Indian Pass broke off with the tree that came down across the trail. I stuck it back up the best I could. Just climb over the tree and go left.

From Bogachiel Ranger Station to Flapjack are eight creek crossings, half of them over-the-boot-top deep. We

tried all angles at getting across them without getting wet but we were blow-down weary and at the unnamed creek after Warkum Creek we gave up and waded through. There was once a bridge here but a huge tree crushed it and carried it down the bank.

The numerous cedar-plank steps that are on the trail have decayed greatly and most were slippery or sunken into the mud.

On numerous occasions during the 10-mile hike into Flapjack, we saw flags going off into the woods for no apparent reason. Can anyone tell us why? Is there a code for the different colored flags?

Flapjack Camp is Number 7 on our 10 Favorite Campsites list. It sits high up on the river bank with wide open space for viewing both ways. It is a grassy spot with ten campsites, trees, two hitching posts, water and wood. The river is wide and the first (closest) side has an orange marker embedded in a log showing the crossing to Tumwata Creek trail. On the rocky river bed is a graveyard of trees stacked on top of one another as far as you can see both ways. On the hillside across the river the trees are in their blooming-color stage of different shades of green and white making it a remarkable sight to behold.

About 8:30 that night as we sat around the campfire watching the clouds move by, a bald eagle soared overhead and perched in a tree across the way.

It took us 6 hours (with little rest) to hike into Flapjack Camp. It took 6½ hours to hike out; however we stopped at Bogachiel Ranger Station for a 75-minute rest, then two more 20-minute breaks. We were not so exhausted when we reached the truck. We had 14 elk cross in front of us around Indian Creek.

It rained on us Thursday morning, so at 9am we packed up our wet gear and headed out under intermittent showers. Lighter fluid came in handy for removing the pitch from my hands from all the downed trees.

At the trailhead sign-in post is a note about the 23-year-old male who tried to hike from Deer Lake to the Hoh Ranger Station on January 20, 1992, but did not arrive (see *March 1992, page 21*).—Kerry Gilles & Larry Schoenborn, Westport, 4/20-21.



LOWER LENA LAKE

(Olympic Natl Forest; USGS Mt Washington)—Bill and I took Jan Pierson on our first hike of the spring.

It is an easy hike to Lower Lena Lake and a popular one. There were lots of kids and their parents on the trail. The area absorbed them well. Also on the trail were some mountain climbers headed up The Brothers.

It had rained the night before and we contemplated canceling but we were glad we went when we encountered blue skies and mild temperatures and a really nice relaxing day. This trailhead is a little over an hour's drive from Olympia.—Jane Habegger, Olympia, 4/30.



TUBAL CAIN

(Buckhorn Wilderness; USGS Mt Zion, Mt Townsend)—I hiked the Tubal Cain trail to the Tull City trail. It was clear. There is one blowdown on the Tull City or Tull Canyon trail. You have to crawl under it. The old cabin has several tarps scattered around it. Some inconsiderate individual has cut fir boughs for a bed.

I climbed the ridge between Tull Canyon and Silver Lake. I ran the ridge all the way over Hawks Peak to the connecting ridge above Silver Lake.

I glissaded down to Silver Lake (frozen) and then postholed through deep snow down the "trail." There is snow (deep and soft) all the way up to the Mount Townsend/Welch Peak Saddle.

In the open areas higher up, the trail is snowfree. I continued up the ridge to Mount Townsend. The summit areas of Townsend were clear. I descended to the Tubal Cain trailhead by way of the Dirty Ridge trail. Long day but beautiful. Unfortunately, I forgot my camera.—Chas Pauly, Port Hadlock, 5/6.



LOWER GRAYWOLF

TRAIL (Buckhorn Wilderness; USGS Tyler Pk)—Here's a correction to trailhead driving directions from Robert L. Wood's *Olympic Mountains Trail Guide* (second edition, page 94): Turn at Sequim State Park (Dungeness Trail sign); go right on road 2880 and again on 2870 to trailhead and large parking area.

We left Friday night from Aberdeen. A 2½ hour drive put us at the campsite 40 yards from the trailhead. We tried cotton balls soaked in petroleum jelly (which I had read about in *Backpacker* magazine) to start our evening fire. Don laughed at me when I opened my film canister and pulled out those scrunched-up gooey cottonballs. He shook his head and laughed even harder when I got that fire going!

At the trailhead (950 feet) Saturday morning we were the only vehicle there at 7:15. We were greeted by two Steller's jays as we hiked toward Two-mile camp (1100 feet). We had to step over a blowdown and plod through a long stretch of gray slippery mud.

Stopping at an observation knoll (1500 feet) which overlooks Graywolf canyon, we rested and took some snapshots. Don's camera lens cover fell over the cliff a little way and he had to res-

cue it with a stick. Don't you just hate it when that happens?

Switchbacking down to Cliff Camp (1250 feet) we stopped again to look at the river and check out this camp—a well-used spot with 5-tent availability and scenic surroundings.

After leaving Cliff Camp and going across a very well built bridge we saw a cliff of pillow basalt with birds flying all around. The river rushing through the gorge, crashing over moss-covered boulders and spewing white bubbles, looks like it's boiling. My point-and-shoot camera didn't capture what I truly saw, so will wait impatiently for Don to get his slides back.

At the junction with Slab Camp trail we hiked down to see what Camp Tony looked like. The shelter at the junction is no longer there, just a couple of the logs. Camp Tony (1652 feet) is another decent large camp, but there's not enough light.

The 2.3-mile hike to Slide Camp (2150 feet) from Camp Tony is a steady uphill climb with no water available, also a few more step-over blowdown. We heard but did not see a grouse. It sounded like he was always right ahead of us. Slide Camp is a 3-tent site with a small stream but if you go on up the trail you'll find another site which we thought was better because of its layout.

(We finally saw the grouse—it stayed ahead of us on the trail until it finally flew up into a tree and watched us walk by.)

From Slide Camp to Graywolf Camp (2.6 miles) we passed a slide area and saw red limestone. It was at this point that my knees started hurting. Cameron Creek runs into Graywolf River at Graywolf Camp. The .4-mile to Three Forks Camp is worth doing (even if your knees are killing you) because it has an "I'm home" feeling about it.

We arrived at 2pm. The shelter is in good shape with an outhouse up behind. The log bridge that crosses Grand Creek is missing its middle handrail. Don cleared up the blowdown at the Three Forks trail and we used it for firewood.

Sunday morning as we hiked out we saw paintbrush and stonecrop along the trail. Going back under one of the blowdowns, Don rose too soon and a broken branch ripped his pack rain cover, which we were lucky enough not to need. We counted 13 people coming in and were back at the truck at 4pm.—Kerry Gilles, Westport, and Don Abbott, Aberdeen, 4/30-5/1.



SINCLAIR INLET

(USGS Bremerton West)—Now that spring is here, our paddle club is be-

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ginning its weekly evening paddles that will continue all summer.

Our group put in at a small point just west of the Clam Bake restaurant and paddled to the very end of Sinclair Inlet. We observed a bald eagle and also an osprey, who dove into the water and got a fish right in front of us.—Ann Marshall, 5/10.

WILDERNESS BEACH—A sand ladder has collapsed at North Goodman Creek—the first trail south of Toleak Point. Without the ladder you have to scale about a 15-foot rock face, with nothing but a handline.

All the other winter damage has been repaired.—Ranger, 5/16.

DUCKABUSH—Washouts and slides. At 5 miles, a washout may force crossing river two times; may not be possible due to high water.—Ranger, 5/4.

MOUNT JUPITER—Snow level around 3500 feet. Equipment in road may block vehicle access 2 miles from trailhead at times. Road is in poor condition.—Ranger, 5/4.

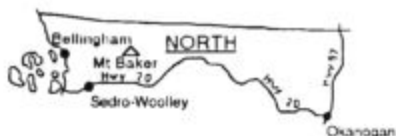
OLYMPIC NATL PARK—The seasonal \$5-per-car entrance fee is now being collected at Heart o' the Hills. Beginning 5/27, the fee will also be collected at Staircase, Elwha, Sol Duc and the Hoh.

The Sol Duc road is open. The gate on the Dosewallips road should be open by now.

Summer quotas go into effect for Lake Constance and Flapjack Lakes on Memorial Day weekend. Use is restricted and reservations can be made by phone. Unreserved spots are first-come, first-served. Call Staircase, 206-877-5569, or Hood Canal, 206-877-5254, for information.

Seven Lakes Basin is also on the quota system starting Memorial Day weekend. Camping is restricted to designated sites only. No reservations: first-come, first-served only. Permits available only at Sol Duc Ranger Station. Call Park Information, 206-452-0330.

NORTH



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Spring avalanches happen now! Most roads and trails are still snow-covered. Snow level from 3000 to 4000 feet, depending on exposure. North Cascades Highway open.

METHOW VALLEY—New owners at the Mazama Store have really fixed it up nice, including a snack bar. They are remodeling a building nextdoor for archery and fly fishing equipment and sporting goods.

Klipchuck campground is open but bring your own water. I biked/hiked up the old Early Winters Creek trail and had a lotta fun with the the snow in the valley and the building supplies of a beaver across a portion of the trail (I packed the bike two-thirds of the way). Had a good run down the North Cross State. Lots of skiers parked at the Blue Lake trail below Washington Pass and about 3 feet of snow.—Dave Hoppens, Malo, 4/25.

SHERMAN PASS—The Forest Service here is working to place a custom log cabin with porch about 5 miles south of Sherman Pass for 4-season use. The cabin will be pre-fabbed and flown in by chopper. I've been volunteering with the septic situation and work with the local health district to develop sanitary facilities.—Dave Hoppens, Malo.

GLACIER CR ROAD—Open to Baker Vista and Heliotrope trailhead. Watch for log trucks!—Ranger, 5/11.

OKANOGAN NATL FOREST—Conditions are perfect for spring skiing in the high Cascades. Plan your trip between 10am and 2pm, when snow conditions are best. Skiing will probably last until mid-June.

When the snow melts in the day and freezes a little at night, "corn snow" is formed. The surface is smooth and easy to ski.

Try Washington and Rainy Passes on Highway 20. Harts Pass, Heather Pass and Cutthroat Pass are also good.

Some forest roads are beginning to open up; however, those at higher elevations remain closed by snow. Log trucks are out of hibernation. Watch for them on North Summit road, Falls Creek road, Middle Mountain road, North Fork Salmon Creek road, and Tunk Mountain road.—Ranger, 5/4.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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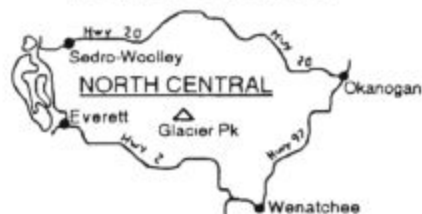
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Phone:

206-871-1862

NORTH CENTRAL



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow level between 3000 and 4000 feet, depending on exposure. Low roads are snowfree.



KELLY CREEK ROAD

(DNR; USGS Verlot)—This generation-old growth logging road, described as "Pilchuck Vista" in *Footsore 3*, is approached by way of the potholed Pilchuck River road SL-P-SP-500, and the steep and gullied side road 510 up from the river; your car won't like it.

Trailhead parking is restricted to one car, due to piles of dumped trash and hunter garbage; your sensibilities won't like it.

The road-trail is frequently slashed by unbridged streamcut gullies. In 1/2-mile is West Fork Kelly Creek Falls, a 25-foot one-bouncer with an easy scramble to the edge of the splashpool. From here to the first switchback I picked up a load of wood ticks on my shirttail, and hurriedly changed to long pants; folks paranoid about Lyme disease won't like it.

In 2 1/2 miles you cross East Fork Kelly Creek. The next stretch is well nigh taken over by slide alder; folks who don't enjoy walking in a half-crouch won't like it.

At the next corner, a major seep plus the omnipresent alders guarantee a wet-foot walk. Folks (like me) who forgot to waterproof their new boots won't like themselves.

The road's final 1/4-mile, from basinlet to a corner landing, passes through a green tunnel, and was still clogged with 4 feet of snow. Slogging to the end, I found nice views up to Pilchuck Lookout and granite slopes, but looking out over the Pilchuck River valley was disappointingly drab under steel gray skies and a lifeless late afternoon sun.

But folks who came this far must be crazy—they'll love it.—Andy Carr, Bellevue, 5/3.



EBEY'S LANDING (National Historical Reserve; USGS

Coupeville)—The weather was questionable but Ebey's Landing on Whidbey Island seemed to be a good bet for a group of optimists.

By the time we got close the weather

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

turned wet. Coupeville became attractive for a large cup of coffee and a fat muffin. The weather seemed to improve so we were off to the trailhead at the end of Ebey's Landing road.

The cliff-top trail provides good views of ship lanes, shorelines and on this day a bit of the Olympic Mountains. We followed the trail to its northern end where it drops down to Perego's Lagoon, then north along the shoreline until the rain got serious. On with the rain gear and start the retreat.

The trail along Perego's Lagoon was past the nesting territory of more killdeer than I think I've ever seen or heard before. They didn't appreciate our presence.—H & A Davidson, Bellevue, 4/26.



MALLARDY RIDGE

"PEAK" (DNR; USGS Mallardy Ridge, Silverton)—The very summit of Mallardy Ridge, 4199 feet (precisely numbered on the 15-minute map), lies on the South Fork Stillaguamish-Sultan River Divide and has good views (through openings in the trees) over to the glistening Vesper, the "Bear Paw with Gout" (Gothic) and the more obscure summits of the upper Sultan, including enigmatic Red, Frostbite (Weber), and Static.

Approach from the Mountain Loop Highway, 18 miles above Granite Falls. Turn right just before Red Bridge on Road 4030 (paved) for about 1 mile to a right on Road 4032. Another 5 miles brings you to the ridge crossing at 3054 feet and great views out to Three Fingers, Liberty, Flash Gordon, Long, etc. The road continues high above Boardman Creek another mile or so to a dead end at 3100 feet.

This is the start of Walt Bailey's famous Trail, though it begins with little fanfare and is currently unsigned. I walked this along the side-slope for a mile until it disappeared in snow at a

3400-foot opening, then cut left cross-country up the hillside to the ridge crest which I followed southeast to the summit.

100 Hikes notes there was once an old trail along the Mallardy crest, but from what I could see, it is now long gone, save for a rare saw-log.

In their Monte Cristo guide, Majors and McCollum point out that "Malady" (for an 1890s miner here) is the correct spelling. So Mallardy is a bunch of malarkey.

1 hour 20 minutes up, 1 hour down; back in plenty of time for Mother's Day festivities.—John Roper, Bellevue, 5/8.

(Walt Bailey's plan is to re-open the old Mallardy Ridge trail to tie into his new trail at that 1-mile meadow. He needs Forest Service approval to go ahead with his plan.)

The new trailhead, with much better parking, would be at the 3054-foot saddle—Walt says you can find the old Mallardy Ridge trail by going upslope at that saddle.

Besides the advantages of better parking and opening up an abandoned trail, using the old ridge trail would avoid that fragile, soggy sidehill at the current trailhead.—AM)



WHITE RIVER TRAIL

(Glacier Pk Wilderness; USGS Mt David, Clark Mtn)—The White River road 6400 from Lake Wenatchee is snowfree to the end.

Our friend Caroline joined us on an early hike up the White River. The trail had a few minor patches of snow the first 2½ miles. On a sunny, open stretch of the trail we saw a black bear. I clapped my hands and called our dogs.

The bear looked up and started off. While I was putting the dogs on their leashes, the bear took a second look and decided flight was definitely the best option. We continued, talking loudly.

We crossed several snow patches with no bear tracks and decided we were safe. Now there were minor bare patches of ground with lots of snow. Lunch was on a bare knoll in the sun above the river. Waterfalls fell from cliffs across the river and we could see the ridge top to the east. We sat in the warm sun a long time.

Eventually, clouds from the west started blocking the sun, so we packed up and continued up the trail. The snow was harder to walk on. At the Boulder Creek campsite we found several snow-free sites for tents. The campsite at the trail junction was very much under snow. There are several large trees down across the trail and a couple of big puddles of water on the trail.—Linda Rostad, Bothell, 5/12.

PCT, Upper White Chuck—The Upper White Chuck bridge 6 miles south of Kennedy Hot Springs on the PCT is out.

A tree fell across the bridge last summer and broke several trusses and hand rail sections. No alternative crossing is available at the narrow gorge and no money is available for repairs.—Ranger, 5/11.

BIG FOUR ICE CAVES—An avalanche has covered the trail and it is closed. Call Ranger for information: 206-436-1155.—Ranger, 5/11.

LAKE 22—Lake is thawed. Trail is snowfree until last half-mile.—Ranger, 5/11.

SKYKOMISH DISTRICT—North Fork Skykomish road is snowfree; Blanca Lake trail has patchy snow, lake is frozen.

Barclay Lake road is snowfree; trail is snowfree 1 mile; lake is thawed. Trail has tree over it 1 mile in. Eagle Lake is frozen.—Ranger, 5/12.

CHELAN DISTRICT—Rattlers and ticks are out. On 5/1, *Lady of the Lake* began daily summer operation to Stehkin. Call the Lake Chelan Boat Company for schedule and fares: 509-682-2224.—Ranger, 5/10.

ENTIAT DISTRICT—The Entiat road is now open to the Duncan Road turn-off. The Mad River trail 1409 is open up to Cougar Creek where the bridge is being replaced. This is a beautiful early season hike of 9 miles.—Ranger, 5/10.

LAKE WENATCHEE DISTRICT—The Chiwawa River road 62 is open to Chikamin Flats, and will probably be open to Trinity by the end of May. Road 6100 is open. Little Wenatchee River road 6500 is open. White River road 6400 is open.

The first several miles of low elevation trails are snowfree, but expect lots of snow on upper portions.—Ranger, 5/10.



ALWAYS CARRY THE TEN ESSENTIALS

1. extra food
2. extra clothing
3. map
4. compass
5. knife
6. matches
7. fire starter
8. first aid kit
9. sun protection
10. flashlight

CENTRAL



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow level 3500 to 4500 feet, depending on exposure. Forest roads are soft and muddy.



CLEVELAND MOUNTAIN and TEMPLE MOUNTAIN

(*Alpine Lakes Wilderness; USGS Grotto*)—Never seen a report from Cleveland Mountain before, so here's mine. Turn off Highway 2 at Money Creek campground; make a right on Miller River road and another right on Money Creek road. Park at bridge over Money Creek or drive a short distance up a logging road to the left.

Continue on surprisingly pleasant logging road. Great views of impressive but unnamed peak 5676 on the way up. Had to use snowshoes around 3200 feet. I skipped the snow-clogged 13th switchback, which led away from the summit, and continued straight on logging road which descended at a steep embankment.

Went straight up to ridge, then followed the quite steep (for snowshoes) ridge southwest, then southeast to the airy, 360-degree view, 5287-foot summit. Even did some rock work with snowshoes on to get there. It's a nicer peak than I expected.

I believe the logging road continues to near point 4400 instead of stopping at 3320 feet as shown on the topo. When going to point 4400 in open woods, I at first thought it might be Temple Mountain, but it wasn't. For those interested in Temple Mountain, leave the logging road at switchback number 12. Go through thick brush, drop to a pond, then up to Temple's lowly 3407-foot wooded summit. Temple is just for masochists, though it's only a ½-hour detour.

9½ hours round trip with no rest breaks except the 15 minutes on the summit.—Fred Beavon, Edmonds, 4/28.



LAKE DOROTHY

(*Alpine Lakes Wilderness; USGS Snoqualmie Lk*)—This was a Retired Rovers trip led by Byron Clark—a new leader for me, and a very good one.

The trail should have had water bars 20 years ago and didn't get them; hence the trail is an obstacle course of

big rocks and exposed roots.

Much snow at the lake, but still not hard to get to. Very beautiful and well worth the effort. The snow is melting fast.

Seven happy, enthusiastic hikers in our party. I hate to sound exclusive, but if the rough trail discourages some hikers, it is that much less pressure on our beautiful high alpine country.—Archie Wright, Seattle, 5/16.



GRANITE MOUNTAIN

(*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Snoqualmie Pass*)—Members of the Hi-Lakers Club went up to the lookout to open up the shutters for the season.

There was still a fair bit of snow around; in fact several members skied down as far as the snow would allow.

The Club will host an Open House at the lookout on June 11 and 12 to celebrate Trail Days.—Rex Johnson, Seattle, 4/30.



MAILBOX PEAK

(*state & private land; USGS Bandera, Chester Morse Lk*)—I had done Mailbox Peak before with Bruce Gibbs and Bette, Kal Brauner and Amy Carlson on a foul weather day. This hike would be different—it was spring, and I was with Jim S who is not a Bulger and is less apt to veer off suddenly into impenetrable brush. Between my memory and Jim's arsenal of written accounts of Mailbox we thought we'd do just fine.

We did bumble around a little bit at the beginning but soon were on the trail which climbs very steeply through forest ... *very steeply*. Once the trail leaves the forest it becomes vague but we were able to follow faint tread and ribbons to the rockslide.

You can go right up the rockslide or take the rough path to the left in the trees. I prefer the rocks. From the rockslide the trail continues to climb through steep heather to the summit—and the mailbox—at 4841 feet. The mailbox had been buried by snow when I'd been there before.

The mailbox is full of mail, well worth reading. Be sure to leave mail of your own should you hike there. Mailbox Peak doesn't get crowds. The elevation gain itself keeps many people away; it's a 4000-foot day.

Jim and I went through the mail and stayed on the summit for an hour before heading back down. We trudged into Ken's Truck Stop for lots of coffee and moderate amounts of food and were rewarded with a good view of Mailbox from the window.

The Middle Fork Snoqualmie road will get you there (Edgewick Road exit,

east of North Bend). A short way in you'll see three roads going off on the right. The middle road with a yellow gate is the correct one. Park below the gate. In a short way you'll see a road climbing left, but stay straight. At .3-mile from the Middle Fork road you'll run into the trailhead. If you pass a small stream you've gone too far and need to go back about 75 feet.

The trail is not signed but is obvious if you're looking for it. This is a good place to go when you're tired of Si or just want a mountain experience without having to drive too far.—Karen Sykes, Seattle, 5/1.



MASON LAKE

(*Alpine Lakes Wilderness; USGS Bandera*)—I had only half a day to hike and I'd never been to Mason Lake. To get to the trailhead I took the exit off I-90 which used to be the Bandera exit; now it's called "FS Road 9030." Anyway, it's exit 45.

Drive a mile up the road and stay on the Mason Lake road. The parking area for Mason Lake is roomy and a good thing it is—a lot of other people had the same idea I did. Perhaps the warm weather had something to do with it.

In the old edition of *Alpine Lakes* the trail is described as quite rough, but it was much easier than I anticipated. It is steep in spots but not dreadfully so. Cairns mark the route across a large boulder field shortly before the lake.

I stopped at the boulder field to chat with a young man and his beautiful 2-year-old daughter. She was enjoying the mountains and was grinning from ear to ear.

The snowline is right at the lake and the lake is just starting to melt out. My time was running out so I made a quick descent back to the car. Gee, there were

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BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

a lot of people out today. For solitude, don't go to Mason Lake on a weekend day in good weather.—Karen Sykes, Seattle, 5/8.

 **MELAKWA LAKE** (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Snoqualmie Pass*)—Before the weather turned sour on Saturday afternoon, I took advantage of the pleasant morning and went for a solo hike.


The Denny Creek trailhead, at 2300 feet, is the starting point for many folks planning a short hike to Denny Creek, or the slightly more ambitious Keekwulee and Snowshoe Falls. The fun—not to mention a better chance of solitude—starts after the falls.

The trail itself is not extremely difficult; it does switchback in areas but in general follows a reasonable grade next to the creek. From about 2 miles on, I walked mostly in snow, which meant postholing and careful footwork.

The last push was up toward Hemlock Pass, through some wooded areas and small snowfields. I had lunch in a boulder field behind a large rock which blocked the wind.

After my energy was restored I continued toward a better view of the lake, which turned out to be an open snowfield at around 4500 feet. On the way back down I saw some ill-equipped overnight hikers who had neither gaiters (a must!) nor ice axes (a necessity).

By the time I reached my car the clouds had overtaken the sky and the bipeds had overtaken the parking lot. Such is life on a Saturday so close to the city (exit 47), but all things considered, an excellent day.—Douglas Cuneo, Seattle, 5/14.

 **MAGNET CREEK** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Liberty*)—Fifteen years ago Mary Suttiff wrote an article about this trail and it has been on my list waiting for the right time.


We were looking for an early season high dry trail and a new one (for us). This seemed to meet all the requirements. The trailhead is north of Swauk Pass (Highway 97), 2 miles north of Bonanza Camp.

The trailhead sign is fairly large, about 10x20 inches, and is about 30 feet from the road. Have your co-pilot watch carefully because you don't get a long view and you, the driver, don't want to go too slow or you'll get rear-ended by that truck hurtling downhill. And there's no shoulder on your side. For parking, the up-hill side of the road has an adequate shoulder.

The trail is sketchy except where used by the deer. That's good and bad. Where they use the trail it's easy to follow but

they don't always use the switchbacks so it requires a bit of detective work. We missed one and in frustration decided to go straight uphill to intercept the trail at the ridge top. On our return we put a rock barrier to try to indicate the location of the switchback.

The trail is steep in places and often the footing is poor. We went about 3 miles to a high point (4500 feet) with a 180-degree view toward the south. Trees blocked the north view. The trail continues to intercept the Tronsen Ridge-Tiptop Lookout trail. Balsam-root flowers made a good show. Our flower experts J & J Klos helped identify 30 varieties of native flowers.—H & A Davidson, Bellevue, 5/3.

 **DAVIS PEAK** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Davis Pk*)—Our 5:30am meet time was too early for us; all six of us were late. We had wanted an early start for this 11-mile round trip with 4000 feet of elevation gain.

Some serious construction is still underway on the road to Salmon la Sac. We weren't delayed, but the going was slow. The Cle Elum Ranger Station says construction will continue all summer.


About a mile past Salmon la Sac, we turned downhill on a really crummy road, but Linda and Bettye didn't mind driving it in their high-clearance 4WDs. Part way down is the official trailhead parking lot. We continued a little farther to the old trailhead, where parking is possible if you watch for stumps and boulders.

We hadn't gone very far up the trail before we spotted blooming trilliums and calypso orchids, and also ran into a couple of downed trees that are not difficult to cross.

The trail climbs in continuous switchbacks right up the ridge. We ran into snow about 4500 feet. At about 5000 feet it was deep enough to confound our route finding. Views were wonderful.

When we reached the saddle above the summit basin, Nancy (tending an injured back) and Linda (recovering from jet lag) decided they had gone far enough. The rest of us, with Lindy in the lead, charged up to the old lookout site. It was Manita's first actual summit, and she shared Swiss chocolate with us to celebrate.

We counted a total of two ticks for the trip—one on Linda's pack at lunch; one on my gaiter back at the car. (When I got home I found *two more* in my gear!)—Ann Marshall, 5/6.

 **HAWKINS MOUNTAIN** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Mount Stuart, Davis Peak*)—

This is a favorite spring conditioning hike, with long open ridges, great views, and enjoyable snow travel.

Drive past Salmon La Sac to the Camp Creek road. This trip it was filled with snow, adding about 1.25 miles, each way, to the hike. Take the first right and go to the gate, where there is plenty of parking.

Climb east, up a very steep slope. A definite ridge line forms around the 4800 foot level about where the snow started this time. The next 1000 feet, or so, are along a gentle, open ridge with good views; then a steep 1000 feet to the false summit and great views to the north. From there a short ridge leads to the summit.

On this sunny, warm day there were views from Mount Adams to Mount Baker, with Mount Stuart, Mount Daniel and the Snoqualmie peaks dominating. Someone from Roslyn had signed the summit register on May Day, laying claim to the first ascent of the year. After soaking up sun and views for over an hour I started down about 2:30.

Soon after I reached the car, a back-packer walked by on the road. I offered him a ride and heard an interesting but confused story.

It seems he had started in from Stevens Pass two days before. Five miles in he fell through the snow into a stream; losing his tent, sleeping bag, extra clothing, and food. I don't know why, but he continued. The weather was rotten the first two days, and he was afraid of hypothermia; so he kept moving—night and day.

Navigation was a problem, and he wandered a lot. He was seriously worried about surviving, but kept going. When I picked him up he hadn't slept or eaten for three days, but was in good shape. He did indicate that he wasn't anxious for another early season backpack trip.—TG, Skyway, 5/5.

SKYKOMISH DISTRICT—Foss River road is snowfree to West Fork trailhead. Necklace Valley trail snowfree 6 miles; West Fork trail snowfree to Trout Lake (thawed), deep snow after that. Tonga Ridge road snowfree 6 miles. Deception Creek trail snowfree 1 mile. Surprise Creek trail snowfree 2 miles.—Ranger, 5/12.

LEAVENWORTH DISTRICT—Icicle road is snowfree to the end; Eightmile road is snowfree also. The lower portions of the trails on these roads offer a few miles of snowfree trails.

All reservations for the Enchantments have been filled except for a few dates in June and October.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

We'll have the new brochures on the new Wilderness regulations soon. We will be glad to send you one; call us with your name and address: 509-548-4067.—Ranger, 5/10.

CLE ELUM DISTRICT—Cooper River trail 1311 is in good condition with patchy snow the last 3/4-mile. Rachel Lake trailhead is snow-bound.—Ranger, 5/10.

SOUTH CENTRAL



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow level 3000 to 4000 feet. Road conditions vary greatly.

MOON WALL—The Moon Wall rises again! (See April, page 10.) We have been trying to notify all hikers that this route, described in Harvey Manning's book *Hiking the Mountains to Sound Greenway*, should be considered closed, as there was an error in the source material from which the route was written up.

Now we find that some hikers are following a description of this hike from old copies of Harvey's *Footsore 2*—although that book has been out of print for more than a year—thus causing more concerns for the affected property owners in the area.

Again, both the author and the publisher regret any inconvenience caused by this error, and urgently request that hikers stay away from any portion of the Moon Wall hike, no matter where they found a description of the route!—Donna DeShazo, Director of Mountaineers Books.

SALAL POINT (DNR & private land; USGS Chester Morse Lk)—Chilled by the breeze on my sweated brow, awed by the rock walls about me, soothed by the shiny green salal, and drawn by the designs nature carved in the twisted gnarled wood, I sat on Salal Point and took it all in.

Where is this place, you ask? Take I-90 east. At Exit 38 go right. At the stop sign turn right again. Go 50 yards and turn right again. Park in the Mount Washington trailhead parking lot.

Trek up the hill to the old Iron Horse Trail. Go west and watch for a trail on your left. Go uphill three switchbacks west. Then go up to the third switch-

back east. At the bend, see a trail going east. Follow it for about 1/3 mile.

When you come to what appears to be the end, look to the right. Footprints go uphill about 5 yards. When on the flat, walk out to the point and experience the joy I found.

I do not have a clue who made this wonderful trail over that old logging road, but they have done a fabulous amount of work. They deserve many thanks for taking us to such a beautiful spot. Again, my personal thanks.—Robert DeGraw, Kirkland, 5/12.



PINNACLE RIDGE TRAIL

(USGS Chester Morse Lk)—

From Mount Washington, we noticed several very interesting rock outcroppings across the valley, west. We dubbed them pinnacles and that north hog back of Mount Washington Pinnacle Ridge. Early this spring, several of us forged a short cut to the top of Mount Washington past those "rabbit ears," as some call them.

From the Owl site, go 1/4-mile to Washington creek. Cross over and go west 180 paces. Notice a stub road to your right. Follow that up to its end. Go straight uphill toward several big stumps until you come to another old logging road, about 50 yards. Follow this road to the right. A lot of willow and new alder still needs brushing out, but it is passable. From the end of that old road, go left straight uphill along the hog back.

When you come to the first pinnacle, stay right and close. Once past it, stay to the left of the second rock face. The road is on top of it. On the southeast end of the rock wall, notice scree that was pushed down when the road was put in. A cable is now in place to help you scramble up that loose rock. The scramble is only about 20 yards.

When on the road, go to the right and see a scramble path up the bank. When on top of the bank, find your way to still another higher road. When on it again go to the right and find another scramble path. The trail up to the third road is quite well defined and is well traveled.

When you reach the talus go straight up the rocks some 10 yards until you find the trail again. Once on the third road, you have two choices. One is to follow the trail up the ridge to the top. The other is to take the road south until you find a road right. Then follow that old stub road to the top. The trail keeps you completely out of the watershed and a possible trespassing fine. The road does not.

The first top is the highest. If you go even farther west, you will be on the top that can be seen from North Bend,

the freeway and all the surrounding territory. You will have to drop some 50 to 100 feet on a ridge to get there. It is worth doing.

One last comment. The trail as described is about 7 to 8 miles round trip. The road walk is about 14. Use both and have an exhausting loop trip.

A worthy note: Fill your water bottles at the wonderful spring about 2 miles up from the parking lot. It is about 20 minutes down from Owl's Roost. It is great cool clear water.—Robert DeGraw, Kirkland, 5/7.



COPPER CREEK ROAD

(Gifford Pinchot Natl Forest;

USGS Mt Wow)—Bill and I did our last ski-shoe trip of the season here in mid-April.

The road was no longer blocked at the Sno-park so we were able to drive to the snow line, not too far above there. We were the only people on foot this day (several trucks drove up until they reached the snow line then turned around).

It was very warm and we skied in shorts and polypro tops. We had a beautiful clear view of Mount Rainier and Saint Helens.—Jane Habegger, Olympia, 4/17.



HOWARD/BERRY PEAKS

(Mt Rainier Natl Park; USGS

Golden Lks)—Led a Tacoma Mountaineers' Scramble to Howard and Berry Peaks just off the Mowich Lake road. Jim and Chris signed up to go this wet Sunday. After meeting at the Park entrance, we left a car at the gate, just past the Paul Peak Loop trailhead. We then drove back to start of the Boundary Trail, which is unmarked.

The trail is vague for the first 100 feet, but then looks like a typical "Not Maintained" trail complete with a sign in about a 100 yards. After a few views of the clearcut outside the Park, we left the trail at the Martin/Virginia saddle and followed the ridge to Berry Peak. The rain turned to snow at about 5000 feet and about an inch accumulated during the day.

Not much old snow along the ridge, but the dusting of wet snow made the ridge from Berry to Eunice Lake treacherous. I was glad we were going uphill instead of downhill along this section (a good reason to do this trip in this direction, although Howard felt that the proper way was to do Howard first).

Eunice Lake was largely snow-covered. After a short side-trip to Tolmie Peak in blowing snow, we dropped down to Howard Peak. My streak of leading limited-visibility trips continues.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS



Paul Schaffer

Echo and Observation Rocks, Mount Rainier National Park.

To complete the loop, we followed the west side of the creek draining Eunice Lake to the road. Two 40-foot waterfalls make this section memorable. There were no problems and the rain seemed to slacken for the first time as we walked the road back to the cars. —Tom Matoi, Kent, 5/18.



YAKIMA SKYLINE TRAIL

(L.T. Murray WRA; USGS Pomona, Selah, Wymer)—Time for Troop 70's annual desert outing and IT'S SPRING, my favorite time of year.

We were a small group of six this time. We drove to the south trailhead near Yakima, following the instructions as written in *100 Hikes in the Inland Northwest*.

We were baffled when we reached a gate across the dirt road (see *P&P*, June 1993, page 11 for background on this closure). The road has been gated by a private owner. Fortunately the owner pulled up just as we reached the gate and he let us drive across his property to reach the trailhead. Otherwise, you must follow the dirt road that runs parallel to the road that used to go to the trailhead!

Though we started hiking in sunny weather we were soon surrounded by clouds and we could see showers marching across the sky in the distance. But the sun continued to shine on the Yakima Rim where we hiked. It's about a 2400-foot gain to the high point with many false summits along the way. The spring flowers the Yakima Rim Skyline trail is famous for were blooming in earnest—I saw my first lupine of the year, my first phlox, and several flowers which I could not identify.

George and Andy had started off strong but soon had to stop for a breather. Nathan, who has just turned thirteen and discovered baseball, was unstoppable. He just kept going and going until he was a small, moving dot in the distance. We reached Twin Springs camp at about 4 miles with a good look down to Roza Dam. One or two campsites are at the spring and camping is also available on the rim above.

Our destination was the half-way point of the trail at Roza Creek. It was a relief when the trail began to go downhill.

By now the sky was black with clouds and the air felt moist, as if it could rain any moment. A few splatters reached us while we were on the ridge but by the time we descended to our camp, we were still dry. We found the old schoolhouse foundation.

It was a very peaceful place to camp despite being able to hear the trucks from the highway. We were the only campers. Water was plentiful. The clouds broke up for a while and we were treated to about an hour of warm sun.

By dusk that evening Andy had a temperature of 104! We were very concerned and talked about how we might be able to get him out the next morning if it were as bad (or worse). We gave him some Advil and hoped for the best. In the morning his temperature had dropped to 99—a vast improvement. He was still not feeling strong and most everyone wanted to find an easier way to get back to the cars.

John and I agreed to hike the 9 miles back to the cars and the rest of the party could hike along the railroad tracks and cross Roza Dam (we worried about the legality of this but given the circumstances we thought it was best this way). Dave, the other adult, would take the lower road with the kids.

Our 9 miles wasn't as hard on us as we had feared. At one point we even entertained fantasies of beating the low-road group to the highway but that remained mere fantasy. Even with their slow pace, they had a much shorter and easier route than we did. In fact, we watched them cross the dam from Twin Springs. We drove to Roza Dam and picked up Dave and the kids for the long and scenic drive back to the western side of the mountains.—Karen Sykes, Seattle, 4/9-10.

CAYUSE, CHINOOK PASSES—

Both Highway 410 and Highway 123 over Chinook and Cayuse passes should be open by 5/27, providing snow removal goes as planned.

The Stevens Canyon road is also expected to be open by 5/27.—Ranger, 5/5

BULLETIN BOARD

Notices on this Bulletin Board are free to subscribers and may be "posted" for up to three months. You may list your used equipment for sale, post lost-and-found announcements, locate partners for trips, or other non-commercial items. Commercial advertisers are welcome to contact the *Pack & Paddle* office for ad rates.

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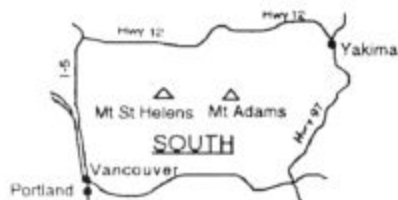
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INTERESTED IN HIGH LAKE FISHING? Washington State Hi-Lakers meets third Wednesday of each month at Mercerview Community Center, 7:30pm. For information, call George Bucher, 206-821-5752 (Kirkland).

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

SOUTH



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow level between 3000 and 4000 feet, depending on exposure. Most roads are snow covered, except for those at low elevations. Same for trails.

LEWIS RIVER (*Gifford Pinchot Natl Forest; USGS Burnt Pk*)—With *Best Hikes With Children* in hand we decided on the Lewis River Trail (trip 83) for our first family backpack of the season. As described in the book, this is a gorgeous riverside walk, accessible all year because of the low elevation, and an easy hike for children.

A couple of notes are worth mentioning that were not in Joan's book. For those families with small children, the river runs high and fast during the spring, so watch them closely.

Also, this trail is VERY popular with mountain bikes. They come around the corners quickly and without much warning.

If you camp at Bolt Camp (the book says it's 2 miles but the trail sign says 2¼ miles—I think it's more like 2½) you will find a nice shelter with a wooden table and chairs made of logs.

One final note, the book says that the trail can be reached either from Randle, by going south on road 25 or from I-5 at Woodland. However, when we did this trip on the weekend of May 7th, road 25 was still blocked by snow.

All in all, it was an excellent trip ... of course the weather may have had something to do with that—sunny and warm.—Sue, Richard, Chris, Lindsey and Tippy, Bothell, 5/7.

GIFFORD PINCHOT NATL FOREST—This is waterfall season. A list of 19 waterfalls, directions, and description is available from the Supervisor's office: 206-750-5001.

MOUNT ADAMS DISTRICT—A contract to reconstruct road 23 from the 23/8810 junction to the 23/90 junction will continue this summer. Gates block this portion of the road. A detour will continue to be in effect for the beginning of the summer.

Lower elevations of roads are melting out, but most are still under snow.

Trails are still snow covered.

Tract D, which includes Mirror, Bird, and Bench Lakes, and Bird Creek Meadows, is closed until 7/1. The Yakama Nation asks that folks please do not climb the mountain from the Yakama side until the Tract D section opens.—Ranger, 5/4.

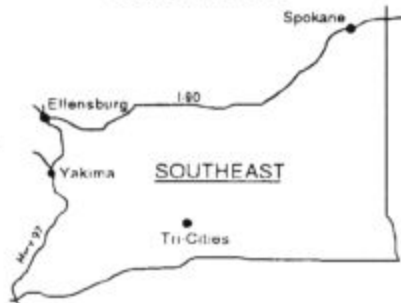
MOUNT SAINT HELENS—Permits are required from 5/15 to 11/1. Call 206-750-3900 for information.—Ranger, 5/4.

WILDFLOWER HIKES—Friends of the Columbia Gorge have scheduled Saturday wildflower hikes to follow the bloom as it unfolds in the Gorge. Prior sign-up is not necessary, but call 503-241-3762 for more information.

June 4, Dog Mountain—7 miles; 2900 feet elevation gain. Meet 9:45am at trailhead on Highway 14.

June 11, Hamilton Mountain—9 miles; 2200 feet elevation gain. Meet 9:30am at trailhead in Beacon Rock State Park.

SOUTHEAST



AMBER LAKE (*Turnbull NWR; USGS Cheney*)—Looking for an early season hike where you will not find anyone else? Here is one, meant for spring or late fall: the abandoned railroad right-of-way of the former Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railroad from Cheney (just outside of Spokane) to Amber Lake provides opportunities for travel, solitude and a chance to walk through the Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge.

Our party of six made this trip on a nice spring day in late April. We left a vehicle at Amber Lake near the Public Fishing Access and then we all drove back to Cheney and started the "right-of-way" corridor at the Cheney-Spangle Road. Abandoned railroads can be an easy walk, as there is relatively no grade, but we all found the large and rough ballast basalt rock used on the road bed made this 12-mile walk a little bit of a challenge.

After 5 hours plus of almost constant hiking, we arrived at Amber Lake, where we found a remote spot and camped just west of the public access. We had planned to continue the next day, but everyone was too tired from contending with the rock roadbed.

This is a good hike for early season. We saw no one on the abandoned railway. This is a remote area with no crossroads for miles and with no sources of drinking water, so carry several containers per person. For more details, pick up a copy of *Washington's Rail-Trails* published by The Mountaineers, and read about Scablands Nature Corridor. This corridor is 132 miles in length and runs from 3 miles east of Cheney to Pasco.—Bill Bunch & Friends, Spokane, 4/23.

OREGON



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BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

It is detailed in a guide called *50 Hikes in Oregon's Coast Range and Siskiyou* (by the Ostertags; published by The Mountaineers; \$10.95).

Jack Nelson and I plus my Boston terrier, Kojak, did this hike April 16. Maryanne K. came along to the trailhead, but decided she was not fit enough to do the whole traverse, which she said was 4 miles; so she merely operated the car shuttle for us (a matter of about 3 miles).

The hike starts on a logging road near Elk Creek then turns and goes up the nose of a ridge. This is a "diretissima" (straight up) climb with a few level platforms where you can catch your breath. A real workout!

The scenery is old Tillamook Burn, evergreen trees that all are about the same age, about 50 years old. The terrain is complex, old basalt and ocean sediments that have rubbed off on the continent as the sea bed slid beneath it a few million years ago.

Sweaty and fatigued, we topped out on the summit of Elk Mountain (about 3000 feet). Here we rested a bit and then it was a steep descent down the other side. Kojak did remarkably well with his short legs. Sometimes he had to be helped past some of the steep boulders.

After a drop down, it was a long climb back up to regain elevation. Then we found ourselves on an old logging road and the going got easier.

The final approach to King Mountain (3200 feet) is a bit airy and quite strenuous. Once done it's great to lie back and know "it's all downhill from here".

When Jack and I did this same hike two years ago we did a lot of brush busting. But now it's very civilized with the trail brushed out and blue dots spray-painted on the trees to keep hikers from getting lost.—Jim Miller, Portland, 4/16.



NEAHKAHNIE MOUNTAIN

—Of all the hikes along the Oregon coast, Neahkahnie is probably the most scenic and is certainly my favorite. A car shuttle is desirable to eliminate about 2 miles of road hiking.

Sue Saul, Lori, Kojak (a Boston terrier) and I parked a car at the south trailhead, then drove back to the north trailhead to begin the hike. North to south is the best way to do this hike because if you climb from the south, the view is behind you.

From the north the trail zigzags up an open slope offering great vistas of blue-green sea and Neahkahnie Meadow—the very spot, according to Indian lore, where the great god Kahnie grew bored with the eternally smooth mill-

pond that was then the sea.

Kahnie proceeded to agitate the water into waves and blew up the wind and the sea changed into a much more dynamic body of water; and it has been thus ever since. It takes a bit of imagination to see the giant god Kahnie out there working his magic.

Soon the trail enters the forest and climbs steadily, working its way across the north side of the mountain. Here are big firs and spruces to admire, and less brush. You can catch glimpses of a deep gully below, terra incognita.

Eventually after much forest the trail breaks out on a saddle and begins to ascend the south side. Here one catches tantalizing glimpses of the sea. A few more switchbacks and voila! the ocean appears far below between your toes!

But that is not all. A little farther on the trail ends at a rocky exposed ridge. You look to right and to left—and are left with the inescapable conclusion that you are supposed to ascend and cross the dinosaur's back. It's not bad—just a bit thrilling at first. And the vast panorama of the blue Pacific 3000 feet below adds immeasurably to this hike.

We had lunch on top and then descended the scenic south side to our waiting car. Total time including lunch about five hours.—Jim Miller, Portland, 5/6.

HIGH LAKES TRAIL—This new 9-mile trail is scheduled for construction this summer. It will link the Fish Lake and Lake of the Woods Recreation Areas through the massive Brown Mountain lava flows, groves of aspen and firs, and views of Mount McLaughlin and Pelican Butte.

For more information, contact the Ashland Ranger Station, 503-482-3333.—Ranger, 5/13.

IDAHO

SAWTOOTH NATL FOREST

—Lower areas are snowfree for hiking, but high roads and trails are still blocked by snow.—Ranger, 5/12.

SAWTOOTH NRA—It will be awhile until trails are thawed and dry enough for hiking. In fact, hiking is discouraged until the trails dry to prevent damage to the path.

The backcountry has its own time schedule and it's about the same every year—the really high country isn't snowfree until late June to mid-July.—Roma Nelson, Sawtooth NRA, 5/16.

PAYETTE NATL FOREST—Rain in McCall has been falling as snow at 7000 feet. That's a good thing to remember when you start off from McCall in shorts and sunshine.

This winter has been short with very low precipitation, so hiking areas are opening earlier than normal, but it will be several weeks before the trail crews begin clearing trails. Expect downed trees and snow drifts.—Ranger, 5/16.

ELSEWHERE



GRAND CANYON SOUTH RIM

(Grand Canyon Natl Park)

—After 8 years of anticipation, I set foot on the South Kaibab trail at 7000 feet heading down to Phantom Ranch at 2400 feet. I would get food and sleep in comfort at Phantom Ranch. The weather was sunny and a cool 40 degrees at 8:30am. Trailhead signs advised carrying ample water. The ice warning was due for removal.

The large scale scenery was beautiful. For the first 1/8 mile of descent, I had to step carefully to avoid mule droppings. Stopped quite often for photography. Most of the day hikers turned back at 5400 feet. No shade and warming rapidly.

Encountered 4 mule trains, 2 with supplies only. Most of the trail was wide enough for easy sharing. Arrived at Phantom Ranch, 7 miles from the rim, at 12:30. Checked in and picked out a bunk in a hiker dorm. The shade of trees and cool Bright Angel Creek were welcome relief from the heat. A beer in the canteen was slightly decadent. Explored some trails before and after dinner. One loud snorer that night in the ten man dorm.

Breakfast at 5am and hiking up Bright Angel trail at 5:40 in the cool morning. Carried the recommended gallon of water. The south rim was 9 1/2 miles away by way of this route. The trail stays near Garden Creek up to Indian Garden, about halfway to the rim. Indian Garden is an oasis in the dry landscape. Trees, restrooms, drinking water and some campsites.

The rock color and formations were very interesting in the changing light. Met the first of several descending mule trains about 10:15, 3 hours from the rim. Numerous day hikers just below the rim. Had one quart of my original gallon left at the top.

A very enjoyable trip. My next trip will be from the North Rim, which was closed due to snow.—Toivo Perala, Seattle, 4/13-14.

(Permits are required for backcountry travel; call the Park at 602-638-7830. See June 1993, page 13 for details.—AM)

DEBORAH RIEHL

RESCUE EPICS

—REMEMBER HYPOTHERMIA?—

On this 70-degree-plus day in May, I'm going to write a cautionary tale about a more common situation in this neck of the woods: rain, snow and cold.

This is the summer of my discontent—looks like no hiking until September for me while my knee heals up. But there are other ways to be a useful rescuer than going tromping off in the woods toting litters.

Two days after my knee surgery I was flaked out on my bed, sore knee up on pillows and covered with ice. Rudy and Willy the Griz were taking full advantage of my immobility and were draped over me, snoozing.

The ubiquitous pager went off. I was dismayed because I couldn't even drive to base camp and run things from there. But in Mountain Rescue we have an In-Town Operations Leader who organizes things on the home front, procuring people and equipment.

I've never before held that job, always preferring to be on the scene, out in the hills. But there's always a first time, so I called in.

The report was two hypothermic hikers at Lake Annette near Snoqualmie Pass. Two others had come out for help. One of the cold hikers was also asthmatic.

Within the hour one of our members, Doug, was at the trailhead. He went in with a witness and a radio to assess the situation. At the railroad grade the witness directed Doug up the creek drainage, rather than up the trail, which doglegs at this point.

Forty-five minutes after leaving the trailhead Doug found the two subjects. They were at the 2400 foot level, in the creek bottom, ¼ mile from the railroad grade.

Doug found one young man standing in the snow, shivering, dressed in wet cotton clothes and socks. The other was barefoot and wrapped in a wet un-pitched tent.

Doug erected the tent and got the two men inside. He dressed them in dry polypro, got them onto ensolite and bundled them in dry sleeping bags. The next team brought more dry clothes. The victims were plied with hot drinks.

After being rewarmed the young men donned dry footwear and were then capable of walking out. I dismissed the paramedics who were waiting at the trailhead in case the hypothermia had proved more severe.

The four young people had originally intended to overnight at Lake Annette. They lost their way at the railroad grade in the snow and hiked straight up

the creek drainage instead. When it got dark, they set up camp. After a cold night they began their retreat at daylight.

One young man clad only in cotton long johns felt he was getting hypothermic. Two of the party left for help, leaving the tent for the other two. They were apparently too cold or too unskilled to set up the tent.

At base camp the young men received a stern lecture from the SAR deputy regarding preparedness and appropriate dress.

△

Debby Riehl, AA7RW, is a member of Seattle Mountain Rescue's board of trustees. She lives in North Creek.



LINDY BAKKAR

FIRST TIME OUT

—A FIRST-TIME GUIDE TAKES OUT FIRST-TIME BACKPACKERS—

She said she had butterflies. What she really had was guts. Sharon had never even been car camping before, and she wanted me to take her backpacking. Was I really ready to be a guide? I would find out.

I decided to invite Mary and Cookie too. Cookie had had a little experience through the Scout program, and Mary had gone car camping before. What I had in mind would be a new experience for all three. I began to prepare.

I picked Lake Valhalla as our destination. Because it is a fairly easy trail, it would probably not make a novice decide never to hike again. It also had great beauty. I had been enchanted by it years before, and it seemed to be calling me back to share the enchantment with the others.

After choosing the destination, the second responsibility I had as a leader was to make sure my charges had the proper gear. So I thoroughly went over my list and created lists for each of them. We went over the lists and I answered questions—lots of questions.

Since Sharon had no experience at all, I decided to go over to her house to help her pack. She had gotten everything together from the list—some borrowed from Scout son Kenny, some of her own, and some purchased.

I showed her how to pack and went over the whys and wherefores of backcountry gear. Why take a warm hat? It's summertime! Why no cotton? What's a trowel for?

I showed her how to take the tube out of the toilet paper to flatten it and pull the paper from the middle. The evening flew by, and when we were finally finished, I was surprised how late it was. As for Cookie, I expected she would know how to pack—and with the list, I was not worried.

But Mary—how could I help her when she lived so far away? Over the phone, we decided what I would lend her and

what she would need to buy. I hoped she would have it together by the time we arrived at her house in Gold Bar on the morning of the trek.

A third responsibility I had to my crew was to know the trail. And so Rasheed and I took a fast day hike to the lake, going up the Smithbrook trail—the shorter of two possible versions. We found it in good condition, though it was steep at first.

Rasheed and I checked out the campsites and we found that there was a "throne." (Definition: outdoor toilet without walls and usually with a good view.) After lunch and a trip around the lake and over a rock slide, we headed back. The rock slide was not for novices, we decided.

The day finally arrived for our backpack adventure. Sharon met me at her door, full of anticipation. With our

packs in the back of my car, we headed north to pick up Cookie, and then east to Gold Bar. It took some time to get Mary's gear packed, but finally we were on our way.

Of course, a hike in the Stevens Pass area must never be taken without a stop at the Sultan Bakery. Without hesitation, we obeyed that rule. It was going to be a good day!

The Smithbrook trail to Lake Valhalla is 2 miles shorter than from the Stevens Pass trailhead. We bumped up the gravel road to the trailhead.

Parking along the edge of the steep road, we put rocks in front of the tires—just in case. And then came the time to put on our hiking boots, heft our packs, and BEGIN.

But there was a problem. Cookie's pack had a stuck bolt that refused to budge. We couldn't get the metal hip supports to loosen to fit her. She had not tried it on at home and now we could not adjust it.

Somehow we got one side loosened and it would have to be enough. I worried that she would develop bruises on her hips. After filling out the trail register, we headed up through the brushy path toward the beckoning forest.

We hiked fairly steadily, not having to stop as often as I had thought we would. The fragrance of fir needles drifted back and forth in the breeze, and the trail was soft with forest duff.

As we climbed to the Pacific Crest Trail above us, we filled the air with happy chatter, punctuated with intermittent silences.

When we were about two thirds of the way to Lake Valhalla, the clouds, which had been gathering all day, let loose a few rain drops to warn us to stop and don our raingear. So stop we did. And none too soon, either!

The sky opened up and dumped buckets. My new hiking partners were getting a taste of rain on the trail. I couldn't



"Guide" Lindy Bakkar on the summit of Mount McCausland.

Mary Sereyka



Lindy Bakkar

Cookie Swartz, reading the summit register on Mount McCausland.

have planned it better to let them have all kinds of experiences!

As the sky continued to pour, our trail turned a corner and started to descend. Off to the left, we could see the lake below—a jewel in a sea of green trees. And as we neared the lake itself, the rain thinned out, withered, and then stopped. Wet bushes brushed us as we checked out campsites, glad to have arrived!

The site we chose was large, with soft, flat spots protected by trees for our tents. I was afraid of more rain, so I got out the tarp too, after the tents were up. It took awhile to find where we wanted to hang our food.

As I was trying to find an appropriate place, a solo hiker came in and set his camp up close to ours. At first, I wondered why he did not pick a more private spot for himself, seeing that there were plenty of other spots.

Later, we found out he had been hiking without seeing people for several days. He longed for nearness to another human being—even if we were strangers. Our visits with him were pleasant, though we were wary at the beginning.

When dinnertime came, Mary gave us a surprise. She had gone down to the lake with a new fishing pole, license in hand, and soon had caught a lovely fish—just the right size for the pie plate she had brought with her as a frypan.

I helped her clean it by taking a bucket of water 200 yards away from the lake, and after digging a hole with my ice axe, I poured water over the fish while Mary cleaned it.

We steamed it in a foil packet on the

pie plate, not having any oil or butter. I had salty crackers I offered for seasoning, but the fish had a good flavor without anything added.

The rest of our dinner was of the dehydrated variety—a homemade concoction I developed for myself a few years before, consisting of brown rice and vegetables, dehydrated in my kitchen, mixed with freeze-dried chicken and instant chicken soup.

Darkness came upon us soon after dinner, as the lake is surrounded by mountains. Mary and Cookie disappeared into their tent. But I didn't want to go to bed yet. Sharon joined me to sit on a huge rock near the lake and take in the beauty of the almost-full moon shining on the water.

And as we chatted softly to one another, we could see small shadows darting back and forth across the rock, from one rock pocket to another. I think they were field mice, sharing that place with us. Later we climbed back up the trail to the waiting tent.

Sleep came only in patches for me that night. The rest of the time I was up fighting a war with some small animal. I thought it was a pika, because it sounded like one to me. Its ears looked the same, and its size matched. But in telling others of the experience, some experts think it might have been a pack rat.

Our food was hung up, so I didn't think there would be a problem. But when I heard plastic rustling I looked out to see a white plastic bag in a spot where it didn't belong. And beside it



Sharon McAllister, on the way to Lake Valhalla.

stood a small animal with shiny eyes staring at my flashlight!

In my pajamas, I got up, put on boots, and went out into the night. I put the plastic bag inside the tent and arranged everything else. Why would an animal go after a plastic bag that had no food in it, and had never had any either? No sooner had I gotten back into my comfortable sleeping bag when I heard more rustling outside.

This time I put on my pile jacket and pile pants along with my boots. After chasing the animal away, I hung Sharon's and my packs, hung part of the stove and other things in the water bucket, hung anything and everything except Mary's and Cookie's packs and the water filter, which seemed untouched.



Lindy Bakkar

Mary Sereyka, on the hillside above Lake Valhalla.

I put the filter outside by my tent door and went back to bed. More rustling. I brought the boots inside. Okay. Let's sleep! More rustling—and a dragging noise. ZIP!! I threw the door open to see my water filter being dragged away from the tent. Out I went.

Grabbing the water filter, and checking out everything else quickly, I put the filter inside the tent with me. I hoped the animal would not try to chew through my tent!

Well, blessed sleep came at last. And morning was not far behind. As I wanted to set a good example, I packed my sleeping bag and Thermarest as soon as I was up. Gathering my clothes together, I couldn't find my hat. Had it become nesting material for a pack rat?

Lindy Bakkar

Later, I found it under Sharon's Thermarest. But my water filter was having problems. Small teeth had punctured the inlet hose near the filter top. A sharp knife effected a good temporary repair and the business of water filtering could go on again.

Mary and Cookie came out and joined Sharon and me for breakfast. We had coffee, hot chocolate, hot granola—and Cookie had some kind of breakfast bar. Afterward, we decided to go for a day hike. We hung our packs from the trees, but left our tents up to dry out. We set off back up the trail to climb a ridge overlooking the lake.

The trail seemed steeper the second day, especially as we ascended through blueberry bushes toward the ridge. All of a sudden, Sharon exclaimed that she couldn't find her glasses and needed to return to a rest stop we had used earlier.

When she had been gone awhile, I began to worry. She was so new at this. What if she took a wrong turn? My responsibilities as a guide came crashing into my mind.

What kind of leader was I to let a novice go back along a trail that connected to several branching trails? I went after her.

As I went around one way, Sharon came up another and as I looked up, I could see her already approaching Mary and Cookie. I ascended a little sheepishly. She was fine. I shouldn't have worried. And she found her glasses, too!

The way to the ridge was steep and open, but rocky in places. Ripe berries dotted the already reddening foliage of the blueberry bushes. Autumn was near. I could see a line of trees that looked to me like the kind that grow on the edge of a ridge top. And as we pushed on, we found that it was so.

When we thought we had gone as far as we could, we dropped our gear and thought about having lunch. But a trace of a trail led down the back, and a rocky outcrop looked inviting. I just had to investigate.

Mary said, "Lindy, don't climb that!" I replied I was just going to look at it. So I went packless down and over a small saddle. Following a narrow footpath on a steep slope, I was able to get up onto the rocks and signal the others.

A register was there for people to sign, bolted into a container fixed in the rocks at the top. Mary, Cookie, and

Sharon decided to come over too. When they were safely on top, I went back for everybody's packs and clothes. I wanted us to have our lunch in that glorious spot—which turned out to be the summit of Mount McCausland.

I am sure each one of us carries her own memories of that place. A hawk circled our perch to look us over as we gazed upon the beauty far below and all around. Each of us wrote something in the book before we bolted it back in its container to wait for another visitor to discover it. Each person wrote beautiful words of thanks and inspiration.

I wish I could reproduce what the others wrote. But I can only reproduce my own words, as my heart created them. "Sitting on this ageless rock, a soft breeze playing with my hair, the warm sun on my back, good friends behind me—this is a place to feel one with nature, to feel the presence of God. May all who came before, and all who come after I leave, walk in beauty."

"Walk in beauty"—the parting words a Cherokee friend of mine said to me the last time I saw her. I had to share these words in such a place as this. It seemed a place for blessings.

Time passed and we had to descend. I was worried about the steepness of the trail in a couple of places, so I got three walking sticks for the others, and down we went—all the way back to the lake to get our packs.

My hanging job was not so good. Some animal had gnawed a hole into my pack. After packing the tents, we checked our area to make sure no sign of our having been there could be seen. Then we began our slow journey back up and out.

Along the way we commented on the positive feelings we all had about the trip. And our descent was steady, bringing us down to our dusty vehicle which was patiently waiting at the side of the road.

We took pictures of ourselves leaning against the car, exhausted, at the end of the trek. Laughing all the time. Glad to have finished, but wanting to do it again some day—maybe somewhere else?

It was a positive experience for all of us. Sharon seemed to love it. Cookie expressed good feelings about it. And I learned from it too, this being my first time as a guide.

But Mary gave me a reward that made my heart glow. I had always

wanted her to get away from her hectic lifestyle and get out into the wilderness into peace. Mary told me a few weeks later that every once in awhile, the meadow at the head of Lake Valhalla pops into her mind and a sense of calmness comes over her.

I am already thinking of next year, when summer comes again. ...

△

Lindy Bakkar, of Lynnwood, is a climber, hiker, and skier. She has been an instructor for Scouting programs for 15 years.

A NOTE ON MOUNT MCCAUSLAND

The name "Mount McCausland" appears on *Green Trails Benchmark Mountain* and on the 1990 Wenatchee National Forest map.

Norm McCausland was a fire management officer on the Skykomish District who was known for his love and care of the backcountry.

Dick Piper, the late sports writer for the *Wenatchee World*, admired Norm McCausland's work and dedication. When Norm died, Dick decided he should be memorialized by having a mountain named in his honor.

Dick took on the task of applying to the Board of Geographic Names to have Mount McCausland made an official name, a long and arduous process.

The name was accepted by the board in January 1990.

—thanks to Kathy Albert, Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest; Glenn Katzenberger, former Stevens Pass Ranger; and Paul Hart, Wenatchee National Forest, for this information.

KAREN SYKES

Lake Serene

—OMITTED FROM GUIDEBOOKS FOR GOOD REASON—

Lake Serene, indeed!

John and I were curious about this notorious hike which has been left out of new editions of hiking guides due to accidents and mishaps on the trail. Further, neither one of us had ever been to Lake Serene and since everyone assumed we had probably been there by now, we wanted to say, "Yes, we've been to Lake Serene."

I never throw anything away so we had no trouble finding the hiking guide that gives a road and trail description. (If you don't know which guide I am talking about, you probably shouldn't attempt Lake Serene.) If you have some knowledge of the area and are an experienced cross-country hiker you won't have a problem.

All we took with us this rainy Sunday morning at the end of April, besides our packs and the essentials for such an epic, was the hiking guide with map and road numbers that were undoubtedly out of date, but this makes it more of an adventure. Besides, we simply wanted to know—was the trail as bad as people said it was?

We hoped to follow the driving directions to the "trailhead" but the road was a nightmare and we couldn't drive more than a short distance (the hiking guide says the road is 1½ miles to its end where the trail begins). John hates road walks and we had plenty of time, so we looked for the other end of the road by way of a network of roads that weren't terribly user-friendly, and John actually found it!

The trail is not signed but is obvious. We knew what to expect—a rough trail with slippery roots and rocks. The old guidebook says it's a 1300-foot gain but due to the steepness of the "hike," it felt like more. Many feet have traveled this trail before us—so many feet, in fact, that diabolical way-trails meander all over the place.

We found that the best way was usually the most well-traveled route. It is not a good trail for a novice. We were

definitely scrambling at times and it was a challenge to stay on the route. We managed to keep to the "trail" most of the time.

In some spots all paths look equally well-trodden. Pick the one you like best. As long as you are going up and avoiding the drop-offs near the waterfalls you will be okay. We encountered a group of teenage boys who had spent the night and were cautiously coming down with full packs.

They said we wouldn't see any snow until we were close to the lake. We were soaking wet by the time we got there, not only from the drizzle and the tree-drip but also from our perspiration—it was a workout.

We were not blessed with a view of Index. We were in a moody, ghostly place of fog and somber trees. The lake and the sky were one cold smear of white and grey. We stayed long enough for a candy bar and started back down.

On our way back down we got into trouble. We made the mistake of following some flagging which took us to the edge of a terrible abyss near the falls.

When John says, "I don't like this," I know I am absolutely going to hate it! Only a few clumps of muddy earth and young, skinny trees kept us from falling into the trectops far below us.

We had to turn back. After one glance downward I said I was glad we were going back up because if that had been the route I wouldn't have budged—I would have needed rescue.

It made me angry that someone had left flagging in such a dangerous spot so we removed it. We left up one yellow ribbon that said CAUTION (we'd overlooked it on the descent). This treacherous spot is near the remains of the old cabin. When you ascend from the cabin, follow the tread to the right of the cabin. Do not go to the left.

We encountered a few other people—none of them seemed to have been there before. We hope they didn't take the wrong turn that we did on coming

down. When we got back to the Jeep there were three other vehicles parked there so this road isn't such a secret after all, apparently. At least the locals know where to go.

In retrospect we both believe that it is not an easy trip even when following the "correct route." It is a scramble in spots. The classic scenario, of course, is just what happened to us—it doesn't take much to get off route. Experienced hikers can get off route too and here it's dangerous.

Lives have been lost on this trail and many people have been injured. We believe that this hike should be kept out of the hiking guides—the publisher of the guide has made the right decision. Lake Serene is best left to the people who know it well or are climbers.

When we weren't cursing or fearing for our lives, we were humbled by the violent beauty of the area. The outlet stream from the lake is choked with trees that have fallen prey to the avalanches that roar down from the peak above. It is not a gentle place. The terrain is steep and rough and beautiful. We couldn't tear ourselves away—after changing into dry clothes we drove around the back roads enjoying the scenery.

△

Karen Sykes, of Seattle, is a member of The Mountaineers and a frequent contributor to Pack & Paddle.

Note:
See information about reconstructing the Lake Serene trail in this issue, page 29.

DALLAS KLOKE

COLORADO: A ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH

—LEARNING THE ROPES ABOUT COLORADO CLIMBING—

Only eight states have major mountaineering peaks available: Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, California, Wyoming, and Colorado. Of these states, only Colorado had eluded me. Formulating our climbing plans for the summer of '93, my friends and I had the Rockies as our number one objective.

Gail Pritchard, Mark DesVoigne, and I spent eleven days there from August 3 to 13. Instead of driving two days both ways, we decided to fly by Morris Airlines. This no-frill flight was about \$200 apiece round trip. We rented a van, the most expensive item of the trip, to get around in, plus carry our three large packs and several duffel bags of gear.

Fortunately, Gail's niece Nancy lives in Eldorado Springs which provided us with a home base for sleeping and storing gear. Nancy Pritchard is a former assistant editor of *Rock and Ice* and an excellent rock and ice climber.

Our main objective was the beautiful alpine Black Lake area of Glacier Gorge. Located in Rocky Mountain National Park, the lake is just northwest of Longs Peak. We had planned to spend four days in this region to climb several peaks including Longs.

It was only a 5-mile hike into the lake plus another half mile or so to the meadows above the lake for our bivouac site at 11,200 feet. I say bivouac because no "camping" is allowed in this area.

When we went to register for a permit, we found out about the rules. Your bivvy must be at the base of your climbing route. Bivvies are only allowed on technical routes of four pitches or more. Your bivvy must be on rock or



Our "bivouac camp" in the Black Lake area.

snow; plus it must be taken down at sunrise. Tents or similar structures are not permitted.

Also, you had to specifically schedule a technical climb each day and move your bivvy to that climb.

These rules threw a "loose rock" into our plans since we were unaware of these regulations before we left Washington.

Since Longs Peak from Black Lake is not considered a technical climb, we were told we couldn't climb it except as a one day climb from the trailhead. We had a two-man tent but no bivvy bags.

We did have two one-man tents, however; although by regulation we couldn't use strings or poles to put them up. Disappointed and frustrated,

we headed back to Eldorado Springs.

In a way the situation we faced was a blessing in disguise as far as the weather was concerned. If we had gone in to Black Lake, the weather would have been bad for two or three days as a front moved across the mountains. Instead, we chose to do some rock climbing in the Eldorado Canyon and Flat Irons area near Boulder.

During the winter when planning for the trip, I noticed a very impressive-looking spire on the cover of the January-April 1988 issue of *Summit*. That spire was the Maiden, an overhanging sandstone pinnacle resembling a clenched fist.

The Maiden had a reputation not for the ascent but for its descent—a 110-foot free rappel. We all agreed we had to climb it. On August 5th after climbing the Matron, another impressive



The Maiden, south face rappel route.

Dallas Kloke

Dallas Kloke

pinnacle, we attempted the Maiden but thunder showers forced us to retreat.

Our party of five returned the next day and we climbed the north face/east ridge route. Our two Colorado friends took pictures of us as we rappelled the spectacular overhang.

On August 7th we headed back to Estes Park for our backcountry permit and a three day stay above Black Lake. What we signed out for and what we actually climbed varied a little bit. The local climbers from the area told us to do our own thing. We did put up our tents, but only on rock and took them down before we left to climb.

On August 8th we climbed Longs Peak by way of the Keyhole route (the tourist route) and then up the Southwest Ridge to the summit. This ridge was a 3-pitch, low class 5 climb but was made more challenging with 20 to 30 mile an hour winds.

We couldn't believe how many people climb this 14,256-foot mountain in jeans or even shorts. Many of the climbers carry no pack with extra gear for an emergency. Usually in the early afternoon, thunderstorms hit which was the case the day we ascended it.

The next day we climbed the North Ridge of Spearhead, an impressive lower summit which is very popular with rock climbers. Several difficult routes exist on its north face.

An early start is important if you want to beat the thunderstorms. The day before, several parties were caught about half way up and had to rappel off. This was a moderate class 5 route on excellent granite.

On our final day, we ascended McHenry Peak by way of a class 3 scramble in a whiteout. Again we were surprised when we met a party of three young men climbing in jeans, only one pack among them, and no ice axes. The route had several steep snow patches.

As we returned to camp, a helicopter was overhead flying towards Longs Peak. Later, we found out it was rescuing a climber on the east face of Longs. Browsing through a book on the history of Longs at the visitors' center, I found out a good percentage of the deaths were due to hypothermia.

Our final climb in Colorado was the east face of the Third Flatiron. This thousand foot route is easy, mainly a class 4 ascent. The famous climber



Dallas Kloke

The Matron, East Face.

Yvon Chouinard called it the "finest beginner's climb in the country."

To climb this route, we put aside our traditional wool pants and donned our newly acquired Lycra bottoms. Nancy talked us into buying the colorful, tight-fitting pants in Boulder.

At the start of the route, we posed for pictures as other climbers chuckled under their breath at the three of us. Here were three "old guys" wearing blue, purple and gold Lycra, clinging to the rock for a "team" photo.

As we climbed the enjoyable route, Mark and I had to laugh too as we watched Gail climb with Nancy. Besides his gold pants, Gail had pink rock shoes, a pink T-shirt and a lime-col-

ored helmet. He really stood out on the rock.

I would certainly recommend a trip to the Rockies of Colorado. You might not be able to climb "Cascade style" in the mountains but the beautiful, open country, excellent rock, and numerous peaks and routes are well worth the trip.

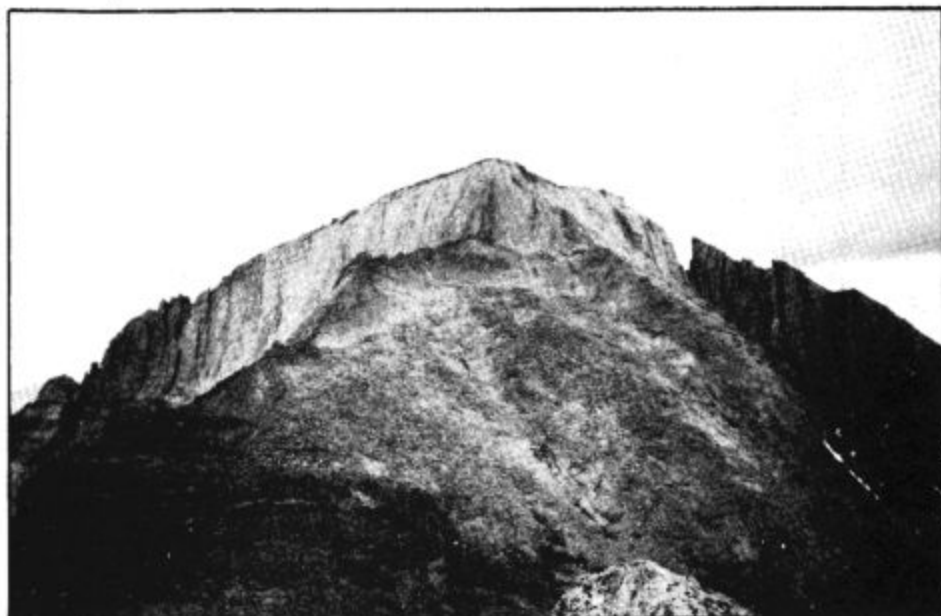
Several guidebooks are available both for the mountains and rock climb areas.

For information on Rocky Mountain National Park, you can write:

**Superintendent
Rocky Mountain National Park
Estes Park CO 80517
or call 303-586-2371.**



Dallas Kloke, of Anacortes, has been mountaineering for 33 years. He is the author of Boulders and Cliffs and Winter Climbs.



Dallas Kloke

Longs Peak, from the southwest.

BILL HOKE

River Voices on the Duckabush

—Prologue—

Alone for five days in the Olympics

River voices are having an animated talk.
I hear them coming in and out of the trees.
Above, toward Heart Lake, birds call
back and forth across the trail at the top of the ridge
talking about the wet man
sloshing his way up.

I

I hear my first river voices from the Skokomish;
at Madeline Creek, from above Big Log Camp,
crossing to Camp Pleasant, then the sun burning my pack,
Mount Hopper is on the ridge above, impossibly far away.
The rest of the afternoon river voices murmur,
my time now measured by switchbacks and sweating.

I hear river voices near the bridge at Eight Stream,
near Two Bear Camp and, in the distance, from the shelter
at Home Sweet Home where a wide red shooting star welcomes
me and falls behind Mount Steele. Then I am asleep, watching for
huckleberries, bears, omens, anyone.

II

On the Duckabush, after the second no bridge fording
there are snakes where there have been none for two days before.
One comes to me and the stomp from my boot
sends vibrations in the earth and it turns.
The hawk will not bother to touch the earth.

Unblown puddles of western white pine cones lie
like hats on the trail. I kick at the first, learn respect
and cast the next to the wind; they go deep down to
the Duckabush. My hands are sticky with the sweet
pitch. I won't see them full grown. *Pinus monticola*.

The trail comes into the open and for once it is not a
false top. It is Marmot Lake. It is quiet. Deserted would be
a better word. Rain plinks on the lake. This is a very big place to
be alone. It rains hard now and the rocky trail goes up, to the
trees and unnecessarily long, over talus to Heart Lake.

I put my camp on a tombolo at Heart Lake. A big deer
comes at night, disrespectfully noisy but ignoring my badly
bear-proofed food bag in the tree. More space junk than shooting stars
showed, me half out of the tent, lying on my back at
the movies, the lake the perfect screen.

For two days I am alone here, evading those look-you-in-the-eye self-conversations until I am caught looking at myself in the lake and I looked away, refusing to be seen.
We didn't argue, mind you.

III

Day three. I have a five hundred acre playground with bear and deer and elk deep into the edges in the trees, watching this man finger traverse a slab bowl, stand at a false summit, waving at no one. An eagle, two thousand feet below, circles and soon rises above me on the narrow col. He is marmot hunting in weather perfect for the task.

Turning slightly I can see right to the end of Enchanted Valley and all the mountains, streams, river voices in between, since millennia. It is likely I am the first person ever to stand here. It is that big. It is indelible now in my life mind. I will return to this place.
(I have already gone back, on my way to sleepless nights).

IV

The trail up to O'Neil Pass is awash in the morning rain; my black umbrella makes me feel like a crow and I close it, finding it too short for a proper walking stick. I push the trail, resting just once from the final trees to the pass. It stops raining twenty feet from the top. I momentarily stand on the throne of the Duckabush, boiling up clouds.

I have come four days to this trail, hugging the mountainside, in and out of tall old growth timber with the Enchanted Valley now over my left shoulder.

Bear scat on the trail.
All other senses stop. I pull my head back and sniff, waiting for the swirling wind to bring me scent. I am in my Indian life again. I know the bear is gone, but he is here, berry hunting. I hurry ahead.

It rains again and stops and I have lunch in an avalanche field where fall comes up from below in clouds and misting rain. Cheese and crackers and deep, under my feet, river voices rumbling and discussing. The trail repeats itself again and again but it is never the same. No other people here. It rains and I wind down, Mount Anderson gone in the fog somewhere.

V

Then, up there, where the trail curves in a half circle, back to the inside of the ridge, at the bottom of an all but gone snow couloir, in the trail, there, just about the bend in the rocks, river voices coming up from below

... speaking Quinault now, I see someone looking for huckleberries. I see her quick, ferret-like moves, her vermilion beret cutting through the mist and I look, staring hard, and then asking out loud, to no one in particular, "Is that you, mother?"

alpine lakes regulations

Not far from Washington's major population centers lie 700 pristine lakes nestled among lush subalpine meadows, thickly forested valleys and rugged mountain peaks.

This spectacular 393,000-acre alpine region was protected by an Act of Congress in July 1976, and is our Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The Wilderness Act intends that Wilderness not be managed primarily as a recreational area. Recreation use may be limited when it begins to impact other values, such as solitude, wildlife, native plants and natural processes.

This summer, the Forest Service will implement new policies in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. These new policies will help protect this fragile, heavily-used Wilderness in the center of the Cascades.

Here is an outline of the new policies that will go into effect over the next two years. This list does not provide all of the information on specific area restrictions. Contact the nearest Ranger Station, or pick up the new brochure, "Alpine Lakes Wilderness, New Policies for Visitors, 1994," for details.

A Wilderness permit will be required for all day and overnight use between

Wilderness is "... land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions ..."

Wilderness Act of 1964

5/15 and 10/31.

Permits this year will be unlimited and free of charge and available at ranger stations and trailheads. They will be used to monitor visitation patterns in the Wilderness.

Permits for overnight use in the Enchantment permit area are already limited, and beginning in 1995, permits will also be limited for overnight use in the West Fork Foss area, the Snoqualmie Pass area, and an expanded Enchantment Lakes area.

Campfires are prohibited above 4000 feet west of the Cascade Crest and above 5000 feet east of the Crest.

Campfires within half a mile of some destinations below these elevations are also prohibited.

Using a campstove instead of a fire

halts the consumption of ancient sub-alpine trees and snags, stops the accumulation of fire pits, decreases the likelihood of human-caused forest fires, and helps protect the integrity of the ecosystem.

Dogs must be leashed on all hiking trails off I-90 and Highway 2 west of Stevens Pass. They are not allowed in the Enchantment Lakes area. This pro-

ducts wildlife and the Wilderness experience for other visitors.

Leashing is not required on trails open to pack and saddle animals, although dogs must be under voice control at all times.

Maximum group size (people, pack and saddle animals totaled) is 12. In the Enchantment permit area the group size limit is eight, and pack and saddle animals are prohibited.

Campsites for smaller groups are easier to find and they harmonize better with the environment.

Alpine lakeshores have particularly fragile vegetation and banks. Beginning in 1995, camping will be limited to designated campsites in many areas.

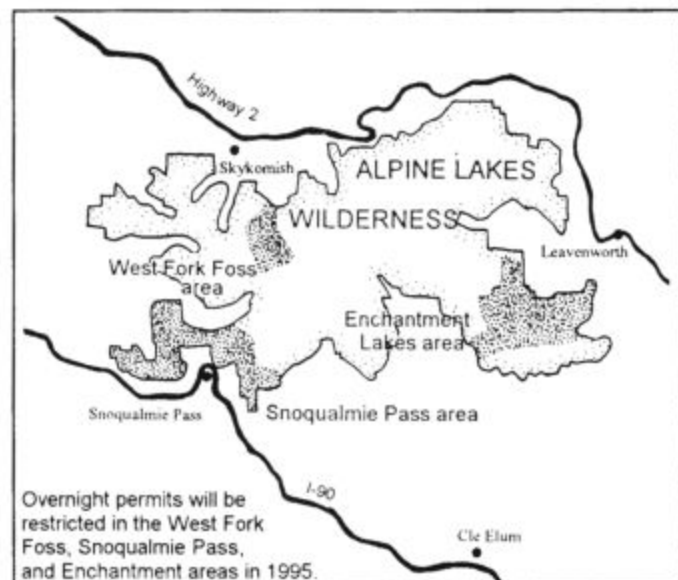
Camping is prohibited within 200 feet of Cradle, Edna, Cup, and Larch Lakes, and Escondido Tarns.

Destinations operating with designated campsites in '95 are Gem, Gravel, Island, Lower Tuscohatchie, Mason, Melakwa, Ollalie, Pratt, Rainbow, Snow, Talapus, Williams, Big Heart, Copper, Dorothy, Little Heart, Malachite, Surprise, Trout, Ridge, Caroline, Chain, Colchuck, Doelle, Ingalls, Mary, Nada, Snow, and Upper Florence lakes, and Headlight Basin.

To protect water quality, beginning in 1995 camping with pack or saddle stock will be prohibited in some areas and allowed only in designated sites in other areas. If you travel with horses, you'll want to check on the specific regulations.

Along with the new regulations, the two national forests will coordinate a wilderness education program that will be aimed at showing folks minimum-impact hiking, camping and stock-use techniques. △

Compiled from information provided by the Forest Service.



TICK TALK

—Here's your response to last month's question, "Do ticks really exist?"—

Introducing the critter

Ticks are blood-sucking parasites that attach to the skin of warm-blooded mammals, feed, and drop off. The active feeding season is April through June. There are more than 40 varieties of tick in this part of the world.

Despite the commotion about Lyme disease, only one species of tick so far has been reported to carry the disease—the small deer tick, which is found in some parts of the Pacific Northwest. Even in infested areas, however, only 5% of the ticks transmit the disease, according to an article in *Consumer Reports* (July 1993).—*Editor*.

Never a Tick

Ticks—did someone say ticks? I'm sure you must have missed a fork in the road somewhere in Minnesota or Montana. This is Mosquito Land, not Tick Land!

I was raised at Longmire in Mount Rainier National Park, and spent most of my childhood playing in the woods, building forts and tree houses (please don't tell John Krambrink) and playing mountain man on every large chunk of granite.

One of my favorite things to do after school was to lie back against the trunk of a tall fir and just stare up at the trees. Once in a while I would get a little ant up my shorts, but *never* a tick.

I have been playing in the woods ever since, and while I have been severely eaten alive by mosquitoes and no-sec-ums, and of course those nasty little black flies, I must say I have never seen a tick. Nor have I ever had a fellow backpacker become attached to one.

As for your question about carrying a tick kit, the answer is no. However, I always carry some jungle juice and a can of Rhuli Spray. Maybe these items qualify as a "mosquito kit."

—*Billy Butler, Marysville*.

Rock Mountain

I have never had a problem with ticks in all my outings until about 2 years ago on the Rock Mountain trail and I found three on my clothing! I have

heard since then that this trail does have that problem.

I will be interested to find out what others say about the "tick kit."

—*Connie McLaughlin, Edmonds*.

Unexpected on West Side

4/17: Mount Baldy (Easton). Four of us picked up several ticks on clothes and hair. I would expect ticks on the east side—right?

4/20: Went to Mount Ararat (Kautz Creek) on Wednesday and picked up ticks on a rock ridge below Mount Ararat.

Hiking down from the summit of Ararat, we stopped on a snowfree rocky/heather spot for a drink of water and rest. Soon started seeing ticks on our clothing. Of course we didn't stay long.

Checked ourselves in the parking lot; found one in my hat and one in tee shirt. Driving home found one in my hair stuck, but I pulled it off and tossed it out the car window! Still have a small bump. First I've known of ticks in Mount Rainier National Park.

—*Sally Pfeiffer, Seattle*.

All in your imagination

I often feel like I'm living in another world from the mainstream folks—in all my many years of hiking I've seen a grand total of *one* tick. That was on the trail to the Necklace Valley when we stopped for lunch.

When I read about other hiker's experiences with things like ticks and giardia and when I have seen so little of either (I drink the water straight), I do wonder.

—*Mystery Hiker, Granite Falls*.

Don't listen to silly advice

You have finally lured me out of the woods with your call for input on ticks.

I grew up in southern Oregon—ticks all over. They seemed to prefer animals to humans (more hair to hide in, maybe)

but I did get a few.

Ticks are in the brush waiting for something to come pushing through. Staying in the clear and checking yourself after sitting down will help.

All my life I've heard silly advice for removing embedded ticks, such as "twist counterclockwise." Really! Do ticks go in by dancing around clockwise on their heads? Do they have threaded snouts?

You can remove a newly embedded tick by steady pulling. But there is a better way.

Simply rub a tiny dab of Ben-gay or other penetrating menthol or camphor based ointment into the skin in front of the tick as close as you can get it. A flat toothpick works well. In a minute or two Mrs. Tick gets a taste of the stuff and backs out on her own, spitting and gagging (sort of). No harm done to either of you.

I discovered this method when I was a youngster and feeling creative. I got the chance to test it again two years ago when one of my senior hikers discovered a tick on her tummy. She applied the Ben-gay as directed and out came the tick.

I suspect this stuff would be effective as repellent applied on ankles or wrists, and probably safer than the usual chemicals. I'm even planning to see if it repels mosquitoes (perhaps not, but we can always hope ...).

An ointment for sore muscles is a logical addition to a first aid kit and its effectiveness as a tick remover is a nice bonus.

—*Melody Graves, Springfield*.

Kitchen matches

I grew up in the South where ticks are plentiful. Every night when we kids came in from playing, my mother would make all four of us strip on the back porch for a tick check.

She kept a box of kitchen matches handy and when she spotted a tick, she would light a match, blow it out, and touch the hot end to the embedded tick. It would back right out.

Swallow's Nest usually carries a



"tick kit" but I've always used the match method.

—*Von, Swallow's Nest.*

Don't panic

I've never had a tick attached to me more than just being on my clothes. When I discover it, I'm always thoroughly disgusted and just want to brush the thing off as fast as possible.

That's not a good reaction, though, when the tick has really latched onto you. You want to apply whatever stuff to it you like (I've heard things like petroleum jelly work) to get it to back out. If you pull on it, do it slowly. The worst thing is to leave any of it in you; it can really get infected.

Here at Marmot Mountain Works we carry three different kinds of "tick kits." They range in price from \$3 to \$15 and all involve a basic tweezer, plus additional things like a magnifier or antiseptic.

—*Matthew, Marmot Mountain Works.*

Save those ticks for your doctor

Two years ago I brought back a tick from a trip to Lake Wenatchee. It was on my back about where my pack strap crossed my shoulder blade. All I was aware of was a chafing sensation.

That evening, when the sensation didn't go away, I asked Steve to take a look for me and he informed me it was a thoroughly embedded tick. We soaked a cotton ball in rubbing alcohol, held it on the tick and waited. In a few minutes it began to loosen and back out,



Linda Rostad

A tick pays a visit on Davis Peak.

and soon Steve was able to grab it with tweezers and pull, steadily and firmly.

I went right to my doctor the next day. She made sure the spot wasn't infected, and she also said I should have brought the tick in for identification and to determine what diseases it might be carrying (Lyme disease is just one).

Last year we went to Rock Mountain in the spring. Although we didn't get any ticks, our dog Jenny brought home 30, which we pulled off her at home! The vet told us Lyme disease is rarely transmitted to dogs.

—*Linda Rostad, Bothell.*

Hot match saves the day

I haven't had any personal tick encounters since I was a kid in New Jersey. We used the hot match system then—the ticks were so big that we could slip the hot match head under the tick's belly. They came right off.

I have since heard that applying 100%

DEET will also make them back out.

Once when my wife Kim and I were at a formal East Coast party, I saw a look of horror cross her face as she realized she had a tick in her scalp! She hustled out of there and I followed her into the ladies room to help. I used a hot match on that one, too, and saved the day.

HMR carries a high quality, super-fine tweezer that can be used for a variety of things, including ticks.

I have lots of good leech stories, too, if you ever want information on leeches! —*Jim O'Malley, High Mountain Rendezvous.*

Check every day in tick country

At Sports Replay we carry Uncle Bill's tweezers for about \$5. They're a high-quality tool that can be a very versatile part of a first aid kit.

I've never had any tick experiences myself, but my daughter went to school in Colorado Springs and spent her summers in Estes Park. Every day after hiking there would be a tick check. It's much easier to remove a tick before it's fully embedded.

—*Lila Erlich, Sports Replay.*

Note

Our call for tick comments not only lured these contributors out of the woods, but also lured two ticks off Davis Peak and into the *Pack & Paddle* office. Yellow Cat was not pleased—but at least now she believes in ticks!—*Editor.*



Pack & Paddle Photo Event

Sharing photos of backcountry trips is always a pleasant pastime. This year *Pack & Paddle* readers have a great opportunity to do so in our first Photo Event. Here's the details:

THEME: Backcountry travel—any outdoor scene relating to hiking, backpacking, climbing, skiing, snowshoeing, canoeing or kayaking.

CATEGORIES: Initially all photos will be grouped together. Subsequent breakdown into specific categories may be done depending on the types of photos received.

FORMAT: Any color slide, color print or black-and-white print is acceptable.

RECOGNITION: A portfolio of photos will be selected and published in a fall issue of *Pack & Paddle*. Also, several photos which best typify the theme will be chosen to receive \$25 gift certificates at a local outdoor store.

ENTRIES: Include your name, address, and scene description for each photo. If you want us to return your entry, please include a self-addressed envelope with correct return postage. Send entries to Pack & Paddle Photo Event, PO Box 1063, Port Orchard WA 98366.

DEADLINE: To let you take advantage of trips this summer, entries can be submitted anytime until August 31, 1994. Call if you have questions: 206-871-1862.

HANDLING: While *Pack & Paddle* will handle all submissions with care, we are not responsible for loss or damage.



REST STOP

EQUIPMENT, RECIPES, TIPS

NOT TOO STRENUOUS—Dealing with an injury Mr. Maphead suffered during ski season has made me wonder—where are the best high, above-treeline hikes that can be done without a major hike (say, under 5 miles)?

I want beautiful alpine walks for someone not quite up for anything too strenuous, at least temporarily. Anybody have any ideas?—*Mystery Hiker, Granite Falls.*

PACK GOATS—For the past year, Janolyn and Curtis Melseth, of Quilcene, have been raising and training several young goats as packers. Janolyn says she got into packing with goats because she's raised goats for eight years, and because she likes hiking, and because she has four children.

"Anyone with children knows that taking them hiking is slow, and there's so much stuff to carry," says Janolyn. With a goat, she can bring plenty of food and gear, with space left over for a small child to ride.

"Goats are very people-oriented and are ideal for hiking with children," she says. Recently the family took the goats on an overnight outing to Camp Handy. The goats, says Janolyn, ride to the trailhead easily in the back of her Toyota station wagon.

The Melseth's business, Shadetree Pack Goats, not only offers trained trail goats for sale, but also can take you and your family on a get-acquainted goat hike in the Olympics.

Contact **Shadetree Pack Goats, 2705 Dabob Road, Quilcene WA 98376** (206-765-3945).

GO LIGHT, GO CHEAP—World paddler Audrey Sutherland's guiding philosophy is "go light, go cheap." She carries the backpacker's credo ("make everything do double duty") one step further—she makes everything do triple duty.

For example, she uses the bladder from a box of wine for a water bag. Inflated slightly it makes a comfortable seat, and also is a pillow.

"Warm and dry is all that matters," says Audrey; dirt does not count. She takes one set of clothes on a trip and wears them for weeks.

The author of *Paddling Hawaii and Paddling My Own Canoe*, she buys her travel clothes at thrift shops, and her gear at garage sales. Between appearances at The Mountaineers building in

April, she ran downstairs to the equipment sale, and came back beaming because she had found a back-up stove, the little indestructible 8R, at a bargain price.

THORLO SOCKS—I wonder if you have ever heard of a hiking sock called Thorlo (the rest of the name is "Outdoor Mountain Climbing Sock").

REI sells them for \$14 a pair, or 2 or more pairs at \$13 each. Recently, I purchased two pairs, and I have never been more satisfied in my life.

Often the socks that I have worn lose some of their elasticity after a time, and just seem tired. Thorlo socks always seem fresh. A real treasure!—*Jim Doubleday, Issaquah.*

STOVE GASKETS—Check your stove for gaskets, O-rings, and leather pumps. These parts can dry and cause you loads of grief if they fail in the backcountry.

A little vaseline or vegetable oil rubbed into the parts can extend their usefulness. Do it *before* your Memorial Day weekend trip.

CLUB IDEAS—Here are a couple of ideas my friend Carol Woods used when leading a hike for the Sierra Club:

1. Call the Ranger Station to ask them what trail they'd like to see explored and reported back on;
2. Take a box of 100% recycled kitchen bags on the hike for a trash-picking contest—the winner gets a prize of munchies.—*Lisa Bliss Darling, Seattle.*

WATERPROOF DUFFLES—If you have one of those neat Cascade Designs waterproof duffel bags, take care of the zipper. If the zipper is parked partially open for any length of time it can create a tiny dent in the seal between the top and bottom zipper components. This little dent is a potential leak.

The zipper should always be completely closed or completely open. To store duffles, leave the zipper completely closed.

WIN FAME & ADMIRATION!

Send us your favorite recipes for hiking and paddling; a review of your newest (or oldest) piece of gear; a safety tip; or tell us about modifying or making your own gear.

PACK & PADDLE
PO BOX 1063
PORT ORCHARD WA 98366

The waterproof zipper is the most costly part of the duffel. Cascade Designs will replace it if you break it, but if you take care if it it will last a long time.

BOWRON LAKE VIDEO—A 20-minute video is now available on Bowron Lake Provincial Park. The tape is a slide show transferred to tape, but the photos are lovely and a narrator leads you through the Park, advising on preparations and precautions.

Available for \$24.95 from Pacific Edge Publishing and Media Service, RR 2 Site 21 C-50, Gabriola Island BC V0R 1X0 Canada (604-247-8806.—*from Wave-Length.*

OCEAN KAYAK FESTIVAL—The weekend of June 17-19 is the date for Gabriola Island's Kayak Festival. Displays, demonstrations, workshops (on water and on shore), fun paddles and a gear swap are on the schedule.

Registration (\$99 CDN with your own boat; \$109 without) must be in by June 10. Contact Wave-Length, RR 1 Site 17, Gabriola Island BC V0R 1X0 Canada (604-247-9789).

FIRST HITCH SCRAMBLE—It is springtime again and time to hit the trail to burn some of that winter "reserve." Each year at this time I inevitably get caught up in the "first hitch scramble."

Those of you who work or spend much time in Wilderness know what I am talking about. It's the first time out since last fall and nothing is where it's supposed to be.

Your stove has food and coffee from last August baked hard into the burner, your tent is moldy from too much moisture and too little air and your polypro smells like nothing you've ever smelled before.

As the concept of the food web is known to most, so should the concept of the "trip web." This is the idea that everything you do while in the Wilderness is directly related to how well you plan and prepare for your trip before reaching the trailhead.

Being well prepared will not only benefit yourself, it will help lessen your impacts while enjoying the Wilderness.—*Tony Botello, Wilderness Ranger, Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness, excerpted from "Frankly Speaking."*

PANORAMA

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

GRIZZLYWARE—Grizzlyware has a new address. The business has moved to 2309 Boylston Ave E #101, Seattle WA 98102. The 800 number remains the same: 800-487-3918.

Grizzlyware president Jan Naragon reports that the software company continues to expand its Best Foot Forward hiking guides: a database for Colorado trails will be out early this summer.

The Best Foot Forward series already covers Washington, Oregon, Montana, and parts of California. The programs run on Apple or PC equipment; contact Grizzlyware for information.

DESTIVELLE SOLOS MATTERHORN—Catherine Destivelle of France has completed the first solo winter climb by a woman to the top of the Matterhorn.

She reached the 14,692-foot summit after four days of climbing the Bonatti route, which is extremely difficult and seldom used even by teams.—*excerpted from Trail and Timberline, the publication of the Colorado Mountain Club.*

WILDERNESS BILLS—The Montana Wilderness Act, HR 2473, would permanently protect more than one-third of Montana's 6 million acres of roadless National Forest lands. The most controversial aspect of the bill, so-called "release language," would trade protection of one roadless area for the exploitation of another.

Another proposal, HR 2638, is the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Act, which would protect nearly every acre of roadless Forest Service land in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, eastern Washington and Oregon. This wider-ranging bill has the potential to preserve huge tracts of wilderness and wildlife for the region.—*from Conservation News, published by The Mountaineers Conservation Division.*

SNOQUALMIE PASS CITY—Over the next several years, more than 420 new homes, condominiums and apartments will go up at Snoqualmie Pass.

A long-range plan has been drafted by some of the 100 people who already live near the pass or own property and businesses there. If the plan is approved, the hamlet may become a year-round community.

Generally, the plan envisions clusters

of mixed residences of alpine design, connected by a public-trail system. Under the proposal, commercial development—lodging, restaurants, retail shops—would be clustered along I-90 near exits 53 and 54 rather than in a strip.—*excerpted from the Seattle Times.*

WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL—As part of the "Celebrating Wildflowers" program sponsored by the Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington will host its 3rd annual Wildflower Festival June 18 and 19 at the school complex.

The weekend will include guided nature walks, wildflower shows, demonstrations by local tribal members on traditional uses of native plants, and a hike (9am on the 19th; meet at Ranger Station) on the Old Sauk River trail led by Lightbulb Winders.

For more information, call the Darrington Ranger Station, 206-436-1155.

SWAUK DISCOVERY TRAIL—The dedication of this new trail will take place June 4th at 1pm at the trailhead on Highway 97.

The 2.6-mile trail is an easy path with spectacular views and wildflowers. Guided walks will be offered from 2 to 4pm.

The public is invited to attend the opening ceremony. Call Debbie Curry, Cle Elum Ranger Station, for more information: 509-674-4411.

COUGAR NEWS—A 7-year-old boy was mauled by a cougar on the way to school in Gold River, BC, in early May.

Wildlife officers with a pack of tracking dogs had found and killed the cougar within an hour of the attack. The cat was a 2-year-old male weighing about 80 pounds. Two other boys threw rocks at the cougar, then ran for help. The injured boy remains in serious condition in the hospital.

Two years ago an 8-year-old boy was killed by a cougar in the same school district. Of the 151 cougar attacks on Vancouver Island since 1970, three have been fatal. Most attacks have taken place on the West Coast of the island, where cougars have relatively little contact with humans.

In Cool, California, a cougar ambushed and consumed 40-year-old Barbara Schoener at the end of April. She is the first person this century killed in California by a cougar.

Schoener was jogging along a popular trail in the Sierra Nevada foothills when the cougar attacked her. Officials are looking for a mature male cat of about 140 pounds.—*excerpted from articles in the Vancouver Sun by Mark Hume.*

WOLVES IN ADIRONDACKS—An article in the May/June issue of *Adirondack*, the magazine of the Adirondack Mountain Club, supports re-establishing a wolf population in the Adirondacks.

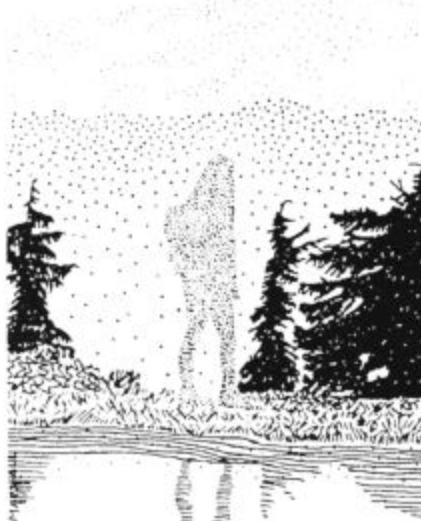
Author John Green writes that several areas in the Adirondacks provide suitable habitat "where a reintroduction would be successful."

APPALACHIAN TRAIL EXTENSION—A plan to extend the Appalachian Trail another 250 miles into Quebec from its current end in Maine has been proposed by a candidate for the governor of Maine.

The new proposed terminus would be at the end of the Appalachian range in the Chic-Choc Mountains of the Gaspé Peninsula.

AT Conference executive director Dave Startzell said that plans to extend the trail in both directions have surfaced in the past. Suggestions for new southern terminals have included Alabama and Florida.

He said any decision to extend the AT would depend on the Conference's member clubs that build and maintain its various sections.—*excerpted from the Seattle Times.*



PANORAMA

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

PARKS CANADA PLANS—Parks Canada has recently developed a draft 15-year management plan for Mount Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks and is seeking public review of the plan. Copies of the draft plan are available for review at the offices of MPs, MLAs, and local libraries.

A Parks Canada newsletter describes the plan in extremely general, superficial terms, and provides no specific details other than some confusing maps and irrelevant profiles of various Parks Canada employees.

Every 5 years a National Park management plan must be updated. It is now time to update the plans for Banff, Jasper, Kootenay, and Yoho Parks, and another recent Parks Canada newsletter describes the process and the current issues to be considered in the 5-year review. This newsletter is far superior to the Revelstoke/Glacier one as it actually provides details. Many of the details should be of vital interest to members of the British Columbia Mountaineering Club *[for anyone who visits these regions—AM]* as they involve controls over air access, closing backcountry cabins, growth of towns within the Parks, etc.

If you wish to find out more or get involved, contact Public Consultation Coordinator, Parks Canada, PO Box 2989 Station M, Calgary ALTA T2P 3H8 (403-292-4754).—*from the BC Mountaineering Club Newsletter.*

MONTE CRISTO—The Trust for Public Lands bought 250 acres of private land in Monte Cristo in April. The land will be sold to the Forest Service

later this year.

In May, the River Network bought another 154 acres of private land that it intends to donate to the Forest Service. The 154 acres consists of mining claims at the headwaters of the Sauk River adjacent to the Henry M. Jackson Wilderness.

The two purchases will help protect the historic Monte Cristo townsite from development, logging, and mining.—*excerpted from the Seattle Times.*

LAKE SERENE TRAIL—A few years ago, the Lake Serene trail, near Index, had a reputation for having the most rescues in the nation. After measures by the Forest Service and guidebook publishers, use has dropped, and so have the deaths and injuries.

Jerry Zimmerman, of the Skykomish Ranger Station, told *Pack & Paddle* that the Forest Service is going ahead with its plan to reconstruct the Lake Serene trail, as provided in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness management plan. "Safety is one of our main concerns," said Jerry, "along with protecting the fragile shoreline of the lake."

Last year the Skykomish District studied the roads and decided to reconstruct the 6021-010 road to the trailhead. Now the District is studying the trail. They should reach a decision by this summer, says Jerry, and begin reconstruction and rehabilitation on the trail next year.

"There's never going to be an easy way to get to Lake Serene," Jerry said. "It's always going to be a steep trail. But we *can* make it safer."

Renovating the trail will involve closing the many dangerous side trails

and reconstructing one main route.

NACHES INTEREST GROUP—The next meeting of the monthly Trails and Wilderness Interest Group for the Naches District is June 6 at 7pm at the Ranger Station. Any interested person is invited to attend.

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY—You've surely heard all the hoopla about National Trails Day, June 4. North Bend will host a big trail festival, with booths, speakers, and events.

The Olympic Outdoor Fair will do a similar thing on the Olympic Peninsula from 10am to 4pm at the Chimacum Community Center on June 4. Goats from Shadetree Pack Goats, llamas from Kit's Llamas, a donkey from Backcountry Horsemen and who knows what all else will be there to entertain you.

Chimacum is about 15 miles from the west end of the Hood Canal bridge.

CONSERVATION AWARD—The Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition received the Chevron-Times Mirror Magazine's Conservation Award on May 18 in Washington DC.

This awards program is the oldest and most prestigious conservation awards program in the country. Founded in 1954, the awards recognize individuals and organizations whose achievements have helped perpetuate and inspire the ideals of conservation.

For information about WWRC, contact Janet Wainwright, Director, 4001 SW Cloverdale, Seattle WA 98136 (206-938-4513).—*excerpted from WWRC's "Land News."*

BACKCOUNTRY ISSUES

A LISTING OF CURRENT ISSUES OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

GRAZING—New rules for range management and grazing on National Forests and Grasslands are being studied. The public comment period is open through July 28. For more information, contact Colville National Forest, 765 S Main Street, Colville WA 98114 (509-684-3711).

EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT—Studying the entire Columbia Basin. Public input welcome. Call Kathy Campbell, 509-522-4030, for more information and public meeting schedule.

MARINE TRAIL SURVEY—The BC Marine Trail Association will be conducting a survey this summer about the possibility of a water trail along the BC Coast. If you cannot find a survey in your area, they will mail you one: BC MTA, 3390 W 44 Ave, Vancouver BC V6N 3K8 Canada (604-263-7737).

PACIFIC RIM NATIONAL PARK—A summary of new management guidelines has been released. Public comments are asked before the guidelines are made final. For a copy of the summary, or to comment, write: Pacific Rim

National Park Reserve, Box 280, Ucluelet BC V0R 3A0 Canada.

MOUNT REVELSTOKE and GLACIER NATIONAL PARKS—Draft 15-year management plan has been released. Public comment is sought. For information, contact: Public Consultation Coordinator, Parks Canada, PO Box 2989 Station M, Calgary ALTA T2P 3H8 Canada (403-292-4754).

EDITOR'S JOURNAL



Early morning (too early!) on Mount Hood.

FROM THE MAILBOX—"Boots sends Yellow Cat a friendly meow!"—MH.

"At our age all of our trips are with wheels, but we enjoy the magazine very much."—JC.

"Each issue is outstanding."—GH.

"I start reading at the mailbox."—TP.

SENDING IN REPORTS—"I've never contributed anything before, but I'm going to give it a try ..." starts a recent letter from a subscriber.

We think that's great, because that's how trail information gets out: you hike or paddle a trail and tell someone else about it—either at work, or through your club newsletter, or through *P&P*.

It seems we're so busy in our society that we need to make the most of our visits to the backcountry. Your shared experiences will help other *Pack & Paddle* readers, and we all appreciate it.

Thanks to all our regular contributors. And we're looking forward to hearing from you new contributors, too!

HOW TO DO IT—We're not very fussy about how we get trail information, we just want to get it.

Of our regular contributors, some send in reports on fancy computer

printouts complete with graphics; some write in pen or pencil on lined tablets; some scribble a few sentences on post-cards. One contributor last month even sent her reports by Federal Express so she wouldn't miss the deadline—but that's certainly above and beyond the call of duty!

The "Backcountry News" deadline is usually on a Tuesday. That's so you have time to put your weekend report in Monday morning's mail.

You can also phone in a brief report (206-871-1862). If I'm not sitting at my desk, leave your phone number and I'll call you back.

THE OFFICE—Many of you may not realize that the *Pack & Paddle* office is located in the equipment room of the house Lee and I live in.

On the wall hang packs, skis, ice axes, snowshoes, and fish poles. Shelves are crammed with guidebooks and maps. More shelves are stuffed with boots, dry bags, stoves, and all kinds of gear.

The remaining space is taken up by *Pack & Paddle*. It's a very nice place to work, surrounded by all our outdoor equipment, and looking out to second growth forest of Doug firs, hemlocks and cedars.

VANDALISM—Having been the victims of trailhead vandalism several years ago, we're very much aware that the car-clouting problem isn't going away.

Although there's no way to predict where vandalism will occur, our list on page 4 shows you where the problem spots are.

NEW REGULATIONS—Details of the new Alpine Lakes Wilderness regulations are on page 24.

Details of the new Lake Ozette/beach camping regulations are on page 5.

Although I'm feeling regulated to death, there doesn't seem to be a better way to control the sheer numbers of people out there who enjoy the backcountry just as much as you and I do.

See you in the backcountry.

Ann Marshall

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