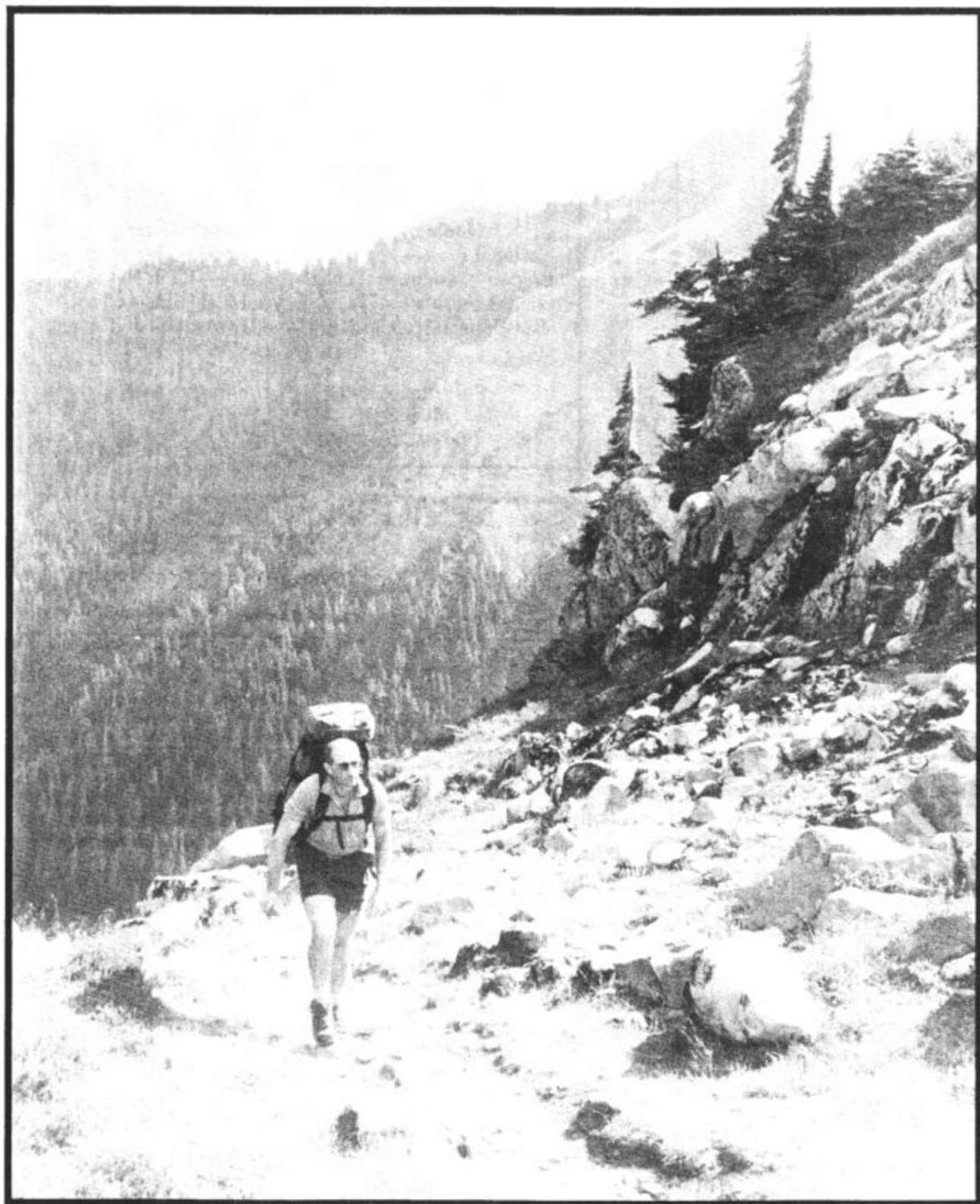



PACK & PADDLE

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Washington and the Pacific Northwest*


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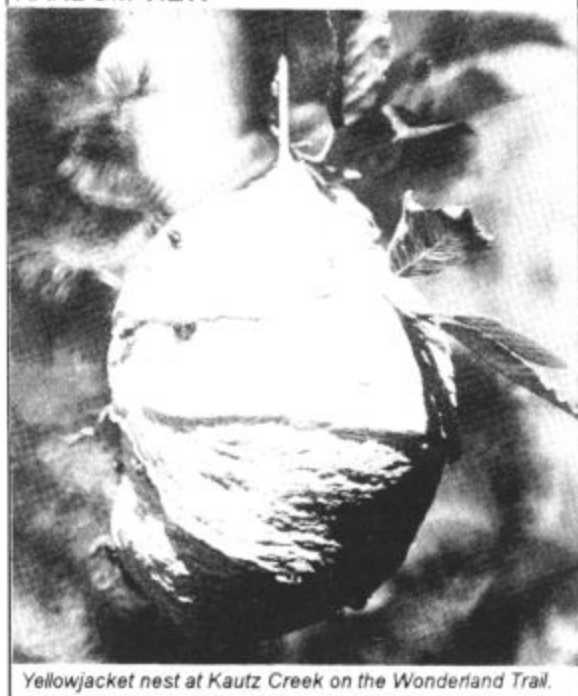
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RANDOM VIEW—



Dale Graves

Yellowjacket nest at Kautz Creek on the Wonderland Trail.

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COVER PHOTO:

With the peaks of the Henry M. Jackson Wilderness as a backdrop, Lee McKee enters Gothic Basin on a hot August day. Monte Cristo Area, Washington. Photo by Ann Marshall

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 is 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.

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LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

LONELY BUT WONDERFUL HOURS

Thanks to Jeff Howbert for his scholarly research and fine writing ("The Home Court 100," *July, page 22*).

Many of us scientific and compulsive types spend lonely but wonderful hours pouring over maps, references and photographs, composing lists and catalogs of peaks.

Few of us have the discipline to refine a complete and scholarly tally such as Jeff has done. Especially admirable is his strict self-imposed criteria for what defines a point as a peak.

Keep up the good work, Jeff! I anticipate future articles on other areas. Meanwhile, don't over-extend yourself trying to reach the top of all of the Home Court 100; after all, as I'm sure Harvey Manning would agree, there are a jillion other peaks awaiting you in adjacent regions.

Mick Campbell
Puyallup, Washington

CAN'T QUITE DO IT

Okay, okay, I admit it ... more than once I've considered coming clean and telling you who I REALLY am. But I can't quite bring myself to do it! (*July, page 4*.)

I truly enjoy my "Mystery Hiker" state of being ... as does Mr. Maphead ... and we don't need any thanks for submitting reports. It's just one more aspect of hiking that I derive great pleasure from.

And yes, if I happen to meet *P&P* readers I do introduce myself. Two years ago at work at Stevens Pass a guest came in and asked to see the Mystery Hiker ... and there I was!

Come to think of it my real desire here is not to tell you what my mother

named me but to be Mystery Hiker all the time! And you know, it is true that there is *no* scientific evidence that life is meant to be taken seriously....

Mystery Hiker
Granite Falls, Washington

Ed. Note: Mystery Hiker hasn't always gone by that name, folks. For a long time she was known by her real name. But several years ago she forgot to put her name at the end of a report, and I added "Mystery Hiker" to it as I was editing. The name stuck and Mr. Maphead materialized soon thereafter.

It's easy to meet Mystery Hiker. Just go to the Stevens Pass Guest Services office during ski season.

ALL SUMMITS ARE WORTH IT

We all got a big kick out of Harvey Manning's tongue-in-bearded-check letter (*July, page 4*).

The maxim, however, isn't so much that "only the summits not worth doing are worth doing at all," but rather that *any summit is worth doing* (at least once).

And as for volcanoes, aren't they simply big, lovable white blobs?

Thanks, Harvey, for your decades of leadership in bump stumping, and for your fabulously successful job of tucking away many wonderful wild parts of Washington for us all to enjoy and explore.

John Roper
Somerset Spire
Bellevue, WA

GOAT ERADICATION

It was a pleasure to see the photo of Olympic mountain goats (*July, page 7*). They are the lucky ones living in the

National Forest.

I hope they will stay there where they can live a normal life and continue to be an inspiration to hikers and climbers for years to come. I hope they won't cross over into Olympic National Park where, if Park Service continues with their brutal plan, they will be killed by rifle-toting Park rangers razzing around the wilderness in helicopters.

It's really ironic. We used to go to Olympic National Park to see wildlife. But if Park Service carries out their mountain goat eradication plan we will be going to the National Forest to see wildlife.

Keith Gunnar
Langley, Washington

LOVE OF BACKPACKING DOESN'T GO AWAY

In response to Phil Leatherman's "One of Life's Trade-Offs" (*July, page 4*): At the risk of sounding bitter, I wonder what others would do if they herniated a disc in their back and could not carry an overnight pack anymore, say at age 41—not elderly.

Would their love of backpacking go away? I don't think so. Please don't put down those who use other (non-motorized) means of reaching the backcountry.

I'd like to meet Phil on the trail. I hope he introduces himself if he comes across us hiking with our pack goats.

Nancy South
Brier, Washington

NEED YOUR HELP TO ADDRESS ISSUES

This is in response to the important issues in the letter from Ray and Cathy
continued page 6

TRAILHEAD ALERT

LISTING OF TRAILHEADS WHERE VANDALISM HAS BEEN A REPORTED PROBLEM

Don't leave anything valuable in your car: no purse or wallet shoved under the front seat; no Gore-tex rain coat stashed in the trunk.

To help establish patterns for law enforcement personnel, report any break-in or vandalism, no matter how small.

DARRINGTON DIST—Two break-ins at Sunrise Mine trailhead; one at Barlow Pass.

MT ST HELENS—One break-in at Climbers' Bivouac.

SKYKOMISH DIST—All quiet this summer, due to trailhead hosts at Foss River and Lake Dorothy trailheads. Thanks!

PACKWOOD LAKE—One break-in;

car stereo stolen.

SHI SHI—Vandalism at trailhead (officially closed) continues.

SOL DUC CAMPGROUND—Ice chest stolen; car door tampered with. No problems at trailheads, though.

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.

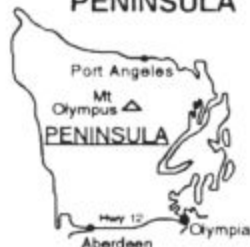
Space is limited; we may have to cut your report to fit available space. Typing is not necessary; we can read just about anyone's handwriting. We're interested in ALL trips, easy and hard, ordinary and exotic.

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-  —Canoeing, kayaking and water trips.
-  —Snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.



PENINSULA




GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow patches only in highest elevations. Trails open; flowers out.

 **MOUNT TOWNSEND** (*Buckhorn Wilderness; USGS Mt Townsend*)—It was a nice cool day which made the climb to Mount Townsend easier than usual. The drawback was that the summit was socked in.

The classic view of the headwaters of Silver Creek and surrounding peaks were hidden by clouds. We were surprised as it was a nice sunny day when we left home. We were really glad we'd thrown our wool shirts, jackets, wind pants, hats and gloves in our packs. We used them.

The rhodies were in bloom and the wildflowers were just beginning to bloom. A person we passed on the way up told us that we were number 81 and 82 that he'd passed on his way down. As always there were a lot of people on this trail.—Jane Habegger, Olympia, 6/24.

 **WYNOOCHEE PASS TRAIL & SUNDOWN LAKE WAY-TRAIL** (*Olympic National Forest & Park; USGS Mt Olson, Mt Hoquiam*)—This trail is a little-known,

hard-to-find back door into Olympic National Park. To get there drive the Wynoochee Lake road 2270 *past* the parking area for the falls and take the first left turn over the river, still on road 2270. This is confusing since road 2270 is a loop, and it also makes a left turn over the river *before* the falls.

Drive to the intersection with road 400, marked but extremely faint, and turn right. Follow this road until a washout makes it impassable for vehicles. The road is in very bad condition, and another washout-in-the-making a mile or so before the end threatens to make it shorter.

The trail starts approximately .1-mile after the washout at the bend of a switchback. There is no trail sign of any kind. The first trail signs you'll encounter are the Park Service signs approximately .25-mile along the trail at the park boundary.

The trail is not difficult, but full of roots and rocks. It crosses several small feeder streams emptying into the Wynoochee, and this time of year was swampy in many places.

Wynoochee Pass at 3600 feet and 2.4 miles is a small plateau with swampy meadows and two little ponds. The trail and pass were snow-free. There's solitude here and room for a tent or two. The only views look toward the snow-covered hillsides of Sundown Pass.


From Wynoochee Pass, the trail goes downhill 1.4 miles to a junction with the Graves Creek Trail. This portion of trail looks like it doesn't get much use and is covered with forest debris. At the Graves Creek junction the trail heads

uphill to regain the 700 feet just lost, and then continues on and up to Sundown Lake.

At about .5-mile along this uphill stretch we intersected the Sundown Lake way-trail and turned onto it to make a loop trip back to Wynoochee Pass. The way-trail is beat into the hillside to avoid the down and up of the Graves Creek route, and is a mile shorter back to the pass. The intersection is marked by pink and yellow ribbons which also mark the route.

It's your basic boot-beaten path. Up and down over rocks, stumps, logs and brush, ending in swampy meadows before the short slog uphill to the pass. If you want to take this route in reverse, look for the faint trail descending into meadows to the right just below the pass.

We located a place that would make a nice, dry camp in these lower meadows, and speculated on the possible nighttime company. It wouldn't be human. This is a lonely part of the park.—Dennis & Pat, Olympia, 6/25.

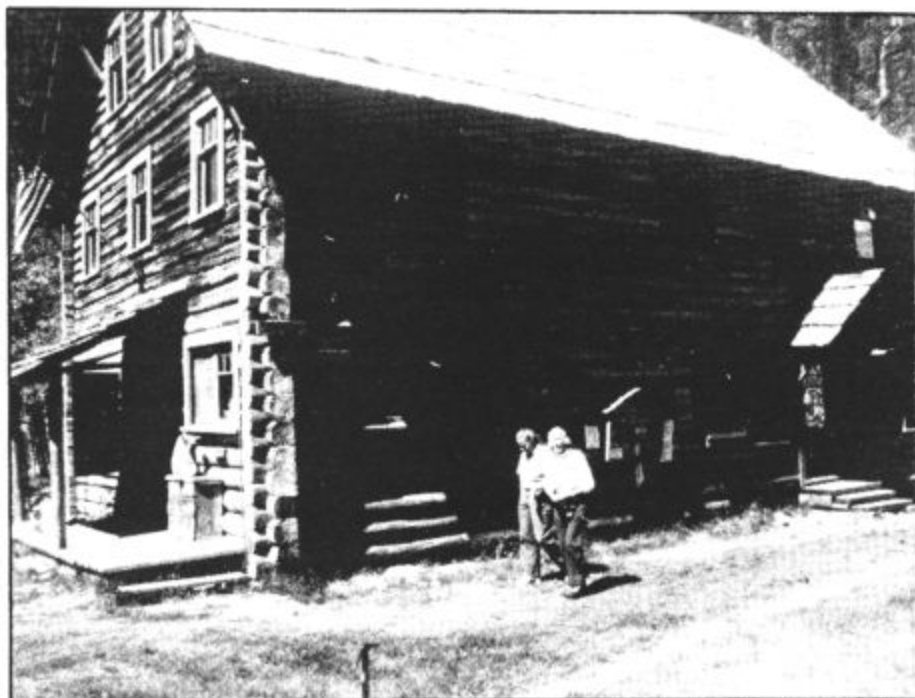
 **LONG RIDGE TRAIL** (*Olympic Natl Park; USGS Hurricane Hill*)—What did we miss? Five wilderness women, ages 51-76, camped below Humes Ranch and day-hiked across the suspension bridge on

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS DEADLINE: August 22

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

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS



Don Abbott

Ranger Hanna and Anne Moisanen at the Enchanted Valley Chalet, Olympic National Park.

the Elwha and up what Robert Wood describes as "a gradual ascent by means of several long, sweeping switchbacks." We wish we'd had a hint of the mileage to that magic "crossing over to the west side" where the Bailey Range stands and Mount Olympus comes into view!

We didn't make it and have heard conflicting reports as to what we missed. A hiker met on the trail next

day said there was nothing to be seen because of the trees.

A park ranger, busily cutting a fallen tree blocking the Whiskey Bend road, said it was "gorgeous when you get to about 4000 feet." We were about 5 miles up beyond the bridge, elevation unknown. Any readers out there with answers or opinions?

The trail was in great shape and we

did see the Hurricane Ridge lodge from a new perspective, complete with tiny cars moving to and fro like ants. Our camp right on the Elwha was perfect. —Mary Watson, Gig Harbor, and friends Winnie, Stella, Marlene and Pat, 7/12-14.



MINK LAKE TRAIL/

LITTLE DIVIDE (Olympic

Natl Park; USGS Bogachiel Pk, Slide Pk)—The high point of this trip was the end—a swim in the large pool at Sol Duc Hotsprings Resort. For about \$6 you can have a shower, a swim in the large pool, and a soak in the three hotsprings pools of varying temperatures.

The trip itself was just a quick one for some exploration. The Mink Lake trail starts at 1600 feet at the back end of the Resort parking lot. At roughly 2½ miles and 3000 feet is Mink Lake, rather small and slowly disappearing in vegetation, but pretty nonetheless.

For private camping, continue for about another mile to a campsite near a tarn about 3500 feet. The dayhikers are generally left behind at Mink Lake. Instead of hikers, though, expect lots of mosquitoes, biting flies, and horseflies.

Farther west on game trails is another tarn. It is shallow but offers a very private spot.

There are a number of explorations possible from here. The drawback is that if you make this base camp, you

LETTERS to the EDITOR continued from page 4

Anderson (May, page 4). But first I will assure you that it was not Kit's Llamas, and I am quite sure I do know who it was. I am sending a letter to the Dosewallips Ranger, the Olympic National Park Superintendent, the director of Concessions, and to each of the licensed llama outfitters in the park.

The behavior of the people described in the letter cannot be blamed on the llamas, but can certainly be blamed on the outfitter, private or commercial.

There should not have been any sign that the llamas had ever been there. A good llama outfitter will clean up all the droppings as they occur. The trail should show only footprints. The llamas are quiet and patient animals; you should be able to camp close to them and not even know they exist.

All commercial outfitters should present no-trace camping instructions and modern backcountry behavior to

their clients before the trip, as well as on it. I certainly would rather take the inexperienced and unthinking people with me where I can control and teach them, than have them out there by themselves to use and abuse the backcountry as they please.

There are responsible outfitters and there are irresponsible outfitters just as there are backpackers. The biggest difference is, the outfitter is easier to trace. The commercial outfitter has to submit an operating plan and schedule of trips, pay for a license to operate, contact the rangers before each entry, send in a summary of activity at the end of the year and comply with a myriad of other paper work and regulations. Hikers can do us all a service by reporting illegal and irresponsible acts. It may be hard to walk up to a private person and ask their name but most outfitters are very willing to give you their name.

If you have strong opinions on outfitters—good or bad stories—please send them to me. I will take them to the Washington Outfitters & Guides Association, and other organizations and agencies where they can do some good. It is all our responsibility to protect the wilderness environment. As a commercial outfitter, I will help monitor the outfitters and stock users, but I need your help.

I do need the information in writing with your signature and a way to contact you to back it up, but I will keep my sources anonymous if you wish.

Write to:

Kit's Llamas
attn: Outfitter Issues
PO Box 116
Olalla WA 98359.

Kit Niemann
Olalla, Washington

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

must climb an additional 600 feet to reach the junction with the Bogachiel trail and Little Divide each time you leave camp.

Doing so, you can head to the west on the Bogachiel trail. The trail gains a little more elevation, then crosses the divide and contours the other side of the ridge while losing some elevation. In roughly 1/2-mile at about 4100 feet a blaze on a tree marks the way-trail to Blackwood Lake. The lake can be partially seen through the trees about 1000 feet down. A faint "BWL" scratched in the bark is slowly disappearing. There are several spots for camping if you are hard-core enough to carry a pack down.

Or you can forego the lake and continue west another 1/2-mile or so, gaining elevation to the high spot of 4304 feet at a benchmark. Doing so takes you through several small meadows with lots of flowers (one particularly full of bear grass) and views of Mount Olympus and surrounding ridges.

The other area to explore is to head east along the Bogachiel trail. In a couple of miles you will come to Bogachiel Lake, about 400 feet below. There is no way-trail that I know of, but it is a relatively easy cross-country route if you continue east along the main trail past the lake where the slope eases.—LGM, Port Orchard, 7/15-17.



SUNNYBROOK MEADOWS

(Olympic Natl Park; USGS The Brothers, Mt Deception)—We hiked up the Main Fork Dose trail to a nice camp spot on Lower Twin Creek on Friday evening.

We had to backtrack about 3/4-mile the next morning to take the Constance Pass trail for Sunnybrook Camp. It's a good trail with lots of switchbacks and steep in places. After passing several camp spots we came to a tarn and a

nice flat place to camp. We dropped the packs, looked around a bit and found an even better place on a knoll with a beautiful view of the mountains to the west.

After lunch, we headed for Del Monte Ridge and Constance Pass. The trail was mostly snowfree except for a couple of big snow patches. The weather clouded up and threatened to rain but didn't until we got back to camp. After about an hour the skies cleared and we had a beautiful evening.

Sunday morning we woke up to rain. We had a quick breakfast, packed up and headed down the trail. It was a good weekend in spite of the rain.—Don Abbott & Kerry Gilles, Grays Harbor, 7/7-9.



ROYAL BASIN (Olympic Natl Park; USGS Mt Deception)

—This year I had four days off for the 4th of July weekend but my hiking partner had to work so I invited two friends, Carmen and Kenton from eastern Washington, to go in with me.

I camped at the Royal Fork Friday night and met my friends there the next morning. The hike in to the basin was beautiful. We set up camp in an open area at the far end of Royal Lake.

About 4:30 Sunday morning it started raining. We didn't crawl out of our tents until about eight when it let up and finally quit. Kenton and Carmen stayed at the lake and I decided to hike up over the ridge to Goat Lake.

There's a good route up the ridge from about the middle of the lake. It's mostly scree unless you have snow on it. About two-thirds up you're in boulder fields; start cutting over to the left and head for the low spot in the ridge. You gain about 1300 feet to the top and drop about 500 feet to Goat Lake.

You can't see the lake from the top

but if you just follow the drainage it's easy. The lake still was half covered with ice and really looked beautiful—and there were NO mosquitoes.

I got back to camp about 5. It turned out to be a very nice day with no more rain for the rest of the weekend.

Monday morning after breakfast, I took my friends on a hike to the upper basin. The first big meadow known as Arrowhead Meadow was almost melted out but it was solid snow from there on up. There were more clouds on this day but still nice weather. We followed another drainage down and came out by a beautiful waterfall. It was still early, so we decided to pack up and hike down to one of the lower campsites about half way out. We were out to the trailhead by noon the next day.

My two friends headed back home and I went to Sequim to take my mother out to dinner.—Don Abbott, Aberdeen, 7/1-4.



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BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

group (2 doubles and 5 singles) headed across the canal to Hood Head. At the point, several pieces of driftwood are arranged as the Loch Ness monster.

Heading just east of due north, our next stop was at the 93-acre Foulweather Bluff Nature Conservancy Preserve. It is not marked—just look for the low spot of land between two bluffs.

With ideal paddling conditions, we continued past Twin Spits until we were just off Foulweather Bluff itself where Hood Canal meets Admiralty Inlet. This area can be nasty under certain wind and current conditions, but today it was calm.

After returning to the Preserve for lunch, we headed down the shoreline of Kitsap Peninsula toward Port Gamble, and then to our take-out. This area is typical Puget Sound shoreline with mixtures of sheer bluffs, development, and rocky beaches. There is no public access between the Nature Conservancy site and Salisbury Park.

For such a beautiful day there really was little boat traffic on this end of the canal—not even a Trident submarine.—LGM, Port Orchard, 7/22.



OBSTRUCTION POINT ROAD

(Olympic Natl Park; USGS Mt Angeles, Maiden Pk)—We have been hiking this road in the spring and fall for years. It is the best "trail" the Olympics have to offer. It was written up as the "hike of the month" in the local newspaper recently, so there goes the neighborhood.

Just in case, we decided to bring the snowshoes; turned out to be a good thing. It was solid snow from the big turn by Steeple Rock to way past Waterhole.

By early afternoon we were postholing so on went the shoes. We found a great view spot and set up camp. Just before sunset the winds really picked up then

died down. In the fall after the road is gated off this still makes a wonderful hike, but is dry.—SB, Silverdale, 6/95.



TUNNEL CREEK

(Buckhorn Wilderness; USGS Mt Townsend)—Just when you think you're nearing having hiked all the trails in the Olympics, they up and re-route the trail. It's just a small section: from past the old bridge crossing, the trail follows the river for a short period, crosses over, then climbs until it reconnects with the old trail.

Small snow patches at Harrison Lake. The trail shelter by the river was re-shingled September 1994 as an Eagle Scout project by Garrett Kelly and Boy Scout Troop 420 of Bothell, and Friends of Olympic Trail Shelters. Nice job.—SB, Silverdale, 7/95.



DUCKABUSH TRAIL

(Olympic Natl Park; USGS Mt Jupiter, The Brothers)—The trail starts up a gradual ascent over Little Hump, then drops to the river floor, then begins the real climb over Big Hump.

Although not steep, it is a continual climb of about 1000 feet in a mile, then once again it drops to the river floor. Minor ups and downs, and flat walking to 10 Mile Camp. On the way we passed gentle hillside waterfalls, whirlpools in the river, meadows with flowers just coming into bloom. The trail is well maintained up to the Park boundary, about 6 miles in. A few blowdowns and lots of nettles in the open meadows.

We heard a horse group will be working on the trail this year and we were passed by a few men and horses going down the trail to do some work. Thank you very much!

The Duckabush River is very different from some of the other river trails. It's more canyon-y in the beginning, then opens up as you get farther in.—SB, Silverdale, 6/95.



NORTH FORK SKOKOMISH

(Olympic Natl Park; USGS Mt Skokomish, Mt Olson)—We had intended only to hike up to Big Log Camp or maybe the bridge just a little farther. But we stopped to talk to volunteer Ranger Ed, who was heading to Camp Pleasant with the last load of an outhouse kit. He was changing over the loads from one horse to the other as one of the steeds decided he didn't want to carry it anymore.

So what's another mile or so? We went to Camp Pleasant, had a quick lunch and helped build an outhouse.

It was a pre-drilled kit. Just find the right parts, bolt it together, and wa-la:

instant outhouse. Ed had already dug the hole and about two good hours of three people working on it we had it together. Of course then we had the almost 7 miles of trail to hike back but it was all downhill from there. If you get by Camp Pleasant this year, admire our outhouse.—SB, Silverdale, 5/95.



SEATTLE CREEK MEADOWS

(Olympic Natl Park; USGS Mt Olympus, Mt Christie)—We headed up the North Fork Quinault River with thoughts of returning on the Skyline Trail.

Note: The North Fork Road has a washout so to reach the trailhead use the South Shore Road and cross the bridge.

The sign at the trailhead as well as two volunteer rangers advised us against doing the Skyline Trail so early in the season without ice axes and advanced compass skills. We headed for the meadows east of Seattle Creek about 4 miles beyond Low Divide on the Skyline Trail.

The lower meadows were snowfree at 4600 feet. It is a beautiful area to camp with snowfields, streams, a variety of flowers and stunning views in all directions. We camped there three nights. One day we scrambled to the south ridge of Mount Seattle with great views of Mount Olympus, Meany, Noyes, Christie and the Skyline Trail to Kimta Peak and more.

The second day we walked the Skyline Trail to Lake Beauty, still a third frozen, scrambled up the peak above the lake and enjoyed more 360° views of much of the park. This peak is right across from the Olympus Range.

There is still snow covering much of the Skyline Trail past Lake Beauty and we wondered about the very deep gulches between Lake Beauty and Kimta Peak. We felt fortunate to see this beautiful area in clear weather and were happy to exit on the North Fork Trail. We plan to return in August or September.—Pat Siggs, Joan Trunk, Seattle, 7/14-21.



CAT BASIN

(Olympic Natl Park; USGS Mt Carrie, Bogachiel Pk)—Our group of six women reached Cat Basin on the way-trail over Spread Eagle Pass; only minor snow patches. We spent three days in the basin, with side trips to Cat Peak and the Catwalk, Crisler's cabin, and other points of interest. Mosquitoes and flies frightful; high temperatures awful; scenery and flowers magnificent.—Ann Marshall, 7/16-21.

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

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS



MOUNT ANDERSON

(Olympic Natl Park; USGS The Brothers, Mt Steel)—West Fork Dosewallips trail is in fine shape. Snowfree to Honeymoon Meadows. At second river crossing, the bridge is closed to stock.

Upper log bridge (at Honeymoon) broken in middle but usable. [Ranger says footlog replaced 7/9.—Ed.] Trail from Honeymoon to Anderson Pass 80% snowfree. Moraine trail 20% snowfree. LaCrosse Pass trail from Honeymoon Meadows 20% snowfree.

Hiking in on Friday afternoon was warm and pleasant. There were few others on the trail beyond Dose Forks. There was no one at Honeymoon so I was able to occupy the best suite: river-side, with a great view up to Mount Anderson. I refueled, then hiked to a viewpoint about 1/2-mile from LaCrosse Pass.

Saturday dawned clear and warm. Mount Anderson beckoned. I waited impatiently until 7:30 for two friends to show up. They had been due late the night before. Leaving a note, I headed up slowly, hoping they would catch up.

After resting at the top of Flypaper Pass and seeing no one following, I headed to the summit. It was a nice summit, providing a wonderful bench out of the wind. I spent an hour and a half enjoying. I wanted to explore the West Peak, but must have gotten too far north. The route description in the guide is not appealing but the reality was way worse.

Returning to camp I first thought a windstorm had hit camp. It turned out it was only my errant friends with their sweaty clothing strewn about to dry. They were happy to see me and glad of my success but disappointed to have missed the climb.

I couldn't let them come all that way just to turn around and hike out, so Pete and I went up on Sunday. Cliff was nursing a knee from an earlier accident and decided to save himself for the hike out. The climb for me was an almost instant replay. One difference was running into my friend Tom at Flypaper Pass coming off the summit with a friend of his.

The hike out was a breeze. I drank the water and I didn't get sick.—Dave, Pete and Cliff, Tacoma, 6/23-25.

HOOD CANAL BRIDGE—Repair of the Hood Canal bridge will cause delays throughout the summer.

With flaggers, traffic will be reduced to one-way only on weeknights from 7pm to 12:30am.

The bridge will be closed to all traffic

weekdays from 12:30am to 5am. Both lanes will be open on weekends and holidays.

OBSTRUCTION POINT ROAD—Open.

COLONEL BOB—Snowfree first 6 miles, then patchy snow to summit. Some trees down; passable to hikers.—Ranger, 7/7.

FLAPJACK LAKES—Call for reservations: 360-877-5569. Snowfree. Bear precautions necessary.—Ranger, 7/7.

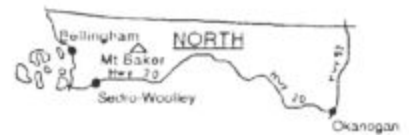
LAKE CONSTANCE—Call for reservations: 360-877-5569. Snowfree to the lake.—Ranger, 7/7.

HOH RIVER—Trail snowfree to Glacier Meadows.—Ranger, 7/7.

NORTH WILDERNESS BEACH—Reservations necessary from Yellow Banks to north of Ozette River. Call 360-452-0300.—Ranger, 7/14.

QUEETS FORD—2 to 3 feet deep.—Ranger, 7/9.

NORTH



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow level above 5000 feet; above 6000 feet in Pasayten. Most roads open.

GRAZING—Sheep will go into Horseshoe Basin in the Pasayten Wilderness on 7/15 and will be out by 9/15.



HELIOTROPE RIDGE (Mt Baker Wilderness; USGS Mt Baker)

—This was one great hike! Up through the woods to the base of Mount Baker and spectacular Coleman Glacier. Very beautiful.

Drive the Mount Baker highway to just beyond the town of Glacier, past



On the Hannegan Pass trail, Mount Baker Wilderness.

Shirley Haley

the ranger station, turning right on the Glacier Creek road. Seven and a half miles up this bumpy road is a large parking lot and the trailhead. It's not a long hike, 2 miles (or so) to the meadows, but from there there's hours of roaming and exploring.

The meadows were wonderful, lots of water coming down, and marmots playing among the rocks. We thoroughly enjoyed our day on Heliotrope Ridge. The trail is in super shape, a little mud but no real big bogs, and several creek crossings, a couple of which gave me a thrill, lots of melt this time of year. No bugs and very few people on a Wednesday!—Mystery Hiker and Mr. Maphead, Granite Falls, 7/5.



CHURCH MOUNTAIN

(Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Glacier)—For my first hike of 1995 this was a pretty ambitious undertaking (4500 feet elevation gain over 4¼ miles). But with a summit attempt of Mount Adams just three weeks away, it seemed like a good choice.

A few miles east of the town of Glacier on the Mount Baker Highway turn left on the road marked "East Church Road." Drive this road about 2½ miles to the trailhead at the end of the road (elevation 1600 feet).

The first section of the trail is an abandoned logging road. The trail is in excellent condition and makes a steady, arduous climb over numerous switchbacks before leaving the forest after about 3 miles. Soon after the beautiful views begin of Mounts Baker and Shuksan and surrounding peaks. The trail continues upward through beautiful green meadows and a few large snow patches, easily negotiated without an ice axe.

The final section of trail contours the slope below Church Mountain. Here the trail is narrow and uneven and could be a bit tricky when muddy. Near the end of the trail are the remains of an old fire lookout and storage site.

I arrived at the end of the trail in 2½ hours. What a spectacular view on this clear, warm day! One other party of six hikers was already there. Two ambitious members of their group were making a rock scramble attempt for the impressive summit of Church Mountain some 200 feet above. After lunch and a 45 minute stay I reluctantly turned around for the long descent arriving at the car about 1 hour and 45 minutes later.—David Kissinger, Lynnwood, 7/1.



HONEYMOON CREEK

(Okanogon Natl Forest; USGS Spur Pk)—This trailhead is located

about 2.5 miles off the Chewuch River road and is reached by crossing the river bridge just above Camp 4.

Guidebooks mention campsites near the creek at 2 miles up the trail, but I did not observe any here or farther up. The creek remains down in its gully and is never approached for easy dipping; one small side stream is crossed near the end of the third mile.

The trail climbs to North Twentymile Peak Lookout in 6.5 miles. There were only moderate snow banks in the basin below the peak. The lookout tower is a great place for Pasayten trip-planning, with long views up Lake and Andrews Creeks.—Andy Carr, Bellevue, 6/21.



MONUMENT CREEK TRAIL

(Pasayten Wilderness; USGS McLeod Mtn, Robinson Mtn)—The trail is nearly level for the first 4 miles, to the junction of the Lost River and Eureka Creek. The trail parallels the Lost River and offers some nice views down to it, but don't forget to look for rattlesnakes. A fine, sturdy bridge crosses Eureka Creek, where there is a nice campsite next to the river.

The next 6.6 miles of the trail, to Pistol Pass, are another story. The trail climbs more than 5000 feet, with no water, through spotty forest with spotty amounts of shade. Blessedly, the upper half is not as steep as the lower half. The trail looks like it hasn't been maintained for a few years.

Some overgrown spots require a little hide-n-seek and about 50-75 trees lie across the trail, although most of them are simple step-overs. A patchwork of detours exist around the larger obstacles, which indicates that they have been there for awhile.

It seems a shame to let the trail go to seed, even a trail as hot, difficult, and isolated as this one. Obviously, an enormous amount of work went into building the trail in the first place. The results of most of that work are still in excellent shape.

Just north of, and below, Pistol Pass is a way trail to Lake of the Woods, where there are excellent established campsites and, more importantly, water to drink!—Dale Flynn, Seattle, 7/95.



PEEVE PASS

(Pasayten Wilderness; USGS Ashnola Pass, Ashnola Mtn)—Few snow crossings, many wildflowers, no sign of any people. Abundant wildflowers, bugs, and a big storm coming. Managed to get to the shelter at the north end of Big Hidden and got a big fire going.

Was joined by a man and his son who

had been in the backcountry for 7 days and just returned from looking for the place where the Parson Smith tree was. To their disappointment all they found was a jungle and the Pasayten River over its bank and flooding.

Hiked on out 2 days later to Billy Goat. The Lost River valley from Lucky Pass to Diamond Creek was mystic with the fog hanging around the river, Rampart Mountain, Windy Peak and upriver toward Deception Creek and Cougar Lake.—David Hoppens, Malo, 7/4-8.



CATHEDRAL LAKES

(Pasayten Wilderness; USGS Mt Barney, Rimmel Mtn)—Fought downfall up to the Peepsite Lake trail, then snow to Spanish Camp and beyond.

Met up with a couple of Mountaineers from the coast so hiked and camped near them. They are both teachers—Bill and Tom.

Anyway we all went to the Cathedral Lakes. Beautiful but lots of snow, and got lost on the way back going to Rimmel Lake. Bill and I split up with Tom and we found our way out. Tom didn't show up the next morning so I hiked out and got hold of the Sheriff's office in Okanogan—never got home till almost midnight.

Evidently about 2½ days later (according to the Sheriff's office) Tom called them; he had walked out another drainage and was heading back up to Spanish Camp. Haven't heard anymore from them and I bet Tom's really embarrassed; guess he teaches backpacking in Seattle.—David Hoppens, Malo, 7/20-24.



PCT LOOP

(Pasayten Wilderness; USGS Slate Pk, Pasayten Pk, Frosty Cr)—Went from Slate Peak over Buckskin Ridge to the Three Forks campground, Airport, over Frosty Pass (and past Frosty Lake which was difficult to spot from even high up), to Castle Pass and back to Slate Peak trailhead on the PCT.

Some tricky avalanche crossings and steep between Hopkins Lake and Rock Pass. Trail somewhat difficult to find on the Devil's Stairway above Hopkins Lake due to snow.

Woody Pass to Rock Pass had about six steep snow crossings. Arrived at Slate Peak okay. Lotsa bugs and wildflowers. The views from Frosty Pass were as awesome as from Mountain Home Basin.

The view of Mount Winthrop from the meadows to the east of the pass in the cirque were fantastic and a fine place to dine and spend the evening.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

Quite a bit of downfall all the way.—
David Hoppens, Malo, 7/14-19.

HIGHWAY 20—Open.—Ranger, 7/20.

NORTH CASCADES NATL PARK

—Permits are required for any overnight stay in the backcountry. Permits are available from all NCNP offices and Forest Service ranger stations at Winthrop and Twisp.

In 1994, forest fires in the Boulder Creek drainage affected the Boulder Creek trail and several backcountry camps. Watch for tread damage, falling trees, and holes which may suddenly enlarge when you step near. Use of Hooter Camp and Rennie Camp NOT recommended.—Ranger, 7/20.

CHILLIWACK—Not maintained. Extremely brushy with many downed trees. Cable car and bridge crossings are in.—Ranger, 7/20.

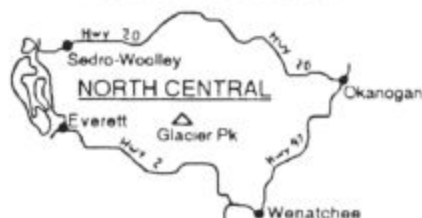
HARTS PASS ROAD—Open to pass. Still snow in last hairpin curve to Slate Peak.—Ranger, 7/14.

PCT—Highway 20 to Harts Pass: Snow between Cutthroat Pass and Granite Pass. Snowy Lakes snowfree. Trail snowcovered 1 mile from Harts Pass.

Harts Pass north: 500 feet of snow north of Windy Pass; can go around. Occasional snow patches to Holman Pass; some trees down. Rock Pass to Woody Pass extremely dangerous; ice axe required. Frosty Pass to Canada border, lots of snow.—Ranger, 7/14.

ANDREWS CREEK—Maintained first 3 miles; 128 trees down next 2 miles. Hikers can get through. Trail crew should have cleared by end of July.—Ranger, 7/14.

NORTH CENTRAL



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow level about 5500 feet.



HIDDEN LAKE PEAKS

(Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Eldorado Pk, Sonny Boy Lks)—To reach this trail drive east from Marblemount on the Cascade River Road for 9½ miles to the road

bearing left marked "Hidden Lake Trail." Take this road about 4½ miles to the trailhead.

The trail begins in forest and makes a steady climb before entering a clearing and a crossing of Sibley Creek. The trail continues upward reaching a point where it trends south toward the lookout. Jess and I continued east straight up the avalanche chute to Sibley Creek Pass. The snow was firm and avalanche danger was very minimal. This route is not recommend without an ice axe.

The view from the pass was spectacular on this clear, sunny day. After a lunch break at the pass we made a southward traverse over snow and boulders to the summit ridge of the highest of the Hidden Lake Peaks, 7088 feet.

The ridge walk was mostly over snow eventually giving way to a rock scramble to the jagged summit. Below we could just make out the edge of still frozen Hidden Lake. After a short stay on the summit we descended west and northward over snow and boulder fields before regaining the trail.

While we passed several hikers on the trail, we encountered only one other person on our cross-country traverse. This was a somewhat strenuous hike but the views and camaraderie were a memorable experience.—David Kissinger, Lynnwood, 7/15.



SUIATTE RIVER TRAIL

(Glacier Pk Wilderness; USGS Lime Mtn, Gamma Pk)—Perfect weather, columbines in full bloom, and no one else around.

Bridge over Canyon Creek is in weakened condition according to FS signs—they recommend only one horse or 6 hikers at a time.—Jean Pasche, Seattle, 6/24-25.



GREEN MOUNTAIN

(Glacier Pk Wilderness; USGS Downey Mtn)—Caroline joined Steve and me on a cool, breezy day on the Green Mountain trail. Signs at the trailhead and near the top warned that the lookout was unsafe. (See *July*, page 36.)

The trail only has a few snow patches to cross close to the top. The wildflowers were beautiful. Sucker holes promised sunshine and Glacier Peak peeked its summit out from behind the clouds, but the weather never cleared completely. Marmots whistled from all around. Some of their holes start right on the trail.

Mosquitos were especially bad near the snowmelt ponds above the lake. We shared the trail with eight others during the day.—Linda Rostad, Redmond, 7/13.

Backcountry Notes

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by Ann Marshall



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Backcountry Notes

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BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

 **BINGLEY GAP** (*Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Sloan Pk*)—Shortstop, Q, and I started at 12:12 to do this 2.8 mile, 2550-foot vertical gain hike. We had not planned to go to Round Lake and later learned that it was frozen over.

We enjoyed the hike going down more than going up for several reasons. Once we were parked, booted up and on the trail, the nettles were terrible for the first ¼-mile. I wore long pants so I hacked them out so people with shorts could pass without a "buzz." We hiked along a creek bed for about 400 yards and then up two very sticky clay embankments. Q's new boots became dirty and you should have heard her yell.

On the way up, we tried Shortstop's brand new saw on several trees lying across the trail, and cleared brush and debris from the path.


At 3200 feet, we heard branches breaking high above. Q started running uphill toward us and tripped and fell. Just as I turned around, behind her about 15 feet a big snag crashed to the earth. It was standing about 20 feet above the trail. Needless to say, Q was a little excited. We kidded her claiming that even the trees were "falling" for her. If we had been several seconds slower, one of us would have had a bad headache.

There are no grand views on the trail to the Gap, but there are some nice peep holes and some gorgeous mountains to see. The Gap supported a healthy gaggle of goose-sized mosquitoes and a well armed platoon of eagle-sized biting flies.

We arrived at the Gap, 4450 feet, at 3:06 and left at 3:30. We clocked in at the trailhead at 5:05. I bring this to your attention as we were downtrailing at 1 mile every 20 minutes. It is a minimum of 3 miles to the Gap. So when you look at the map, plan on 3.5 to 4 miles to the Gap and over a mile to the lake.

Oh yes, the trees are large, tall and beautiful along the way. They give great protection from the sun, but they also allow it to get dark quickly in the evening.

To find the trailhead, drive the Mountain Loop Highway. Just north of Bedal Campground, turn east on road 49. Drive 2.9 miles east to the trailhead sign to your left. I suggest backing in so more cars can park in the lot. For an extra treat, stop at the North Fork Falls about ¾-mile up road 49 on your right. It is a short walk, but worth seeing.—Robert DeGraw, Kirkland, 6/26.

 **QUARTZ CREEK** (*HIMJ Wilderness; USGS Blanca Lk*)—The trail is snow-free most of the 4

miles into Curry Gap. The ¼-mile was patchy snow and the meadows at the gap were mostly snow-covered.

It was easy to step over the few trees down across the trail. We did have to ford one stream, crossing under a raging waterfall. We took care not to let the dogs be swept away in the fast current over a lower falls. We had lunch in a campsite with enough bare ground to pitch a tent. During lunch we sighted a bear in a meadow above moving away from us—that was just fine.


After lunch, we took the Bald Eagle trail up many switchbacks 2 miles until we lost the trail in the snow. We headed straight up the snow and open meadows to the ridge top for views to the north of Glacier Peak. We enjoyed a break in the sun before turning back. On the way down to Curry Gap we were glad to have our ice axes on a few exposed snow patches.—Linda Rostad, Redmond, 6/29.

 **BALD MOUNTAIN** (*DNR, USGS Mullardy Ridge, Wallace Lk*)—After 5 glorious days in the Canadian Gulf Islands we just couldn't face going back to work ... not quite yet, so we played hooky for one more day and went hiking! We'd been to Bald Mountain on the Walt Bailey Trail and by way of Cutthroat Lakes but chose the Ashland Lakes route this time.


As reported earlier the trail to Ashland Lakes is in fine shape, and is still a little muddy but not too bad on this fine sunny day. Just short of the upper lake the trail Ys, the left going up to Bald Mountain.

Having brought the wrong map we had no clear idea how far or high it was to the meadows we both remembered (it didn't seem that far in memory ...) but hours later and miles in we finally quit for lunch and turned around for home. No meadows.

Checking with the map at home we learned it's 6½ miles in on this route to reach them. Lots of bugs out; only two other people on the trail. This trail appears to be lightly used. Though always clear in its direction, it's narrow and rocky. A great walk through the woods but if you want alpine land choose one of the other routes.—Mystery Hiker and Mr. Maphead, Granite Falls, 6/26.

 **WALT BAILEY TRAIL** (*DNR; USGS Mullardy Ridge*)—Man oh man, this is one beautiful hike! Drive the Mountain Loop Highway and turn right onto road 4030, just before Red Bridge. Turn right again onto road 4032 and drive to its end. The parking lot is TINY so plan accordingly.

The trail is in fine shape and it's 3 or so miles, one way, to the Cutthroat Lakes. And it's wonderful. Lots of lakes and ponds and meadows and Bald Mountain overlooking it all. We had a wonderful, warm, sunny day hiking and lounging by one of the lakes. If you haven't been here, put this one on your list of future adventures. We had the place to ourselves (saw only one hiker on the way out), but the bugs numbered in the zillions.—Mystery Hiker and Mr. Maphead, Granite Falls, 7/18.

 **NORTH GEMINI** (*HIMJ Wilderness; USGS Bedal*)—This peak and its companion South Gemini are the two highest points on Addison Ridge. Use approach 6 on page 76 of Beckey (Green Book).

Ascend wooded terrain to the 4200 foot level, traverse for a short distance on this contour, then descend on a broad gravel slope to the main gully which is then climbed to the pass. The initial 100 feet out of the pass is steep (class 3-4). Work up and over into isolated and remote Coney Basin. Scree and snow now lead to the base of the central saddle.

Expect some class 4 on the rock immediately off the snow, then a scramble to the saddle. From here, turn left (north) and follow the ridge to the summit (class 3).


We found a film canister containing a brief note left by Mike Heath in September of 1967. There were no other entries in the register so apparently ours was only the second ascent. Time: 5½ hours.—Garth, Mark, and Rodger, 7/6.

BIG FOUR—The Big Four trail will be open all summer, but the parking lot is undergoing extensive reconstruction.

A 110-space parking lot will be built at the former site of the nearby Perry Creek campground which has been closed for 10 years. A trail connecting the existing and the new parking lots will be built along the old railroad grade.

A second new trail will be built from the new parking lot to connect with the present Ice Caves trail near the footbridge over the Stillagnamish. The three trails will interconnect to form a loop route suitable for wheelchairs.

New restrooms will be built and picnic tables, a shelter and interpretive signs will be added.—Ranger, 7/10.

 **DUNCAN HILL** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Saska Pk*)—Traveling alone two weeks ago I turned back at 3 miles when the path became obscured by deep snow. This

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

time I recruited Mark to accompany me. We got a late start on Friday night and camped about 2.5 miles in on a rocky perch above the North Fork Entiat. The views of Saska, Emerald and Pyramid Peaks would qualify the spot as a destination in itself.

We had burritos for dinner and lounged in beach chairs (11th essential). Mark brought his new Walrus tent. I was impressed with the design and features.

It began to rain during the night. That morning we stood around in the drizzle contemplating the dampness and a plate of flapjacks at Denny's.

But we made the right decision. The trail winds through a succession of pleasant meadows, at this time quite soggy from rain and snowmelt. The path passes a spring and a number of deeply cut creeklets before beginning a steep climb around the flank of the 7819-foot "hill" (a mountain in my book).

As we neared the summit the clouds lifted and broke. We were treated to top-of-the-world-class views in very direction. We stayed about 2 hours, taking photos, having lunch and drying out. Mark introduced me to yummy Pemican bars.

On our return, the meadows that were soggy sponges were now dry and firm. We took our time returning to camp and explored some inviting spots off trail. We stumbled on an old camp full of trash and relics including an intact can of Spam. Quite a temptation,

but we resisted.

Back at camp we had navy bean soup and Jalapeno bagels for dinner. It had been a great day. From a gloomy start, we ended up with sunburn. That night when I was sleeping like a rock the rain returned. The next morning we packed up quickly and beat a path to those flapjacks.—Matt Masterson and Mark Devereux, Snohomish, 7/7-10.

GARLAND PEAK (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Saska Pk, Chikamin Creek*)—This seldom climbed peak is, according to Beckey, "the first summit of note in the south portion of the Entiat Mountains." A route considerably shorter than his guidebook directions plus a commanding view of the eastern Cascades make this an ideal day hike or short backpack. Round trip distance is estimated at 12 miles with an elevation gain of about 3800 feet. *100 Hikes in the Glacier Peak Wilderness* provides route details.

From the Lake Wenatchee area, drive the Chiwawa River Road for 11 miles. Turn right on Chikamin Creek Road 6210. Follow this 5.7 miles to the Basalt Ridge trailhead, avoiding the Minnow Creek trailhead at 2.5 miles. Follow the Basalt Ridge trail for 1.5 miles to a ridge top junction with the Basalt Peak trail. Turn right and follow this trail for about 3 miles.

Here a vague junction offers two pos-

sibilities. The continuing ridge trail (the fainter of the two options) reaches the Entiat crest and a junction with the Garland Peak Trail in perhaps ½-mile. This can then be followed southeast for perhaps a mile to just below the summit. No technical difficulties prevent reaching the summit from this side. The second option follows deeper tread off the ridge top into a small basin at the head of one fork of Chikamin Creek. Camping options are plentiful here as is a shorter cross country ascent toward Garland Peak.

A base camp near Garland Peak would provide opportunities to travel north on the Garland Peak trail toward Rampart Mountain and Fifth of July Mountain. Travelers with creative transportation options could continue north for many miles with eventual connections possible with the Entiat River trail.

Exiting at the Phelps Creek trailhead would be possible for those willing to do some cross-country travel between the Entiat crest and either Leroy Creek Basin or Carne Mountain.—Charlie Hickenbottom, Wenatchee, 7/4.

MAD RIVER (*Wenatchee Nat Forest; USGS Chikamin Creek, Silver Falls*)—Looking for sunshine we headed east of the Cascades to the Mad River in the Entiat Mountains. We took county road 22 out of Leavenworth and turned north on road



Lenticular cloud over Mount Rainier, from Tahoma Vista.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

6100 about 1/4-mile east of Chiwawa River bridge.

In 1.6 miles we turned right on road 6101 signed Maverick Saddle. Watch for a road to the left from a small campground area marked with a small sign to Mad River trail. The rugged dirt road goes up steeply and has great views. Park at Maverick Saddle or go down a short even more rugged road to park at the 4200-foot trailhead.

We were delighted to see this trail was gated and closed to horse and ORV travel due to high water, snow and logs on trail. For those who don't mind some trail finding due to snow and stepping over and around downed trees, this is a wonderful peaceful time to visit this beautiful high meadow area which is heavily used by ORVs in later summer.

We hiked north on the Mad River trail, at 1.5 miles crossing the river on a fairly new bridge. En route to a huge meadow at 5.5 miles we forded the river twice, an added thigh-deep challenge. During a late dinner we enjoyed the antics of the resident two does and two 3-point bucks.

Before arriving at Mad Lake the next day we hiked a couple of miles up the Alder Ridge trail where there are great views. The third day we followed the trail to Klone Meadows and took a side trip to Klone Peak, 6834 feet, a former lookout site. The views from Klone Peak are even better. This great view spot could be reached by a day hike from road 5605 off the Entiat River road.

Looping southeast we traversed Blue Creek and Whistling Pig Meadows and many others with a variety of colorful flowers. Route finding was the most difficult in the Two Little Lakes area due to snow. But in general trails are easy to follow and signs are plentiful. On the Cougar Ridge trail we went through some of last year's fire damage, rounded Cougar Mountain and returned to the Mad River Trail on very steep Jimmy Creek trail.

On the entire trip we saw no one and relished the beauty and solitude of the high meadows. We recommend this to early season hikers; call the Entiat (509-784-1511) or Leavenworth (509-782-1413) ranger stations to find out when ORV use begins.

Also the fording of the Mad River can be avoided by entering this area by the Alder Ridge trail which begins on the Chiwawa River road and ends close to Mad Lake, but requires more mileage and elevation gain. Several loop trips are possible; check on bridges and water level.—Pat Siggs and Joan Trunk, Seattle, 7/5-8.

BUCK CREEK PASS (*Glacier Pk Wilderness; USGS Suiattle Pass, Clark Mtn*)—The Forest Service has put in a new trail at Trinity that leaves the parking lot out of the west corner. This new trail cuts over to the main trail avoiding the private property at Trinity altogether. The only things left to do is put in a 45-foot span bridge for horses and make a new parking lot. This should be done by September.

Also, the bridge is washed out at the Chiwawa River, 3 miles up Buck Creek trail. The river is too deep and dangerous to wade. The Forest Service wasn't sure if they would be able to fix the bridge this year because of budget cuts. There were about 20 blow-downs during that 3-mile stretch.—Karen Sizemore, Everett, 7/1.

BUCK CREEK PASS (*Glacier Pk Wilderness; USGS Suiattle Pass, Clark Mtn*)—We had intended on hiking this trail but the Ranger said there was still a lot of snow low, and a major bridge had washed away with no log jam to cross on.—SB, Silverdale, 7/95.

SPIDER MEADOW (*Glacier Pk Wilderness; USGS Holden*)—Only two things to say: 4 feet of snow in the meadow (Ranger said this is highly unusual for this time of year). And hordes of mosquitoes.—SB, Silverdale, 7/95.

HEATHER LAKE & GLASSES LAKE (*HIMJ Wilderness; USGS Labyrinth Mtn*)—Road number changes have apparently taken place since the latest printing of *100 Hikes in the Glacier Peak Region*. Road 6702 is now 6700 and 6701-510 is now 6701-400. This caused us only a minor delay in finding the trailhead for this day hike.

The trailhead sign gives 3.5 miles as the distance to Heather Lake which is about 1/4-mile longer than that shown on the Green Trails map and in the guide book. The trail gains about 1400 feet in three parts. The first part is relatively flat; most of the elevation is gained in the second part; and the third part levels off to a more comfortable grade to gain the remaining elevation.

Where the trail ends at the lake are a number of well used campsites. Several signs proclaim that fires are not permitted at either lake. Crossing the outlet on a log jam, we found a way-trail that makes its way up and down

along the southeast side of the lake. A couple of camp spots can be found if you follow the trail toward the end of the lake. The shoreline is quite brushy.

A rough way-trail toward the end of Heather climbs to Glasses Lake, with roughly 700 feet gained in about 1/2-mile. A couple of steep sections and a faint track make this challenging. If you care to struggle up to Glasses with a full pack, you'll find several nice camps.—LGM, Port Orchard, 7/13.

CASCADE PASS—Road open to trailhead. Snow patches first 1/4-mile. Snow-covered at pass. Johannesburg camp snowfree. Sahale Arm camp snowfree. Pelton Basin camp melting out. Trail difficult to follow on Stehekin side.—Ranger, 7/20.

MOUNT PILCHUCK—Hikers are asked not to use the trail Monday through Thursday from 7/15 to 10/31.

The trail is being reconstructed with the use of explosives, helicopters and other motorized equipment and access may be delayed or denied during some of this work.

Call the Darrington office at 360-436-1155 for a trail update.—Ranger, 7/16.

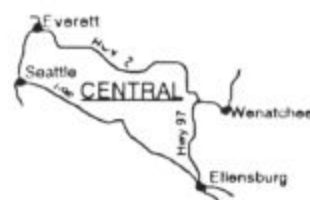
STEHEKIN—Shuttle bus leaves Stehekin daily at 8am and 2pm. Cost is \$5/person per zone (\$10 Stehekin to Bridge Creek). Reservations required; call 360-856-5703.

For boat information, call 509-682-2224. For float plane service, call 509-682-5555.—Ranger, 7/20.

PCT—Kennedy bridge is out; difficult crossing depending on creek level. Suiattle Pass to Fire Creek Pass snowfree except around Fire Creek Pass.

Mica Lake and East Fork Milk Creek basin still have heavy snow patches. Snow at White Pass and at Red Pass.—Ranger, 7/13.

CENTRAL



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow level above 5000 feet.

GUYE PEAK (*Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Snoqualmie Pass*)—Although dwarfed by the taller and bulkier peaks nearby,

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Guye Peak (5168 feet) stands out dramatically, its huge west cliff face and steep south ridge towering above the Alpental cabins.

It has three small rocky summits, nearly equal in height and separated by gullies. Most routes are roped climbs, but the north summit can be reached by the scrambler by way of the north ridge (class 2). Please take heed that precipitous dropoffs at the top make this a dangerous place for undisciplined children and dogs.

Drive I-90 to Snoqualmie Pass; take exit 52 and turn north. Park at the Alpental ski area. The climbers' path begins just across the road from the new outhouse, several yards short of the Snow Lake trailhead. Follow the path up across the old rope tow slope and cross a creek. Now begin a mile of relentless ascent up brushy, rocky trail to the boulder field below Cave Ridge. Here a helpful sign on a tree directs the traveler left to Snoqualmie Mountain and right to Guye Peak.

Head right and upward, following cairns and intuition, to the upper south end of the boulders. The path resumes, climbing and traversing to the saddle between Guye Peak and Cave Ridge.

Here, note the path dropping east off the saddle into the Commonwealth Creek basin; this trail ends up just across Commonwealth Creek from trail 1033, and can be used as an alternate route down if you prefer a loop trip. (This trail is very difficult to find if you are trying to ascend from Commonwealth Creek basin, being hidden in brush across the creek.)

From the saddle, pass to the right around a tarn and ascend through rocky outcrops to the north summit. An alternate path to the left of the pond avoids the simple rock scrambling, but is very steep and slippery in places. If you wish to visit the middle and south summits (class 3 with rope advised), read the route in Fred Beckey's *Cascade Alpine Guide*. We found the perch atop the north summit quite airy enough, with fine views. The round-trip distance is about 4 or 5 miles, with an elevation gain of 2100 feet.—Mick Campbell, Puyallup, 6/24.



"GALLEON MOUNTAIN"

(Alpine Lakes Wilderness;

USGS Snoqualmie Lk)—This peak was recently identified as one of the Home Court 100 (see July, page 25). Its top-most elevation, Point 5283, lies 1.1 miles north of Dingford Creek, and 3 miles east-southeast of Mount Garfield.

The name was suggested by its profile on the topographic map: a long,

bulky mass punctuated by three summits of nearly equal height.

Because it was unnamed on the map and apparently unknown to local climbers, Galleon Mountain seemed a good prospect for a first ascent. The map shows a number of contours tightly bunched around Point 5283, so Matt and I went prepared with all our climbing gear, including a rope and protection.

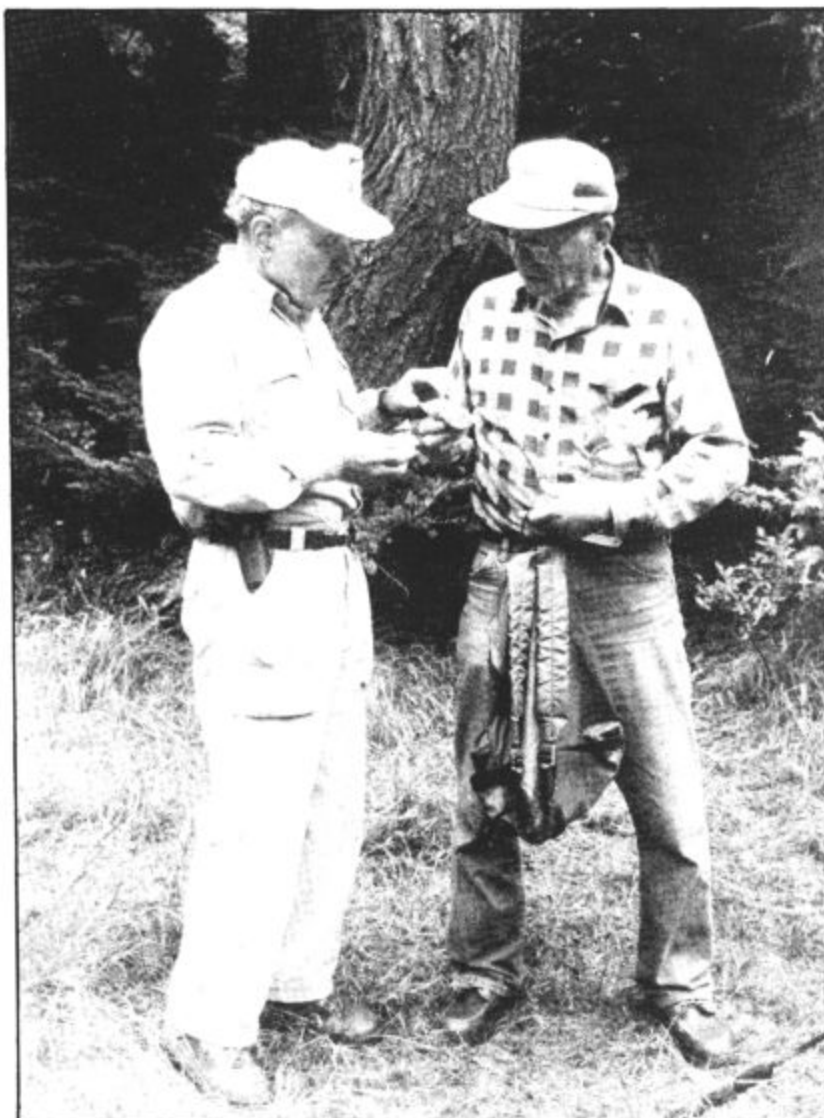
We parked on the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Road 4.5 miles beyond the Taylor River junction (1330 feet), and climbed up the ridge lying just west of the drainage from Green Ridge Lake. At about 3400 feet we veered northeast off the ridge, and followed an ascending traverse just below a series of talus slopes to the lake's outlet.

Here we were surprised to run into two young men who said they were

mining quartz crystals. We were even more surprised when they asked us not to disturb their blast sites. We readily agreed, and hoped we wouldn't stumble across any of them.

After crossing the talus on the north shore of Green Ridge Lake we came to the southern tip of Hi-Low Lake, where the climbing began in earnest. We found no obvious route, but we were able to connect a loose chain of bouldery talus slopes and slabby gullies (general bearing approximately 120 degrees), to arrive at the saddle ¼-mile south of Point 5283. We made ample and shameless use of vegetable belays (mostly hemlock and huckleberry) on both the ascent and descent of this slope.

From the saddle we worked north along the west side of the ridge, passing beneath a spectacular fin of bare granite at least 100 feet high. Just be-



Randy Patterson, left, and Walt Bailey stop fishing for the briefest minute to examine some rock samples at "Bailey" Lake.

Ann Marshall

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fore the summit, deeply incised gullies fell away on both sides of the ridge, but, fortunately, did not cut through the crest to form a notch. Instead, we found a narrow and exposed, but adequate, catwalk about 10 feet long.


The summit itself was a small, gentle dome, bare of trees down about 50 feet, and thickly covered with heather. As we'd hoped, there was no sign of prior human visitation. (Tufts of goat wool on trees just below the summit made it clear, however, that we were not the first large mammals to tread there.)

The bright, sunny day provided breathtaking views. Especially inspiring was the arc of mountains running along the south side of the Middle Fork, from Preacher Mountain all the way around to Overcoat Peak, with Mount Rainier perfectly framed between Chair Peak and Kaleetan Peak. To the west, the summit towers of Mount Garfield looked monumental, and almost close enough to touch.

As we ate lunch, we joked sheepishly about unnecessarily dragging our climbing gear all this way. The route proved to be no more than class 2 and easy class 3, though with a lot of bush-whacking. On the other hand, looking down from the top suggested our catwalk might be the only non-technical finish to the summit.

We also cursed the clouds of insects that started swarming around us at the lakes, and were still with us at the summit—easily the worst I've seen in the Cascades.

Our descent retraced the same route we'd climbed, and was unremarkable, other than the expected aching feet and itching bug bites. At least 6 miles round trip and 4000 vertical feet; 4 hours up, 3½ hours down.—Jeff Howbert, Bellevue, 7/16.

 **"MOUNT INSIGNIFICANT APOGEE"** (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Chikamin Peak*)—This summit is number 89 on Jeff Howbert's *Home Court Highest 100 Peaks* list (July, page 25).


It's a 5140-foot partially logged "ugly duckling" of a peak, one mile northeast of Swan Lake. That's what we were going to call it, but it turned out more pleasant than expected, and besides, Harvey Manning had inspired a new toponym (July, page 4). Karen and 21-month-old Aaron and I were looking for something to entertain the whole family, and this turned out to fit the bill quite nicely.

We drove to Kachess Lake Campground and just beyond to take a left on road 4948 up Gale Creek to a right on

spur 120, driving it to road-end in the center of Section 23. Here from the car were good views north to Rampart Ridge and Alta Mountain, with Mount Thompson poking out behind.

It was only about a ¼-mile climb with 350 feet of elevation gain up the north-west ridge to the top. The summit surprised us—a 40-foot block of rock that looked undoable with a squirming boy on my back. Karen took on the nearly class 4 pitch directly while Aaron and I explored down and counterclockwise, finding a class 2 route.


The summit panorama was quite nice, especially into the upper cirque of Box Canyon. From the top we spotted a 4080+ foot summit 1.3 mile southeast on *USGS Stampede Pass* (Section 25) which has 600 feet of prominence. We did this on the way home, courtesy of a "tree growing company" which had been at work here affording close access and unobstructed 360-degree views.—John Roper, Bellevue, July 16.

 **LAKE IVANHOE** (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Mt Daniel, Big Snow Mtn*)—One of the roughest approaches in the central Cascades. That's what I had remembered from some 10 years before. Bad it was, but amazingly, no worse. Be prepared to spend an hour or more driving the 25 miles from Ken's Truck Stop up the Middle Fork Snoqualmie to road-end.

The Dutch Miller trail was a breeze in comparison, gently gaining altitude and views to a ridge on the south. In about 6½ miles I reached a beautiful meadow and the river formed a small pond. Just beyond the trail forks, one to Williams Lake, the other to Dutch Miller Gap and Lake Ivanhoe, then on to Waptus Lake. From here the trail to Lake Ivanhoe was about 80% snowcovered.

Rain Sunday morning forced a retreat. It was on the way out that I noticed how brushy many sections of the trail were.


I drank the water and I didn't get sick.—Dave and Rod, Tacoma, 7/1-2.

 **WHITEPINE CREEK TRAIL 1582** (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Chiwaukum Mtns, Stevens Pass*)—The horsebridge mentioned in *100 Hikes in the Alpine Lakes* no longer exists.


We crossed Whitepine Creek on a large tree across the creek. Miles 3 to 5 had old bear scat every ¼-mile although luckily we never saw any bears. Mile 5 to 6 was very brushy. This trail hasn't been brushed for a long time.

We camped at Mule Creek camp and

found an old sheep trail nearby that wandered into high meadows below Jim Hill Mountain. A trail across Whitepine Creek may have led off to the Doelle And Chain Lakes. We ran out of time to follow it.—Reebach, Mukilteo, 7/1-3.

 **ICICLE GORGE TRAIL 1596** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Jack Ridge*)—A complete loop! This trail is not finished yet but is hikeable and useable. Start at a new trailhead along Icicle River at Chatter Creek Guard Station.

The loop is 3½ miles long, fairly level and crosses the river on 2 separate bridges. One bridge is at the Chatter Creek trailhead, the other at the Rock Creek Campground. A very nice easy trail.—Reebach, Mukilteo, 7/4.

 **BEAN PEAK** (*enatchee National Forest; USGS Mount Stuart*)—Bean Peak is the unnamed 6743-foot summit 1.2 miles northwest of Earl Peak on the Mount Stuart quad. I first learned of it in Mary Sutliff's wonderful little 1980 book, *Teanaway Country* (which deserves to be reprinted).

Having not climbed Bean since 1983, but remembering it as an enjoyable hike with a fine finishing scramble on excellent rock, I set off with friends Vic, Mark, Matt and Brady on a drizzly day with a forecast for rain and thunderstorms on the eastern slopes. As usual, we found the weather much better than expected east of the crest, and had a mostly sunny hike with just a bit snowfall at the summit.

Drive the North Fork Teanaway River road to Beverly Creek. Take the Beverly Creek road 1 mile to the bridge wash-out (under repair) at 3440 feet. Park here. Your hike ahead will gain 3300 feet with a round-trip distance of about 8 miles.

After crossing the stream on planks, walk ¾-mile to the original trailhead at road's end, then up the Beverly Creek trail 1391 to Bean Creek trail 1391A. The latter climbs gradually but steadily to the high valley draining the east side of Mary's Peak, the south side of Bean Peak and west side of Earl Peak.

Leave the trail and follow a climbers' path to the valley head, stopping to enjoy the numerous wildflower species along the way. Bear to the right to hike up talus to the ridgetop east of the peak, or clamber directly up red rock to the summit block. Pick your way up the final 100 to 200 feet, the various routes ranging from class 2 to 4; the rock is solid and great fun. For the easiest way, traverse under the steep south gullies to

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the southwest side, then up easy ledges to a notch leading to the northwest side and the top.

Across the Ingalls Creek valley is the massive southern front of the Enchantment peaks, still heavy with snow and dominated by Mount Stuart (9415 feet). Closer at hand are numerous Teanaway summits such as Earl Peak (7036 feet), Mary's Peak (6640+ feet) and Bill's Peak (6880+ feet), each inviting you to future scrambles.—Mick Campbell, Puyallup, 6/17.



FORTUNE CREEK PASS

(Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Mt Stuart)—After claiming a spot at Beverly Creek campground, our group of six headed for the end of the North Fork Teanaway road.

In less than half a mile, we had to scramble over avalanche debris at the Longs Pass trail junction. The Longs Pass trail was difficult to spot under all the snow.

The trail was easy, the flowers were gorgeous, and the weather was good. At the 6000-foot pass we lunched in the shade and swatted ants, then we all hiked up to the 6600-foot point to the north for great views. (Nancy remained at the pass to guard our gear from the ants).

Joan pointed out the tiny blue butterwort near streams, which she said is an insect-eating flower! On our way down we met two climbing parties which had missed the Longs Pass junction.—Ann Marshall, Port Orchard, 6/23.



EARL PEAK (Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Mt Stuart)

—The bridge is still out about a mile up road 112 (see July, page 14). Although the rest of the group crossed on the scrap lumber, I went upstream to a very good and easy log.

Snow is completely gone in the basin. As we climbed up to the Bean-Earl ridge we encountered a few patches of snow at about 5800 feet. Nancy, recovering from a back injury, came with us up to 5500 feet, then reluctantly turned back.

Picking our way along the ridge, we arrived at the summit in time for a mid-afternoon lunch. We enjoyed visiting with the several other groups who arrived from different routes.

We descended the southwest ridge hoping to pick up the trail but it was under snow for a long way. When the snow ended we found the trail and followed it down to Bean Creek, which we waded in bare feet—cold but refreshing.—Ann Marshall, Port Orchard, 6/24.



Mr. Maphead above Snowgrass Flat, Goat Rocks Wilderness.

Mystery Hiker



BEVERLY CREEK TRAIL

(Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Mt Stuart)—Back up road 112 and across the washout (see above). Instead of going up Bean Creek as we had yesterday, we crossed Beverly Creek (look for the path through the brush) and spent a leisurely morning botanizing our way to the basin for lunch.

No snow; no ticks; trail is in good shape.—Ann Marshall, Port Orchard, 6/25.



JOHNSON MOUNTAIN

(Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Teanaway Butte, Mount Stuart)

—CAT and I went in by way of the Johnson Creek trail. At the junction with the Jungle Creek trail we took the trail which is signed Way Creek.

We followed it west across the north side of Johnson Mountain (point 5220) to the semi-signed junction with the trail to Malcolm and Koppen Mountains. I say semi-signed because the sign is so far in the rather obscure trail that it is not visible from the junction.

Anyway at the junction is a way-trail or maybe just a game trail that leads to the summit ridge of Johnson. There were many flowers all along the ridge, the rock penstemon being especially nice.

While this pleasant hike is an easy one, it was a big one for me. On a hike in mid May I'd fallen and broken my shoulder. This was the first time I'd been able to carry a normal pack since then.

It was probably a big hike for CAT also, since it was the first time in over five weeks I'd been able to drive. Not only had he done all the driving; but for a while he'd even given me door-to-door service, adding as much as 50 miles of rush hour traffic to his trip!—TG, Skyway, 6/22.



MIDDLE FORK TEANAWAY

(Wenatchee Natl Forest & private land USGS Teanaway Butte)

—It's nice to have a first-class lowland alternative right in the neighborhood when one's high-country objective (in this case Yellow Hill) sits swathed in clouds and mist.

I hiked the 3½ miles to Way Creek trail in Teva sandals (which then stowed away in the day pack more compactly than would, say, tennis shoes). The multiple fords thus taken in mid-stride (so to speak) were not a problem—never greater than knee-deep, nor too swift when negotiated with a stout pole. The first mile features fire basalt "reefs" thrusting into the river canyon.

After lunch I headed up Way Creek trail on good tread to Jungle Creek road, then followed faint paths southwest to the north base of Teanaway Butte. More paths switchbacked up the slope, finally sweeping around the east side to meet clearcuts and the gated Butte logging road at 4400 feet; fine views from Iron Peak to Red Top here.

A forced march down the road 4 miles returned to the Middle Fork road and closed the loop. A peaceful and

GREEN TRAILS

TOPOGRAPHIC

MAPS

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quietly beautiful trip.

Signs 2 miles up the river trail inform you that this trail is closed to four-wheel vehicles (as if two- and three- were not equal sins). The junction with Way Creek trail is signed.—Andy Carr, Bellevue, 7/2.

INGALLS LAKE (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Mt Stuart*)—From the trailhead at the end of the North Fork Teanaway road to Ingalls Pass, the trail is basically snow-free except for some minor snow patches above the junction with the trail to Longs Pass.

Beyond Ingalls Pass, however, Ann and I found much of the trail still under snow. Ingalls Lake itself was thawed around the edges but the majority was still covered with partially melted ice. The snow made for limited camping sites in Headlight Basin. Camping is not allowed at Ingalls Lake and no fires are allowed past the junction with the Longs Pass trail.

This is a heavily used trail because of its views and climbing access to Ingalls Peak and Mount Stuart. The trail basically climbs at an easy grade from the start to Ingalls Pass—a gain of somewhat over 2200 feet. From there the trail contours with some ups and downs until the final up to the lake. On a clear day there are lots of views of surrounding ridges and peaks. And lots of flowers in the meadows in early summer.

100 Hikes in Washington's Alpine Lakes gives the elevation for the junction with Longs Pass trail at 5600 feet; my altimeter showed closer to 5400 feet and was right on at the stated elevation of 6500 feet at Ingalls Pass.—LGM, Port Orchard, 7/8-9.

CRADLE LAKE, BLACK JACK RIDGE (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Chiwaukum Mtns*)—A loop! Lots of ups and downs and numerous burned areas from last summer and years past.

We started at the Jack/Trout Lake trailhead near Rock Island campground. We crossed both Jack Creek and Meadow Creek on logs—there were no bridges. Up and up to Cradle Lake—a beautiful spot we had all to ourselves for two days. A big packrat chewed on a few of our things. Beware!

We climbed the south and main summits of Highchair Mountain, then headed back down the trail the next day to the Blackjack Ridge trail. Down, up, down, up, down, up, down. What a workout! Our last night we camped at a 6200-foot saddle and climbed Bootjack Mountain.

The last day was steeply down to the Blackpine Creek horse camp. A 1.5 mile trail now parallels the road and led us back to Jack Creek/Trout Lake trailhead.—Reebach, Mukilteo, 7/12-16.

ENCHANTMENTS—A lot of rockfall at Aasgard Pass; all routes are dangerous. Upper Enchantments still have 6 feet of snow.

All reservation days are 100% full.—Ranger, 7/11.

SOUTH CENTRAL



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow level about 6000 feet.

SILVER PEAK, TINKHAM PEAK (*Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Snoqualmie Pass*)—Duane H. and I figured getting a bit damp on a scramble wouldn't hurt. We chose the route described in the *100 Hikes* book with some variation.

We somehow got off road 9070 and ended up on a powerline maintenance road. The road crossed the PCT at 3500 feet so we went ahead and parked and headed south on the Crest Trail. The flowers in Olallie Meadow were interesting and sort of made me think of bringing a field guide. The ones in bloom that I think I know were: bear-grass, spirea, bunchberry, paintbrush, aster and higher up, spreading phlox and penstemon.

The mosquitoes were as you might expect this time of year on a mild day with light rain on and off. The guidebook said that the trail to Silver Peak would occur at 1½ miles from road 9070 and to watch for a faint trail. We found what appeared to be the faint trail and followed it upward in a westerly direction.

The trail disappeared but impatience and stubbornness prevailed and we thrashed our way upward until we reached open talus slopes with the peak in view. We continued upward but to our left and found a very good trail which we followed to the summit.

Even though the skies were overcast we were able to identify all of the Snoqualmie Peaks and could clearly see

Mount Stuart. South of us, Mount Rainier was in the clouds.

On the trail just below the summit I nearly stepped on a dead fox. The reason for its demise was not obvious. It was in good shape, appeared to be young, silver-grey in color with a white tipped tail.

We descended the path and followed another from the saddle between Silver and Tinkham to the summit of Tinkham. Again, great views except for all the signs warning that trespassers will be prosecuted if they wander into Seattle's Cedar River watershed.

We descended Tinkham by our ascent route then followed the path (this is the Gardner Ridge trail but unmarked) back to the Crest trail and went north to our truck. We found we had left the PCT about ¼-mile too soon. Trailhead to trailhead time was 8 hours but we are longtime friends (30+ years) and had much to catch up on and you can only do so at a leisurely pace with lots of breaks.—Ron Raff, Chehalis, 7/8.

COMET FALLS (*Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mt Rainier West*)—To Longmire to get best estimate of when areas to be hiked this summer can be expected to be open. Informed it would probably be 3rd week of July before Klapatche and similar areas would be snow free.

Had already done Rampart so hoisted 4x5 camera and up to Comet Falls. Trail very muddy first third. Had been lots of traffic. Yellow violets, trillium, avalanche lily, salmonberry, shooting star, vallerian blooming on way. Nice flow at Comet Falls and falls on main Van Trump Creek. First real snow at switchback near base of fall. Take some photos and return to trailhead. Twenty-two cars at trailhead at 12 noon.

Up to intersection with Stevens Canyon Road, nice cataract in Paradise River above road. Dispense information to numbers of individuals on where to find the wildflowers.

Also run up to check on trail to Pinnacle Saddle for scramble on 25th. Looks 100 percent snow covered; several feet still at trailhead.—Paul Schaulfer, Olympia, 6/23.

PINNACLE and CASTLE (*Mt Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mt Rainier East*)—Sunday, sunny, and the hills are alive with the sound of music? No, that's the sound of Mountaineers converging on Pinnacle Peak and the Castle.

Trail to Pinnacle Saddle 99.99 percent snow covered. Scrambler group on trail or near it most of way to saddle.

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Nice scramble on standard scramble route to summit of Pinnacle, about 2½ hours from trailhead. Lunch and admire view. Adams, Hood, Saint Helens as clear as I have ever seen them from the Tatoosh Range.

Then Fearless Leader took us through notch between Pinnacle and the Castle to a snow traverse across the north face of Castle to the east end. From there up a scramble near my limit of ability to the summit.

Castle looks like a massive block viewed from the north; from the east it is more of a thin slab. Off summit, off rock helmets and don raingear for a series of glissades almost all the way back to the parking lot. Excellent day, group, scramble, leader, scenery.

Stopped at what used to be the Moore Family complex for dinner. Excellent food, service, reasonable prices, recommended. Think it's called Rainier Overland or some such thing, maybe editor could check on that to earn keep.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 6/25.



GREEN LAKE (Mt Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mowich Lk)

—This is a short day hike through magnificent old growth forest. It's great for a rainy day since the forest provides protection from the elements on most of the trail.

Bill and I did it on a very rainy day. Before leaving home we checked with the Carbon River Ranger Station on the status of the Carbon River Bridge construction. We learned it will be open on weekends throughout the construction this summer. Apparently they are building a temporary bridge on top of the old bridge to allow continued use.—Jane Habegger, Olympia, 6/11.



CRYSTAL LAKES (Mt Rainier Natl Park; USGS White River Park East)

—Another grey day, so again we picked a lake hike.

Quite a bit of snow remained before the lower lake, and when we started postholing and the rain began we decided to stop and eat our lunch in a protected area at lower Crystal Lake.

Bill and I will try to return later in July to see the gorgeous fields of pasqueflower near the upper lake and hopefully before the mosquitos hatch! —Jane Habegger, Olympia, 6/18.



GLACIER VIEW (Gifford Pinchot Natl Forest; USGS Mt Wow)

—Bill and I had both been under the weather this week and Glacier View is a great easy hike for a beautiful clear day.

We had one of the best views of the

mountain we've had from this trail. It was really hot and clear and the bugs were biting despite our use of bug repellent. The biting flies were particularly bad. The fields of avalanche lilies en route were beautiful.

The payoff on this hike is one of the best that we know of for the effort. It provides a fantastic panorama of Mount Rainier. The trail is 6 miles round trip and gains 1100 feet in elevation.—Jane Habegger, Olympia, 7/1.



GLACIER VIEW (Glacier View Wilderness; USGS Mt Wow)

—Seven of us—average age 74—from Providence Point, an active retirement complex in Issaquah, drove to Ashford, found Access Road 59 8 miles to the east, and drove a pretty good dirt road 9.1 miles to the trailhead, elevation 4400 feet.

The day was warm, but not overly so, so our pace was brisk. En route to the summit we encountered a cornucopia of flowers (see below) which we tallied almost without stopping.

The elevation gain was 1100 feet, punctuated by two modest snowfields, and a gradual tread except for the last steep half mile. On top we vicariously ruminated what it must have been like when Glacier View Lookout, now long gone, was in place. For to the east just in front of us stood The Mountain—Rainier—easily deceiving us by its proximity, and masking its perilous routes because of the curtain of haziness it wore this day.

We sat there transformed for the better part of an hour, drinking in this behemoth, and reveling in this wonder which draws people from all over the world. We were alone except for a solitary visitor from Tacoma. He comes here several times a year just to gaze.

When we returned, completing the 6 mile round trip without incident, we pooled our knowledge and love of flowers, and identified 26 different species.

For easy reference I have listed them alphabetically: beargrass, snow buttercup, western coralroot, queen's cup, golden mountain daisy, elderberry, dwarf fireweed, foxglove, hellebore, larkspur, avalanche lily (in great abundance!), lupine, Indian paintbrush, Davidson's penstemon, spreading phlox, creeping raspberry, Montana white rhododendron, Pacific Coast or western rhododendron, Jeffrey shooting star, spirea, ocean spray or mountain spray, stoncrop, trillium, Sitka valerian, purple violet, and yellow violet. Source: *Mountain Flowers of the Cascades and Olympics* by Ira Spring and Harvey Manning.

On the way home we slaked our thirst at the Copper Creek Inn, known far and wide for the quality of its table.—Jim Doubleday, Issaquah, 6/29.



SUNRISE TO WHITE RIVER CAMPGROUND

(Mt Rainier Natl Park; USGS White River Park, Sunrise)—Hiked to campground after completing visitor distribution survey project for the day. Raining. Upper slopes below Sunrise blooming with bear grass, phlox, glacier lilies, and just-opening lupine.

A few blowdowns on the trail, cleared what we could, none a problem getting by. Interesting stream crossing below the waterfall, a few branches had been thrown across. Snow patches for approximately 1 mile. Trail quite dry considering it had rained all day.—Clyde and Lois, Bothell, 7/9.



EAGLE, CHUTLA (Mt Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mt Rainier East)

—Leave Longmire 9:50am. Twinflower and pipsisiwa near trailhead. Up the nicely graded trail with avalanche lilies and yellow violets near its terminus. These two flowers often bloom in conjunction.



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BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

Where good trail ends after leaving woods and angles uphill as a washout the whole hillside was a sea of blooming bears' noses. Beautiful. A little well settled snow on the bench in the trees, then snowfree up the washout trail to Eagle saddle. From bottom up: veronica, phlox, vallerian, a pedicularis, columbine, paintbrush, aster, heather and heath. Above saddle on way to Eagle summit striking penstemon in rock crevices.

Summit and lunch about 12:30 following standard scrambler route. Then back down to the saddle and easterly along ridge to Chutla. Drop below ridge to south when ridge becomes too craggy. Followed goat trail most of way. Easy to do as I have been told I have the instincts of a mountain goat. (My hearing is none too good so maybe they said I smell like a mountain goat but I prefer the former interpretation.)

Summit of Chutla in sun a little after 2pm. The 5 climbers I am with seem to like to lunch a lot. Every high point is another excuse for lunch. Clouds rising but Rainier still obscured above Anvil. See line of ants crawling up Muir Snowfield. Back to Longmire about 4:50.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 7/8.



MOUNT AIX (WOD Wilderness; USGS Bumping Lake)—

By the time we got to Enumclaw it began to rain and by the time we got to Greenwater we had made good enough time that we stopped for coffee at Buzzy's. By the time we reached Chinook Pass it was white and gloomy. By the time we reached the Bumping River road off 410 there was no rain, or at least no current rain. From the Goose Prairie Inn we met the rest of the group (I was leading this Mountaineer trip) and drove to the trailhead (another 7-8 miles or so).

This was a young and energetic group who could hardly wait to get their boots on and start hiking. I didn't want to hold them back so let them go at their own pace until we reached snow or 12:30pm, whichever came first. Walt was hiking at about my pace so we kept each other company on this steep and scenic trail which I had hiked once years ago.

The trail stays mostly in the woods for a couple of miles then climbs into subalpine forest. At 6400 feet we took a break. There's a pretty campsite here and a large snow patch—you could camp here into late June without worrying about water.

Walt and I thought we were doing pretty well but there was no sign of our fellow hikers. We hit a few snow patches below Nelson Ridge but not enough to fuss about. When we reached Nelson

Ridge at 7100 feet we found the group, which was (finally!) taking a break. Were they really telling the truth when they said they had only been there 20 minutes?

The route over to Mount Aix was almost snow-free—just one patch. A couple of cross-country paths lead to the summit. Most people wanted to get an actual summit so we scrambled to the top and finished our lunch on top. The clouds were clearing away so we were able to enjoy some partial views before hiking back down.

We got back down to the cars at about the same time. Even with a fast group this makes a long, steep hike. It's 12 miles round trip with an elevation gain of 4000 feet. We stopped at the Gooseberry Inn for a snack before the long drive back to the Seattle (and the fireworks). By the time I got home I was tired enough to sleep through the fireworks.

Mount Aix is a lot of work but worth it. The views are superb, the flowers are abundant, and it doesn't seem that many people go there so you're likely to have solitude too.—Karen Sykes, Seattle, 7/4.

HIGHWAY 410—Expect up to 30-minute delays east of Greenwater due to road construction.—Ranger, 7/17.

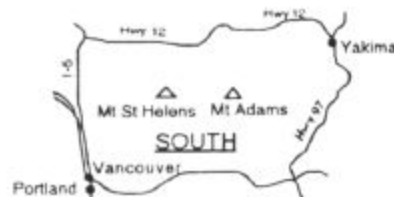
CARBON RIVER BRIDGE—Closed Monday through Friday, 8am to 6pm due to repair work. Closure affects access to Mowich Lake, Summit Lake, and Carbon River Entrance to the park.—Ranger, 7/17.



Wind Mountain and the Columbia River from the new trail on Dog Mountain.

Kathy Hermann

SOUTH



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow level above 5000 feet.



NORTH FORK TIETON, MCCALL GLACIER (Goat

Rocks Wilderness; USGS White Pass, Old Snowy Mtn)—Drove east past White Pass to road 12. Turned right at junction with 1207 at 2.5 miles and continued about 5 miles to the trailhead.

My goal was to camp at McCall Basin, just south of Tieton Pass, with some skiing on nearby snowfields. The first few miles of this trail traverses lush forest with vanillaleaf and twin-flowers galore. The trail gains elevation and breaks out into semi-open meadows and climbs to Tieton Pass and a junction with the Pacific Crest Trail at about 5 miles. I turned left (south) on the Crest Trail and traveled about 2 miles to McCall Basin.

This is a beautiful alpine basin, complete with waterfalls and meandering streams. The view down the valley to Tieton Peak was nice, and the view up to the snowfields leading to the Goat Rocks crest was just too much. I decided to hoof it farther up into the basin.

I was just overwhelmed by the beautiful cirque at the head of the Tieton. The McCall Glacier shined in the late afternoon sun, and the snowmelt was roaring from the hot weather. I just kept hiking right up onto the glacier. I picked out a rock island in the middle of the glacier and set up my bivvy. Then up the glacier I went with skis and fanny pack. The snow was in excellent shape, even in this hot weather, and before I knew it I was standing on top of Old Snowy, staring at Rainier, Adams, St. Helens, the South Cascades, the Olympics, and everything in between.

Of course, the 2000-foot ski run down to my camp was phenomenal. After a late afternoon snack I couldn't stand it anymore, so packed up the headlight and emergency gear, just in case, and did it all over again. The view at the top this time was mostly a pinkish orange from the alpenglow sunset. I swooped down the run again, making figure 8s on my old ski tracks. Pulled into my camp at dark, and enjoyed the cool breezes in my sleeping bag.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

In the morning, I made a couple of short ski runs, and packed down the unmaintained trail right down the north edge of the Teton. I would not recommend this trail as an exit. It took me about twice as long to get out because of the many blowdowns. Also, the trail faded out many times, forcing me to fan out to find it again. Take mosquito repellent!—Larry Smith, Port Orchard, 7/16-17.

APE CAVE—Lantern rental is open Thursday to Monday; fee is \$3 each. Cave temperature remains 42 degrees year-round; bring warm clothes.

For information on caving in southwest Washington and Oregon, contact the Oregon Grotto of the Nation Speleological Society: Libby Nieland, 360-231-4298 or Matt Joerin, 360-944-7017.

MT ST HELENS—Climbing permits are required 5/15 to 11/1. Call 360-750-3900 for permit information.—Ranger, 7/17.

BIRD CREEK MEADOWS—Open 7/1 to 10/1. Permits are required and are issued by Yakama Nation rangers stationed at Bird Lake. An 8-hour day-use permit is \$5/vehicle. Overnight camping is \$10/vehicle.—Ranger, 7/10.

PETERSON PRAIRIE CABIN—Reservations can be made beginning 10/1 for the 95-96 winter season. Call 509-395-3400 for info.—Ranger, 7/10.

NORTHEAST



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LAKE (Coulee Dam

NRA; USGS Keller)—Our homemade 17-foot kayaks (Glen L plans) needed a challenge for their maiden voyage. Ron and I chose Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake as our destination. The portions of Lake Roosevelt and shoreline not owned by the Colville and Spokane Indians are managed as the Coulee Dam National Recreation area. The shoreline is public property, open to everyone.



A pika sounds the alarm, Sawtooth Wilderness, Idaho.

Don Abbott

We launched from Keller Ferry, about 15 miles west of Grand Coulee Dam. There is plenty of free paved parking at the boat launch with a nice dock. The evening was threatening rain but very bright with a full moon. We loaded the boats for the first time and headed out. The Lake Roosevelt vacation dock was full of houseboats we passed on our way out of the bay. We paddled southwest for 6 miles enjoying the scenery.

As the wind and waves became threatening, we pulled up in a perfect sandy cove for the night. There were no other boats or people after leaving Keller Ferry. On our way back the next day we saw only a dozen fishing boats.

The water level was still down about 5 feet from summer normal, usually reaching full pool by the 4th of July. This area has more rock outcroppings and less sandy beaches than other parts of the lake we have explored.

Many birds and rock formations made this an interesting paddle. The water is clear and enjoyable for swimming, with air temperatures about ten degrees warmer than Spokane. We saw several sandy beaches we saved for future exploration.—Frank Patrick, Spokane, 6/10-11.

IDAHO



LAKE PEND OREILLE, EVAN'S LANDING TRAIL

64 (Kanitsu National Forest; USGS Cocolalla)—Take Highway 95 to Careywood Road, approximately 3 miles to Blacktail Mountain Road, then right 2 miles and follow the well

marked signs to trail 64.

Lake Pend Oreille is the largest (125 square miles) and deepest (1000 feet) natural lake in Idaho. Most of the shore is National Forest and very steep. This trail is all down hill (660 foot loss) to a beautiful spot on the lake. Many blowdowns and a rock slide made the 2-mile trail seem a lot longer.

We ate the huckleberries and wild strawberries growing along the trail and enjoyed many views of wild flowers and the lake below, through the thick trees.

The rock slide near the end of the trail has left only a bare rock chute all the way down to the water. At this rock slide a rope has been securely tied to bushes, and using this rope it is possible to get around the slide by scrambling up a rather steep, muddy bank and down the other side, which my 12-year-old brother and I later did without our packs.

My parents deemed this route too treacherous to attempt with packs on, so we took a fork in the trail leading down to the water. Here we took off shoes and socks, and walked across a bottom of small rocks in knee deep water along the shore to the beach.

This beach on Lake Pend Oreille is made up of small rocks washed smooth (great fun to look for interesting patterns and designs). There is an out-house, fire rings, and a picnic table on the beach. We were planning to stay for 2 nights, but packed out after one because of poor weather for being at the beach. Wet brush overgrowing the trail made for a slightly wet, but enjoyable hike back.—Laura Patrick, age 14, Spokane, 7/1.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

SAWTOOTH WILDERNESS—Bench Lakes, Fishhook Creek and Lily Lake are snowfree. Alpine Lake is frozen and a snowbridge used to cross the streams is collapsing.

Mattingly Creek is high and dangerous to cross. Alice Lake frozen.—Ranger, 7/18.

GRANDJEAN—South Fork Payette accessible to 1 mile past Elk Lake. Two feet of water on the trail at Fern Falls. Baron Creek accessible to 1 mile short of Baron Lake, which is still frozen.—Ranger, 7/18.

WHITE CLOUDS—Little Boulder Creek passable to Frog and Willow Lakes. Livingston Mill snowfree at least 5 miles. Fisher Creek trail snowfree to The Meadows. The Meadows have lots of wildflowers.

ELSEWHERE



BINN LEITRI (Co. Galway, Ireland; Connemara 1:50,000)

—The mountains of Ireland, though no higher than many of our foothills here in the Pacific Northwest, appear much larger than they are due to their stark remote setting, the often inclement weather and the misty lighting so typical of that country's west coast. Indeed,

when walking and scrambling among the Irish peaks, one has a sense of height and wildness found only in alpine terrain at home.

In the desolate Connemara region of County Galway the dominate forms of the Twelve Bens elicit memories of the high Cascades or Sierra Nevada. These interconnected peaks, the highest of which is Binn Bhán (Ben Baun) at 2395 feet, are divided by cols, and the entire complex is penetrated by deep valleys barely above sea level. Very few trails penetrate this wilderness, most climbs beginning directly from peripheral roads.

The most accessible of the bens is Binn Leitri (Ben Lettery), 1904 feet. It rises abruptly from the north shore of Ballynahinch Lake and is the most southern of the twelve main peaks. Drive the N59 Galway-Clifden highway to the Ben Lettery youth hostel on the north side of the road, elevation 80 feet; parking is available here.

Head directly toward the summit, negotiating two barbed-wire fences and several rock walls in the first quarter mile. There are a few small trees here, but none beyond. Ascend through ever steeper bog to heather and rock slopes above. Scramblers will find plenty of pleasure by bearing slightly left for a direct ascent up the rocky south ridge; walkers can pick a steep but nearly no-

hands route between talus and granite outcrops by heading slightly right and upward. Near the top, the pitch decreases; here, be sure to leave a marker or you may have trouble when descending, particularly if fog or mist rolls in.

Two large summit cairns await your arrival in a nearly plantless realm of rugged rock. The scenery is breathtaking, with most of the other bens in view along high ridges or across plunging valleys. To the south and southwest, an expansive flatland of many lakes and streams leads to the sea.

One has the same sense of the alpine here as in the much higher Cascades. The urge to continue to neighboring peaks is great, and should not be denied if you have the time and energy.—Mick Campbell, Puyallup, 6/7.

AUSTRALIA—Last month's article on Australia suggested that readers send a letter to the P&P office for forwarding to Laura Wild in Bendigo.

Laura says, "I'd be happy to assist others planning trips Down Under. They can write to us at this address, or if they are feeling extravagant, they can call us. The number is (054) 422656."

The address is:

Laura Wild
3 Leonard Avenue
Bendigo Vic. 3550
Australia.

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.

LOST—Tent, North Face Westwind intentionally left next to trail on weekend of July 1-4 for later pick-up. Left on Monument Creek Trail, at 4500 foot level, in Pasayten Wilderness. Happy to pay shipping costs. Dale Flynn, 206-634-2389.

FOUND—Small camera in black leather case, on the Lower Big Quilcene trail near Bark Shanty camp, June 6. To claim, call 206-747-7388 and describe.

LOST—IQ Zoom 35mm camera, black, in black carrying case, probably within 10 miles north or south of Road 2000 (southern Washington) ON the Pacific Crest Trail. Reward plus shipping costs reimbursed, plus the good karma of re-

turning my camera. Lisa Darling, 206-325-3465 (7am to 7pm only); 952 24th S, Seattle WA 98144.

MALE HIKER/CLIMBER—aged 43, seeking a woman partner for adventurous back country travel, mountaineering, technical rock routes, and cross-country skiing. Contact Charlie in Wenatchee at 509-664-6710.

BOOTS—For sale: women's Gore-tex Vasque hiking boot, size 9. Low mileage. \$55. 206-823-6565 (Kirkland).

FOR SALE—Dana Design Alpine backpack, size small, includes two spare pockets, new; \$300. Men's Asolo Yukon boots, size 10½, new; \$150. Call 360-697-6818 (Poulsbo).

FOR SALE—Two British style (Nordkapp) fiberglass sea kayaks; \$1350 and \$1000. Call 360-697-6818 (Poulsbo).

FOR SALE—Nice blue down sleeping bag, zips down side, can double as

down comforter. \$20. Call Lisa Darling, 206-325-3465 (7am to 7pm only).

CABIN—Secluded seaside housekeeping cabin on Orcas Island available for weekly rental May-October. Hiking, fishing, beachcombing, wildlife viewing. Rustic, comfortable accommodations. Sleeps eight; reasonable rent. Write 1819 Hickox Road, Mount Vernon WA 98273 for more data; SASE appreciated.

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).

BOOTS—for sale: Merrill Mountaineer, women's size 6½, \$100, mens size 11, \$100; Alpina mens X-C, NNN, size 44, \$30. All boots barely used. 206-783-6625.

OSAT—A clean and sober climbing and mountaineering club. 206-236-9674.

DEBORAH RIEHL

Rescue Epics

—LESSONS LEARNED IN SURVIVAL 101—

After a glorious, hot sunny spell, I'll throw "cold water" on things. Here's another cautionary tale about bad weather, hypothermia and being caught unprepared by darkness—a common scenario in these parts.

In mid-February two teenagers set out for Cougar Mountain to play in the snow. "Jill" and "Aubrey" had attended an outdoor training and survival course, but had not completed it.

They drove to the Red Town trailhead to hike up to the old Nike missile site. They were dressed in cotton sweats and "Doc Martin" boots.

Their gear consisted of magazines, matches, a flashlight, potato chips, candy bars, water and hot tea. The area was not familiar to them and they carried no map.

When it began to get dark they started down. Multiple trails confused them and they were benighted before they could get down.

The magazines were sacrificed to an attempt at fire building. Soggy wood thwarted them.

Shelter—a fern "fort"—was the next project. Upon its completion they crawled in and huddled together. The shelter was inadequate against the wind and rain.

They felt themselves getting more and more chilled. While they could still walk they decided to get moving to generate heat and make another attempt to find their way down. Picking the near-

est cluster of lights, they set out in that direction.

When Jill and Aubrey didn't come home at dark their parents called 911. I was sitting in a board meeting when my pager went off. What a wonderful excuse to bow out of a particularly dismal exercise in political sumo wrestling.

As we mustered the troops at the soggy trailhead there were the usual calls of greeting and excited chatter. The troops seemed to be getting unusually boisterous, however, when yells and whistles broke out. It turned out the two lost girls had chosen our cluster of lights as their destination.

They were hustled into the SAR van and I was tossed in after them. To the Sheriff's chagrin I stripped the girls' wet clothes off. Then they were bundled in blankets with hot packs at key heat loss points (neck, armpits, groin). Their parents went home and returned with warm, dry clothes for the two.

It's not the first time I've used the Sheriff's van as a mobile clinic and dressing room!

Deborah Riehl, of Bothell, is an RN who serves on the Ski Patrol Rescue Team board of directors.



BILL KEIL

Wild and Wonderful New Zealand Alps

—WE LIKE PORTLAND, REALLY ... BUT NEW ZEALAND IS PARADISE—

An early December visit to New Zealand's South Island last year provided one of the most memorable trips for Gloria and me, including some of the greatest mountain scenery anywhere.

The skylines of New Zealand's larger cities have changed greatly since my last visit 30 years ago, but the mountains that spawned such great climbers as Ed Hillary are still the same.

Hillary is retired in Auckland now, but he's far from forgotten; his craggy face is on the orange \$5 bill. I met him just after his Everest climb, so I can claim to know someone on a bank note!

To a connoisseur of mountain scenery, the drive over the pass into Milford Sound ranks right up with the North Cascades, Canadian Rockies, and Alps. A new peak pops up at every turn.

An interesting $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile tunnel pierces one mountain. It's narrow and unpaved with potholes—not a place to meet a big tour bus, although tour buses theoretically can pass each other with a 4-inch clearance.

A clear day after several rainy days is

definitely the time to visit Milford when the 1000-foot-plus waterfalls are running full stream down the upper mountainsides. The lower falls are just as impressive. Tour boats cruise past the base of a falls higher than the Columbia Gorge's Multnomah Falls. Hundreds of people get out on the sound every day. It's not a place for quiet contemplation but, like Yosemite Valley, the beauty far outweighs the people.

The passengers produce a babble of *oohs* and *ahs*, mostly in Japanese and German with an occasional English exclamation. The strength of the yen and the mark make such trips more affordable for holders of those currencies.

Rain is to be expected on the wild, wet and wonderful West Coast of the South Island. After all, it rains 200 inches a year and this was rainy season. We were most fortunate to find that one perfect day at Milford. The weather changed for the worse on the drive back out.

Our regret was that we were unable to take at least a short walk on the famous Milford Track. We found that the

trail is reached only by water. Earlier in the trip we met an American woman who had just made a guided trip and the guide called in a helicopter to move them over the snowbound pass.

The guided trips are quite expensive, but if you go on your own, you need reservations up to a year in advance on the limited access trail.

From the west, we hiked up to the snouts of two glaciers in the Mount Cook range, but with the incessant rains we had only a glimpse of the higher peaks through the fog.

However, when we went around on the east side of the range, the difference was like that between the eastern and western Cascades.

For two days we stayed about 50 miles south of Mount Cook (the lodging at the base of the mountain is priced for German and Japanese tourists and executives of failed US savings & loan institutions) and drove up to the mountain.

The repeated drives on the excellent highway were worth it in themselves. The lupine along the road was at the height of blooming. The flower stalks are up to 30 inches long, in every conceivable color.

The more scenic locations produce flower jams, just like Yellowstone's bear jams as people pull off on the narrow shoulders to shoot photos of the mountains with the unbelievably colored lupine in the foreground.

The Mount Cook Village at the end of the road about 10 miles down a valley from the mountain has an interesting museum. There were several commemorations as New Year's Day celebrates the 100th anniversary of the first climb of Mount Cook, New Zealand's highest peak.

A good trail leads up the valley toward the mountain, crossing two long suspension bridges over a raging glacial stream. At the approach to the second bridge, the trail is hacked out of the side of the mountain in a traverse that almost verges on sporty with signs warning of falling rocks.



Mitre Peak rises more than 5000 vertical feet directly from the waters of Milford Sound. Airplanes and tour boats show the area to hundreds of tourists daily.

Bill Keil

DON ABBOTT

MOUNT JUPITER

—OR “ARE WE THERE YET?”—

The phone rings. It's my hiking partner. "You have Saturday off? ... You want to do Mount Jupiter? ... GREAT! ... See you at six a.m."

On the way to the trailhead, I get to hear all about how she spent the day before, swimming and lounging in the sun. She was having so much fun that she forgot about SUNBURN.

Now she has lobster legs and feet and still wants to hike and climb a fourteen mile round trip. I know she's not crazy, just crazy about hiking, so we go.

Up the trail about an hour we take a break and she sprays her burns with Solarcain to keep the skin moist. Every time she gets up to walk, she looks like the Tin Man with rusted knees for the first three steps. I know it must be painful to walk with sunburned legs, but she laughs it off and keeps on hiking.

The day started out to be very hot but by the time we come out of the trees into the open, we start getting some cloud cover which helps cut down the heat.

About 6 miles up we come to a level spot where we can look down on one of Jupiter Lakes. I get out the binocs and see four people down there, two of them swimming in the lake. After a



Near the summit of Mount Jupiter. The Brothers Wilderness.

Don Abbott

nice rest, ol' Lobster Legs and I head on up to the summit.

There isn't much of a breeze on top. If you set down, the red ants crawl up your legs and maybe take a bite. If you don't put on some bug juice, the mosquitoes will eat you and take the leftovers home to their kids. We only stay long enough to sign the register, get some snow and go.

We go back down the ridge a ways and find a trail that leads to a small tarn. While eating lunch and battling mosquitoes, Sunshine soaks her feet and legs in the cool water.

As we head back up to the ridge, it starts to rain a little bit. We are hot and sweaty and a short shower would have

felt good about then but it quits almost before it starts.

When we get back down to the wilderness border we take another break and ol' Sunburn sprays her legs again. We also have a bite to eat and some water before plodding on down the trail.

We are less than a mile from the truck when ol' Flaming Drumsticks starts falling behind. Once I think I hear her say, "Are we almost there yet?" As we come around the last corner and spot the sign-in register, she lets out a yell

and says, "I'm going to make it!"

And with renewed energy, she gets up off her hands and knees and walks the rest of the way to the truck.

The last thing I remember hearing her say before we part is, "I sure had fun doing Mount Jupiter today. I can't wait to do it again!"

I just hope the next time she doesn't have sunburned legs.

△

Don Abbott, of Aberdeen, commutes by bicycle to his job at Weyerhaeuser.

New Zealand Alps *continued from previous page*

Seven parallel steep glaciers, really icefalls, line the long peak across the way. A spectacular icefall roared down every 15 or 20 minutes as we hiked along. At about 3 miles we turned around at a lonely hut on the glacier plain. Apparently it is used as a base for climbs.

The day before, we had talked with two Canadian climbers returning from climbing the ice fall mountain. We saw where they cut steps up the side of one

of the glaciers in a route that would have had their insurance agents in a tizzy.

We watched ski planes fly in and out of the airstrip. Wheels drop down through the skis used for landing on the Tasman Glacier. This is a great ski run a little earlier in the season, but at this time the pilots were ferrying only tourists who cavorted on the glacier and took each others' pictures.

We drove into Christchurch on a 98-

degree day to head out the next day for Portland's 40 degrees and rain. We like Portland, but get a little testy in November and December. From paradise to purgatory in 7000 miles and 21 hours.

△

Bill Keil is a freelance writer and Pack & Paddle contributor. He and Gloria live in Portland.

WARREN GUNTHEROTH

MOUNT LODGE

—A GERIATRIC FIRST ASCENT IN THE ST. ELIAS RANGE—

Although Silas Wild and I both work at the University of Washington, we had only climbed together once, on American Border Peak.

It was evident then that he could carry more and climb faster than my 66 years could keep up with, but I had a small advantage in technical climbing experience. I was only a little surprised when he invited me to join two other "greyhounds" half my age for an attempt at a first ascent.

I immediately accepted, since out of 400-some peaks, in 31 years of climbing, there had been no first ascents for me. (I had put in a couple of new routes on previously climbed peaks, but these could more honestly be described as "off route.")

Silas had carefully researched the mountains in the Alaskan Coastal Range, specifically the St. Elias Moun-

tains. He and Sam Grubbenhoff had made an unsuccessful attempt the year before on Mount Orville (*American Alpine Journal*, 1991).

Although there are hundreds of peaks in the area that have not been climbed, Mount Lodge was one of the few named peaks that remained unclimbed. In fact, at 10,570 feet, it was the second highest unclimbed, named peak in North America, second only to Orville—successfully climbed in 1995 by Simmons, Kaufmann and Carroll, who tragically died on the descent.

My partner for the climb of Mount Lodge was Jim Urvina, Sam's housemate. He and I tried our "togetherness" in early May of 1993 on an extraordinarily ugly bushwhack in the Cascades, Marble Mountain. It was a 13-hour ordeal, and the only complaint I had was that Jim didn't follow Sasha, my Sibe-

rian husky, back to the log across the river, which resulted in extended floundering in a valley bottom of devil's club, vine maples, slash alders, and fallen logs.

The flight up to Yakutat in late May of 1993 was pleasant, and I was secretly amused about flying on a senior citizen discount on my way to a climb.

We had a long conversation with a couple my age who regularly spend the summer fishing on their boat out of Yakutat. I particularly enjoyed their story of naming their boat *Davey-Lynn* after their two grandchildren.

When we took off from Anchorage, I began to look closely at the peaks we were flying over, comparing them with memories of pictures of Lodge supplied by Silas and Sam from their Orville expedition. I decided that a particularly handsome peak it was, and it looked climbable.

After a huge lunch at the Yakutat airport, we joined Kurt Gloyer of Gulf Air for the flight to the Grand Pacific Glacier. We were saddened to learn that Mike Ivers, the pilot for Silas' previous expedition had died in a crash the year before.

Silas and Sam were in the first flight, and persuaded Kurt to fly close to the summit for a peek at the termination of a long snow-filled couloir that Silas had already selected as the best approach.

The good news was that the snow did go almost to the summit; the bad news was that it became extremely steep for the last several hundred feet. However, the rock at that point appeared to be only moderate in difficulty. Silas and Sam exuded confidence when Jim and I joined them on the glacier at 6700 feet.

The weather was a good omen; dark blue sky, blinding white snow, and black rock with some wide bands of brown. True, we had flown over clouds in the next valley, but we considered them to be valley fog, even though it was 2 in the afternoon. We put up the



Our foursome with the snow-plane.

Kurt Gloyer

two tents, dug a latrine, made dinner, and went to bed early with high hopes.

A side lobe of the Grand Pacific Glacier rose directly above our camp. The next morning, weaving around crevasses, we climbed on crampons up 1500 feet to near the crest of the lobe, between our objective and a smaller summit to the east.

We dug a pit to store small tents and sleeping bags, and headed for what turned out to be the *only* snow-bridge that connected the glacier with the couloir. The snow of the bridge was the only soft snow we had encountered since leaving camp, and nobody had to be reminded to keep the rope taut as we went across single file.

By the time Jim and I had crossed over the snow bridge the other team was cramponing up the frozen snow on the 40-degree slope of the couloir. It was obvious that large rocks had been coming down recently, and the less time spent in the bowling alley, the better.

Still, I could only push my legs so much, and I had to ask Sam for frequent rest stops for breath and for my aching gastrocs. Although we thought we had fallen far behind, we made the last turn and encountered a friendly rock plateau, 1500 feet up the couloir. There were our colleagues, eating lunch, and muttering about the clouds that were moving in.

Because of the deteriorating weather, the first team had decided to leave their packs, ropes, and crampons and scramble up the rock, which was class 3 and 4. It didn't really make sense to me, but I agreed, thinking that if they couldn't make it we would all have to come back later.

Jim announced loudly that they—and I—were infirm of mind, (or something uncomplimentary), and left only his crampons behind. It wasn't long until Jim and I caught up with Silas, sitting on a small pinnacle, inquiring if, by chance, we had a rope. That made Jim feel better, and the three of us soon found Sam, sitting on the far side of a really nasty, steep gully filled with rotten ice.

It was the crux, and would have been no problem if we had our crampons or ice axes, but the gamble had been that we could stay on the rock all the way to the summit.

At least we had Jim's rope, and we all made it across, trying hard not to think about the return crossing. After a little more rock scramble, we walked



Roping up for the descent of the snow couloir.

another hundred feet together on moderate snow to the summit.

Although the view had deteriorated to only brief glimpses of the surrounding terrain, we were relieved and happy. The most unexpected feature was that it was only 1:30 in the afternoon, on May 30th, our first full day on the glacier!

After the mandatory summit shots, we headed back down. The ice gully had not improved in the slightest and received the utmost respect and attention from each of us. When we were all across, we decided to climb down the rock individually, and I finally had an advantage. I got back to the packs almost half an hour before they did, and the chance to rest and have lunch was

welcome.

As we started down the snow couloir the snow was softening rapidly, and after a couple of hundred feet, we began to plunge in up to the knee, not every step, but with a randomness that was maddening, resulting in wild lurches sometimes head first, sometimes sideways, and usually with the tendons and muscles threatening wholesale rupture.

By the time we had plunged down around the crevasses, including agonizing backtracking several hundred feet when we confronted a crevasse that would not end, I was not a happy camper.

When I finally sat down 13 hours after we left camp, the temperature was dropping at a phenomenal rate, and I

went from overheated to shivering in a minute or two. The incredible daily swings in temperature were something I had forgotten from my previous trip to Alaska 15 years earlier to climb Barrille and Dickey.

Fortunately, the clouds had remained on the other side of Lodge, and we enjoyed an evening of clear skies on the Grand Pacific Glacier.

The next two days were perfect weather and we reconnoitered up and down the Grand, looking for a way to get off the glacier onto other nearby peaks. Our skis and snowshoes were helpful for the late morning softness, and led to some Telemark contests, but not to any other snow bridges.

On every one of the peaks hundred foot walls were formed where slabs had come off. It slowly dawned on us what great luck we had enjoyed in finding the one snow bridge onto Lodge.

Since we had no reasonable prospects of additional summits, and we were all beginning to sunburn in spite of hats,

long-sleeved shirts, and lots of sun-block, thoughts of home kept recurring.

Unfortunately, we had asked Kurt to return in 11 days, and radio contact with Gulf Air was blocked by a line of unnamed peaks over 10,000 feet high.

So on the fourth day I skied up to a pass at 8000 feet overlooking the ocean and screwed the short antenna on Silas' radio. I had never used one of these before, and I was a little anxious when I turned it on, hoping for a response from someone out at sea.

It was an incredibly emotional experience when an immediate response came from our new friends on the *Davey-Lynn*.

They patched us through to Yakutat, and the next day we were on our way back to civilization, dirty, sunburned, but so pleased it was hard to keep from telling everyone on that flight about our adventure.

We did tell the steward, so that he would understand why we were so untidy, and he seemed genuinely impress-

ed and awarded us with a drink on the house. We toasted *our* Mount Lodge!

Addendum

We reported our ascent to Adams Carter, the venerable editor of the *American Alpine Journal*, where it appeared as a brief paragraph in the 1994 edition.

For reasons that never were clear, he titled it "Mount Root." Mount Root was climbed first by Walt Gove and friends a few years earlier.

We wrote in immediately to correct the record, but sadly, Mr. Carter passed away last year. However, we were able to convince Walt that we had not tried to rewrite mountain history.

Warren Guntheroth, of Seattle, is a pediatric cardiologist. He frequently climbs with his Siberian husky, Sasha, and is completing a book about his adventures with the dog.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO CHARLIE HICKENBOTTOM?

—HE'S STILL HIKING—

Ann Marshall's column (*July, page 39*) which mentioned contributors from the past caught my interest, of course, since my name was mentioned.

The period of my most significant contributions spanned about a seven year period from 1982 through 1989. During that period I worked as a school bus driver in Seattle, a job that provided a steady income, summers for hiking and climbing, but left a need for some intellectual stimulation.

The volumes of trail reports, interspersed with longer feature articles, filled a need for recognition and enjoyment of the intellectual challenge of writing. This time period also included a six-month stint as a staff member at the old barn helping produce *Signpost* during the time Ann was the editor.

A sudden turning point occurred in the late 1980s when my writing was lambasted by "Friends of the Cascades," a pen name I perceived as belonging to an individual reader of the magazine

who strongly disagreed with my writing style. While continuing my writing after that, I found myself preparing my work more cautiously, subconsciously trying "not to offend," while providing readers with route information.

A more gradual change occurred when I earned my teaching credentials and began a career in public education. My need for intellectual challenge has since been met in a way previously unattainable as a school bus driver. In fact, the rigors of this career make hiking and climbing a needed change of pace from the intellectual challenges I face daily in my life as a teacher. The reporting component of my hiking activities, however, gradually became more of a chore than a need.

I have continued my interest in hiking and mountaineering, and typically select peaks and routes within a few hours of Wenatchee. I also have a continued interest in technical rock climbing, a pastime now enjoyed for about

twenty years. A few personal bests within the last couple of years attest to my continuing passion and dedication for the sport.

My love for outdoor, aerobic sports now includes skate skiing, an activity which I can pursue in the Leavenworth and Winthrop areas, both conveniently reached from Wenatchee.

A key component of my life still missing is a life-long partner with whom to share similar interests in outdoor adventures. In retrospect, perhaps I have been a little chagrined to keep reporting my adventures with a series of different partners that haven't worked out for various reasons.

In closing, I have included in this issue a trail report describing a route to Garland Peak and a "personal" in the Bulletin Board section. I will try to write more often in future issues.—
Charlie Hickenbottom, Wenatchee

LEE MCKEE

Long Island

—AN EXPLORATION OF WILLAPA BAY BY SEA KAYAK—

It is an area steeped in history. It has had several names. And it has piqued my curiosity as I have sped by it in an automobile.

The area is Willapa Bay, in the southwestern corner of Washington. A sign at the Willapa Bay Interpretive Center in Nahcotta gives a glimpse of its history: "In 1788 British explorer John Meares sighted the shallow estuary. He named it Shoalwater Bay. In the 1890s promoters renamed it Willapa Bay to soften its image. But the bay was still shallow. Few ships came; little industry developed; population remained low. This plus diligent stewardship has preserved the Bay's quality."

Of particular interest to me has been a chunk of land in the south end of the bay—Long Island. According to the Fish and Wildlife Service it is the largest island in an estuary on the Pacific Coast.

It was first used by Chinook Indians as a place to camp, fish, hunt, and harvest clams and oysters. Settlers built a shanty town on the northern tip which survived only a short time. Logging occurred on the island until just recently.

Today it is part of Willapa National Wildlife Refuge administered by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Past issues of *Pack & Paddle* have included experiences of Karen Sykes, Olive Hull, and Steve Irby on Long Island. Now, finally, it was to be my turn. Where they had crossed the narrow channel by boat and then explored by foot, Ann and I would circumnavigate the island by sea kayak.

My parents have owned a cabin in Long Beach since the mid-'40s. Having travelled the road around the bay to Long Beach over the years I was well aware of how tide affects the bay. It wasn't named Shoalwater by happenstance!

At one extreme of the tide the bay is chock full of water. At the other extreme all is mud. So the first obstacle in planning was how to navigate this shallow bay.



Waiting for the tide to float the kayak at Sandspit Camp.

I needed three things—a tide table, a marine chart, and information about the campsites. The tide table I used was the 1995 *Current and Tide Tables* produced by Island Canoe. It was the only tide table I found which included a correction factor for Paradise Point on Long Island. This allowed me to calculate very accurate tides for the trip.

The marine chart was NOAA chart 18504 of Willapa Bay. The chart vividly displays the mud banks which surround the island at low water.

Campsite information came from a map of the island obtained from the Wildlife Refuge Headquarters. The key piece of information on this map was the recommended minimum tide levels to access the campsites from the water. The recommended minimum for four of the five sites is 6 feet; the remaining site's minimum is 5 feet.

Knowing the highs, lows, and minimums was great, but what I really needed to know was when during the tide change access was possible. I turned to *Fundamentals of Kayak Navigation* by David Burch for this piece of the puzzle.

In the chapter on "Tides and Currents" he describes the Rule of Twelfths.

This rule can be used to calculate the tide height at six intervals during the change. Using it and a nifty feature of my WordPerfect computer program, I constructed a table which automatically did the calculations for me. All I needed to do was enter the height and time for the tides at Aberdeen and the program would apply the necessary correction factors for Paradise Point and calculate the height at the six intervals.

Identifying the "tide windows" now brought up the next obstacle—the weather. It would be nice to make the trip under clear skies but my more overriding concern was for wind. I knew that several oyster workers had drowned in the bay when their open boats had encountered wind-driven waves. And at least one kayak group in the past has had problems with wind (see *Pack & Paddle*, April 1992, page 13) while exploring the island.

Although not perfect, the weather radio and nightly weather roundups on local TV channels gave us the best guess on forecasted conditions.

The final obstacle was personal schedule. Not only did the tides and weather need to be satisfactory, they needed to come together at a time when

our everyday schedules allowed us to be gone. What a balancing act!

May had three good "tidal windows" of several days which corresponded with "personal schedule windows." All we needed was an acceptable weather forecast. The first window passed because of bad weather. The next window approached with a barely acceptable forecast of morning low clouds and fog and winds 5-15 mph in the afternoon. We decided to chance it and headed for Willapa Bay on the morning of May 15th with our kayak and a car full of equipment.

My calculations from the NOAA chart gave a straight line distance around the island of roughly 14 miles if we travelled fairly close to shore. This could be done as a day trip, but again the tides must be taken into account. Major mud banks extend from portions of the west and north of the island. The one on the north can extend out over a mile.

Since our goal was not to race the tide around the island we planned to stay two nights. Another aspect of this trip comes into play when starting your trip—camping is allowed in only certain spots and within those spots are only limited sites. You need to be prepared to move on to the next campground if your original destination is already full.

You can use the parking lot as a good indicator. How many cars are parked will give you a good idea of how many people may be on the island. Cars with trailers are most likely local fishermen, not campers.

Although it is not required, a visit to the Refuge Headquarters across the road from the launch ramp is a good idea. You can obtain up-to-date information on any current restrictions.

Our plan was to be on the water by

12:30. The tide would be about 3.5 feet and incoming then. The plan was to camp at Sandspit that night, about 4½ miles away. The refuge map indicates a 6 foot tide is needed to reach that camp. My nifty table showed we would have a time window between 1:15 and 6pm with the tide above 6 feet—plenty of time to travel the distance and still take time to explore the shoreline.

Several trucks with trailers were parked by the launch indicating day fishermen. Ours was the only car in the overnight lot which meant we should have the island to ourselves with no problems finding campspots.

We quickly stowed our gear in the kayak and set off. Complicating our trip somewhat was the fact we were traveling during one of the lowest tides of the year. That meant a lot of water was coming in as we were paddling up the bay.

The only reference to currents in the bay that I found was at the end of the book *Oysterville* by Willard Epsy. He gives information from the Corps of Engineers stating the mean ebb and flow is 2½ knots for Willapa Harbor.

My assumption was this is for the main channels and that for the wider expanses of the bay it would be the standard "weak and variable" noted for similar bays in Puget Sound. To help minimize any effects of current, since we were paddling against incoming water, we kept close to shore.

In about 1½ miles we spotted a sign for Pinnacle Rock campground. Pulling in, we landed at the spot where a trail heads inland to join the main trail on the island. Here we found two campsites and a sign pointing up the beach reading "Pinnacle Rock campground." A trail leads from the beach onto a small bluff with room for several tents.

Back in the kayak, we were off to the next stop—Smoky Hollow campground, about a mile farther. We had started out with light wind and gray skies which we hoped would clear to afternoon sun. Unfortunately, it went the other way—to drizzle! And the wind had picked up forming some chop.

Rounding a minor headland we were soon in the area where the campground should be. Try as we might, we couldn't spot any sign of the campground or the trail leading inland from it.

With wind picking up, weather questionable, and another mile to go, we continued paddling instead of going ashore to further search for the spot. We learned later the sign is routinely vandalized. If you should come this way and don't see a sign, the campground is just to the north of a large flat that contains a bog. There are two spots for tents.

Having missed Smoky Hollow, we were somewhat concerned about finding Sandspit, where we planned to spend the night. Hugging the shoreline, we were relieved to see the green of porta-potties and then the official sign. Only three small spots are available here which is unfortunate since the next camp is over 4 miles away around Diamond Point and its extensive mudflats.

We quickly unloaded and set up camp. We had arrived shortly after the high tide of 9.39 feet. To be on the safe side we pulled the kayak up and tied it off—a fortunate practice as it turned out.

Long Island itself is inhabited by only deer, elk, bears, birds, and the usual smaller animals, but it is just across the bay from the Long Beach Peninsula. So from camp on the west side of the island, we looked across the bay at the increasing population of houses springing up on the bay side of the peninsula.

This is also a working bay. The oys-

Trip Planning

- The island is managed by Fish and Wildlife personnel whose goals are the preservation and conservation of wildlife. Their perspective concerning human use of the area is different than that encountered when dealing with Park and Forest Service personnel.
- Although camping is allowed in the five designated campgrounds, day use is encouraged to lessen impact.
- Camping is available only at designated spots and is on a first-come basis.
- Although you may find some water

on the island, you should bring your own.

- On summer weekends expect to find lots of people using the island.
- Fires are allowed only at established firegrills.
- Bow hunting is allowed on the island between September and the end of January. Check with refuge headquarters for actual dates if you want to avoid the season.
- Account for tides when you plan your trip. Extensive mudflats circle the

island.

- Under heavy wind conditions, there can be treacherous wave action on the bay.
- If you plan to harvest shellfish check with the refuge headquarters for regulations and public tideflat locations.
- Take along a USGS map to aid in your inland explorations.
- For information contact Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, HC 01 Box 910, Ilwaco WA 98624-9707 (360-484-3482).

ter and clam industry is going full tilt. On low tides you will see lots of boats and people working the tide flats. Just north of Sandspit Camp is Jensen Point with a small chunk of private property housing a shed and machinery for harvesting shellfish.

Several sections of beach along the island are public tidelands. Before harvesting, however, check with Refuge Headquarters for regulations and location of the public areas (the current 1993 map is *not* correct in its markings).

With clouds and occasional drizzle, we opted for an early bedtime. Awakening around 3am I was shocked to see water lapping about a foot up the stern of the kayak! How could this be—we had pulled the kayak above the high water line!

In all my planning I had not considered that the highest tide was 11.3 feet at 3am. If we had not followed the precautionary practice of pulling our boat up on shore and tying it off, we would have been minus one boat!

Listening to the weather radio a little after 6am we were disappointed to hear the forecast had changed from periodic drizzle to 20% chance of light rain and winds of 10 to 20 knots in the afternoon.

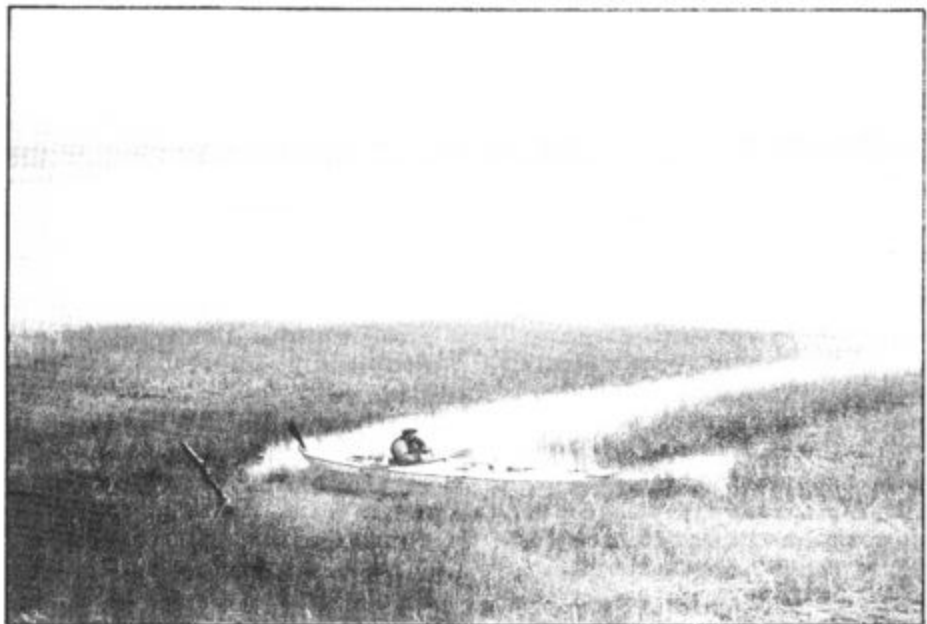
Watching the tide go out, it looked like we would be able to launch at a minimum of 3½ feet later in the day if we wanted to carry our gear and the kayak over hard sand and mud. That meant we could be on our way about 1:30, and it left the morning hours for hiking to the Cedar Grove at the south end of the island.

The main trail system is mainly old logging roads. Logging is no longer allowed, but the Wildlife agents still use the roads to patrol the island.

It was a little over 2 miles to the junction with the Trail of Ancient Cedars. This is a ¾-mile trail which winds through three distinct areas of cedar: first a stand that was logged in the 1960s, then a stand of old-growth, then a stand that was logged in the 1930s. There are some massive trees and stumps in this grove!

Back at camp we packed things up and carried all of our equipment and the kayak down to wait for the incoming tide to reach 3½ feet.

Before long we were launched. Since it was shallow we had to get a ways off shore before we no longer hit the bottom with our paddle strokes. The wind had picked up out of the west and we were faced with about 3 miles of pad-



High tide at Lewis Slough.

ding with beam waves. Although they weren't too high, there were some whitecaps, and we pulled the drawstrings tight on our sprayskirts to keep the occasional splash out of the cockpits.

It was a nice change of pace to round Diamond Point and have the waves and current pushing us along. Pilings mark the edge of Stanley Channel and it was neat to see how fast we were traveling with that extra assistance!

About a mile past the point is the entrance to Lewis Slough and the location of Lewis campground. We had planned to make this our second camp spot but changed our minds after seeing it. The camping area is fine—space for several tents—but the access is yucky. Mud banks and marsh made it difficult to get in and out from a kayak.

After a quick look around, we were off again to our alternate choice—Sawlog camp, about 2½ miles farther. As we paddled along we discussed our options. We could easily spend the night but we would have to wait until mid-afternoon the next day before the tide would be high enough for us to leave.

With continuing drizzle and light rain and more expected tomorrow, that really didn't sound appealing. It was only about 2 miles from Sawlog to the takeout so we decided to stop at Sawlog only long enough to look it over, then continue.

The access at Sawlog is better than Lewis, but the slough bank still presents problems for a person sitting low in the water. Sawlog has lots of space for tents a short way up in the woods. A

string of pilings in the channel are the remnants of loggers' floathouses.

As we looked around we saw a herd of elk in the salt marshes to the south. Although we had seen deer tracks and some bear sign, these elk and a mother grouse with chicks were the only land animals we saw on our trip. Under deteriorating sky, we headed back to the main channel and the takeout.

If you have the time, an interesting side trip before or after paddling is to visit the town of Nahcotta on the bay side of the Long Beach Peninsula.

This is one of the main oyster harvesting areas on the bay. It is opposite Diamond Point and from the dock at Nahcotta you can get a different perspective of Long Island. You can also purchase oysters, shrimp and clams at one of the several seafood companies there.

Interpretive sites at the dock and just up the road from it provide background information on the bay and shellfish harvesting.

To gain even more insight into the history of the area, pick up a copy of the book *Oysterville* by Willard Espy. It tells how the early settlements and oyster industry came to be in this area in the 1800s.

Lee McKee

Lee McKee, of Port Orchard, is Pack & Paddle's business manager.

PHIL LEATHERMAN

Overnight on Mount Persis

—A “COOL” KID TRIP FOR ADVENTUROUS KIDS ... AND PARENTS—

This isn't in the *Best Hikes with Kids* book, but Johnny was nagging for an adventure to try out new boots and pack and wanted to camp on top of a real mountain.

The 60-mile drive from Seattle and primo summit camping made it worth taking the pains needed to make this steep scratch trail a safe trip for a nimble 6-year-old with some woods-scrambling under his belt. We had “tested” the first part of the trail the year before and it easily fell into the “cool” category.

While the weather wouldn't be perfect, after baking for a week in 90-degree perfection the predicted clouds for the weekend sounded more like heat-relief than a threat. The usual prescription for a kid-trip is above all rainless and bugless, but of course we could handle a little refreshing drizzle.

Proctor Creek road 62 leaves Highway 2 a couple of miles west of the Skykomish bridge at Index and wraps around and up Persis' long west flank to a fork on the south slope with road 6220 (signed) to the left.

Take this and then the next left fork to bump along a spur that's not maintained for Porsches. Park at the last hairpin (stream nearby) unless you have 4WD, and hike the remainder of the spur back to the west. The trail heads up a very steep dirt bank a few

hundred feet from the spur-end.

The first stretch is up through slash to near the ridge crest, and is strictly kid-fun—over and under and around logs, always steep with occasional bush-aid needed, but no scary exposure. A good place to teach what's good to grab and what isn't.

Then it's cool woods, welcome especially to our two huskies who were promised some snow higher up. The tread is distinct as it heads east near or on the ridge toward the summit, but at times one-on-one close supervision is needed for small kids.

The north slope drops off abruptly a few feet from the trail at some places, and a rock outcrop is bypassed on a very steep path—time for the paternal no-messing-around command voice.

The trail ends at a small rockslide and resumes through an alder slot at the top, not very obvious from below. Up one more steep section, and soon the dogs were cavorting on their first and long-overdue patch of grungy snow.

The muggy evening haze of July 2 became cloudy and pleasantly cooler, but as we passed the first avalanche lilies into gentle subalpine country for the final mile we got the first “Dad, when are we going to be there?”

I tried the usual evasions about “the faster you go the quicker you get there”

but the subject soon changed when we were enveloped in clouds of gnats aiming for our trachea via every conceivable route.

Then I tried “Let's hurry—the bugs won't be so bad on the summit.” That worked, and soon we were clipping along flailing at gnats and discussing the relative evil among horseflies, mosquitoes, gnats and bees (we've managed to avoid black flies so far).

The gnats were in fact worse on the summit, but at least we could look down the awesome vertical-mile drop to the highway, Sunset Falls and out to the Sound, and over to the Index peaks and the interesting lenticular clouds overhead (I didn't tell John what they meant). We could see and hear a freight train rumbling past the Town Wall.

The first friendly patter of rain hit the fly about 5:30am. With the wind picking up, and in fog, we headed down at the first lull. I was worried that parts of the trail might be slick, but traction was good.

I did tie a 10-foot rope around John's waist with a loop to hang on to on the two steep sections. He heatedly objected to being on leash while the dogs were romping free, but I convinced him we were just “roping up” like the climbers we had seen on the Town Wall.

This trip is mostly on private timberland that could be logged anytime if a possible land-swap doesn't go through.

Views are superb, as is camping and plenty of safe run-around room a few hundred feet below the summit near some tarns.

Parents should travel the entire route sans kids before dragging the family along, and be aware that it is situated to catch the full brunt of bad weather.

△

Phil Leatherman, of Bainbridge Island, has been hiking and climbing for many years. He is frequently accompanied by a couple of huskies and a small boy.



Hikers near the exposed summit of Mount Persis—a fine high-country camp in good weather.

Karen Sykes

KEN HOPPING

STEAMBOAT PROW

—A TEST OF RAIN GEAR AND RESCUE SKILLS ON MOUNT RAINIER—

Rain began falling as we organized our packs at the White River campground in early June. Weather prospects for our climb were poor. We were committed, however, to going up to Camp Schurman because an advance group of five people was already waiting there. They had hiked in one day earlier to acclimatize at 9400 feet.

Shouldering my 60-pound pack, I rationalized that this would be a great test of my rain gear. Not far from the trailhead we passed the complete skeleton of an elk lying beside the trail on a mat of hair. The bones were picked clean of every morsel of flesh. Visualizing the hungry predators that must have feasted on the carcass, I quickened my pace despite the heavy load.

By the time we reached Glacier Basin the rain had become a light mist with visibility limited to a few hundred feet. Taking shelter under a tree we paused for a snack. A creeping chill soon motivated us to start moving again.

We roped up for the climb up Inter Glacier. It was a relief to get some weight off the packs. As we gained elevation, the rain changed to snow. Around 8000 feet we encountered two people seated in the snow. Curiously, one was in a sleeping bag. We stopped to inquire if they needed assistance.

A man informed us that his brother was suffering from altitude sickness causing them to lag behind the other three members of their party. The two wanted to turn around and descend. They asked us to pass this message along if we encountered the rest of their party.

We left them sitting there and continued our plod upward. Fortunately the snow was firm and the party ahead had kicked good steps. Our group caught up with them at the tip of Steamboat Prow.

When informed of their companion's plight, two of them descended without packs to check out the situation. It was snowing harder now and the temperature was down to 30 degrees. Two hundred feet below us the tents at Camp Schurman were occasionally visible through breaks in the fog.

The remaining member of the other group came over and, with a hopeful tone in his voice, asked if we knew how to get down off the prow to Camp Schurman. Several gullies originate from the top, but only one provides a safe and direct route down to Schurman.

Mike, our party leader, showed him a faint trail across the scree leading down to the correct gully. Taking no chances on his memory or the deteriorating weather, the fellow immediately constructed a large rock arrow on the snow to mark the entrance.

A poll of our group showed a lopsided majority in favor of cancelling the climb and descending. The group at Camp Schurman needed time to break camp. The rest of us were getting chilled waiting on top of the prow, so Mike agreed to stay behind to guide the others while we started down.

Our second day's food supply was now just excess baggage. Before leaving we showered the fellow from the other group with a wide variety of enticing camp treats. He gladly accepted them all. Shortly after starting our de-

scend, we passed the two people returning from their consultation. They had split the party with the two brothers descending to camp at Glacier Basin.

The steeper sections of Inter Glacier provided a nice glissade. We made quick progress down to 7000 feet where we again encountered the two brothers. Their situation had taken a dramatic turn for the worse. The younger man was totally incapacitated by severe hypothermia. His uncontrollable shivering was periodically interrupted by spasms of vomiting. He could barely mumble his name in response to questioning.

His brother had placed the victim's sleeping bag on a Thermarest pad inside a bivy sack and was attempting to slide him down the mountain. He rigged a sling to his waist to keep the victim from slipping away. The task was more than one person could manage, however, and the victim kept rolling sideways off the pad onto the snow.

Our offer of assistance was enthusiastically accepted. Two members of our group took charge of their packs. Then,

continued page 35



Mount Rainier and the vast Emmons Glacier, Steamboat Prow on the right

KARLYN and GARY BLACK

AROUND SPIRIT LAKE

—A THREE-DAY LOOP ON NEW TRAILS IN THE VOLCANIC MONUMENT—

At the end of June we went on a three-day trip around Spirit Lake and across the pumice field on the north side of Mount Saint Helens. It's only about 24 miles, but there were still a lot of snowfields covering the trail in spots, so we had to spend extra time and energy finding off-trail routes around some trail sections.

From Randle, follow the signs into the Saint Helens Monument area. Drive up road 25, following the signs to the Windy Ridge lookout. Independence Pass trailhead is about 4 miles short of Windy Ridge, on the right-hand side. It is well marked, and has good parking.

We started out on our trip on Saturday, June 24th. The weather was great—just a few clouds. We hiked up trail 227 for 1 mile to the junction of Independence Ridge Trail 227A. You must take this cut-off, because farther on trail 227 is a landslide that has wiped out the trail, making it impassible.

227A goes along a valley floor, then over a small ridge to hook up with Boundary Trail 1 at 1½ miles, behind Meta Lake, with views of Mount Adams to the east and the top of Mount Rainier to the north. At the Boundary

Trail, go left along the ridge and to the west. Views here are to the north, and you can see the edge of the blast zone, along with Mount Rainier.

After another mile, Boundary Trail 1 connects with trail 227 at a saddle, with a great view of the volcano from the end of Spirit Lake. With lots of logs to sit on, this was a popular place to stop for a snack break. From here, trail 1 continues along a ridge, climbing to Norway Pass.

Here is where the day-hikers turned around because of steep snow fields covering the trail. We went off-trail at this point, finding our way on top of the ridge to work our way south past the dangerous snowy spots, then worked our way back down to the trail again.

Once back on the trail, it led us around the ridge and north again, and into more snow. Around one more ridge corner and we were next to Mount Margaret at 5:30, and faced with a very large snow field. The trail here is over 5000 feet elevation.

So we called it a day, and set up camp next to the trail in a small saddle, with excellent views of Mount Rainier to the north and Saint Helens to the

south.

The wildflowers on these ridges were coming into full bloom, and it was beautiful. We saw chipmunks, various birds, bumblebees, and even a grouse hen. There were also lots of elk tracks, although we never saw an elk on our trip.

Sunday morning dawned bright and clear, not a cloud in the sky. We could clearly see Mount Hood to the south, as well as another peak that I believe was Twin Sisters near Bend. We started off across the large snowfield below Mount Margaret, turning to head south again.

Once around this ridge, we started seeing Saint Helens Lake. The trail worked its way along the ridges, through more snow, until we came in a southerly direction to the bowl that contains the lake, right below Coldwater Peak and Coldwater Ridge.

The lake itself is inaccessible and off limits, with no camping allowed, but it's a nice area to rest awhile and enjoy the scenery. We found a good stream here to filter some water, as we were starting to run low. Also, a small trail here zig-zags its way to the top of Coldwater Peak, which has a monitoring station on top of it. We left that for some other trip, since even that trail was covered in spots by snow. The views from up there are said to be fantastic, however.

The trail continues around the lake on the west side, and meets up with Coldwater Lake trail 230 in a small saddle. This trail leads down around Coldwater Lake to the Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center, which has a restaurant and bathroom facilities. But it's a 10 mile trip one-way, until Trail 230A is finished, which will go along the ridge on the east side of the lake to the Visitor Center (scheduled to be completed sometime this fall).

We continued our trip south, still on Trail 1, in and out of the peaks around Saint Helens Lake. At one point, the trail goes west through a natural rock arch, and after passing through and



Mount Saint Helens and Spirit Lake, from intersection of Boundary Trail 1 and trail 227.

Karlyn and Gary Black



Saint Helens Lake and Coldwater Peak, from Boundary Trail 1.

Karlyn and Gary Black

of the volcano, then 2 up the ridge to the Windy Ridge parking lot.

The trail in the valley is called 207 (and named after Harry Truman), and is marked with wooden posts, so the way is easy to find despite not seeing an actual trail at times. It was fascinating to see all the

little plants growing here and there, wherever the wind has dropped them. We saw everything from grasses, to lupine and other wildflowers, to very small conifer trees. Views of the volcano from here were spectacular—we could see everything "up close and personal."

We ended up at Windy Ridge at about 1pm. We caught the interpretive talk given by the Forest Service rangers at 1:30, then Gary left his gear with me at the amphitheater and walked packless the 4 miles down the road to pick up the car, saving us from both making the trip fully loaded.

Trail Notes:

There is **NO SHADE** in this area, so a hat, high-level sunscreen, and extra

water are all a must.

All hikers are encouraged to stay on the trails, and some areas are actually posted off-limits to lake access or camping, so *planning* to camp next to a lake or stream may not work out—be flexible.

We found plenty of snow runoff around the trail to give us water, but as the season progresses, these sources will probably become less available. And we were advised that, because of the ash, the water is not safe to drink without filtering or treating first.

Most gullies or streams along the trail had either a bridge or other good crossing method prepared. There were only a few gullies we found to be more difficult, and one that was quite deep and difficult where we thought a bridge was definitely in order. But we are beginning hikers, so if we could do it, anyone can.

The ranger station in Randle (360-497-1100) can probably provide more up-to-date information on this area as the season progresses.

△

Karlyn and Gary Black, of East Wenatchee, are now well into their second summer of hiking. Their first, last year, ended early when the fires started.

turning around, you can see Mount Adams framed nicely.

The trail finally leaves the lake ridge and heads south, down the ridge into the pumice and mud flow valley. That was the last of the snow on our trip. We descended to the west of Harry Truman ridge, which has a trail (1E) that leads to the top and another lookout station.

We stayed on trail 1, going along behind the ridge, over ash and pumice fields and past the intersection with the new Johnston Ridge trail (still closed) to a spot where we could camp on a flat ash mound.

Monday dawned warm and windy. The breeze helped to keep us from overheating as we traveled our last 5 miles: 3 across the pumice field in front

of the fog. You can imagine the thoughts running through Mike's head when he saw us dragging a body in a bag!

After moving the victim into the tent, we removed his wet clothes. The two brothers then squeezed into a dry sleeping bag. A bottle of hot water was placed between them. The victim soon started showing signs of improvement.

His brother explained that he often suffered from altitude sickness. Normally they just pitched camp and the symptoms would subside. That strategy worked in sunny California but failed on Mount Rainier in freezing rain. The complications of hypothermia caused a life threatening emergency. It required the combined efforts of twelve people to stabilize the situation.

It was now 9pm and starting to get dark. The members of our group were cold. The victim appeared to be out of

danger. We left them with hot tea, plenty of snacks and several packs of chemical hand warmers.

We finished by flashlight at 10:30pm, a fourteen hour day. I had expected to test my rain gear but ended up testing my rescue skills as well. The phone at the White River ranger station was not working. (Perhaps the \$15 climbing fee scheduled for July will help pay for repairs.) One of our group members called in from home to report the situation. Early the next morning, park rangers hiked in to Glacier Basin and found the two brothers up and walking around. They hiked out without assistance.

△

Ken Hopping grew up in Indiana. He is now an avid hiker and photographer who lives in Bellevue.

Steamboat Prow

continued from page 33

with one person on each side, we were able to slide the bivy sack in a more controlled fashion. Near the bottom of the glacier the slope decreased and we had to drag the bag along. This was very tiring work and we had to pause for frequent rest breaks.

Finding a level spot sheltered from the wind by the lateral moraine, three people began putting up the victim's tent. In separating from the rest of their party, the brothers had overlooked the fact that they had no stove. One of our group quickly had his stove fired up.

To get the victim into the tent we needed to carry him up a short rise onto the moraine. It would take at least six people to move him. At that moment, the remainder of our party appeared out

PANORAMA

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

DEATHS IN OLYMPICS—A woman tripped on a tree root in mid-July and fell 200 feet to her death on Sawtooth Ridge, becoming the fourth person to die in climbing-related accidents in the Olympics this summer.

A few days before that, a man died when he fell on the Terrible Traverse on Mount Constance. Another man died after a fall near the Ridge of the Gargoyles, in the Buckhorn Wilderness. The fourth person was a hiker who died in a fall on Mount Deception.

Hoodspport Ranger Frances Kocis says he can't remember a year with so many climbing deaths.

BEARS IN NEW YORK—Two Montana grizzly bears have been transferred to the Bronx Zoo.

The pair of males are what's left of a trio of cubs orphaned when their mother was killed in the Mission Valley. The cubs were captured last summer, placed in a den in January and emerged in early spring.

By the end of May, the yearlings were becoming troublesome, hanging around the buildings at the 7LazyP ranch. Aversive conditioning did not deter them.

The smallest bear, in the poorest physical condition, was killed by another bear. The remaining two continued to hang around the 7LazyP and Pine Butte Guest Ranch. They were captured in the 7LazyP's yard on June 20 and were shipped the following week to the Bronx Zoo.—*excerpted from the Great Falls Tribune.*

GOING-TO-THE-SUN ROAD—This scenic road through Glacier National Park will undergo reconstruction this summer.

Since mid-July, the road has been closed from 9pm to 7am Sunday through Friday between Big Bend and Logan Pass.

Sometime after Labor Day, the road will be closed for five straight days to allow repaving.

The Logan Pass Visitor Center will close for the season August 15 to allow for parking lot reconstruction.

If the work is not completed this season, expect similar restrictions next year.—*excerpted from the Hungry Horse News.*

SUMMIT HOUSE—Proponents of a mountaineering interpretive center at Washington Pass on the North Cascades Highway have gathered a roster of prominent western mountaineers and personalities who support the project.

Alex Bertulis, Tom Hornbein, Dee Molenaar, Paul Petzoldt, John Roskelly, George Senner, Pete Sinclair, Jim Whittaker and Lou Whittaker are now counted among the Friends of Washington Pass, an informal group dedicated to raising \$1.2 million to build the interpretive center, known as the Washington Pass Summit House. So are Dan Evans, Jim McDermott, Jolene Unsoeld and Emmett Watson. Co-chairs of the group are John Hogness and Harold Heath.

"The Northwest has a strong history of mountaineering both here and around the world. It's part of who we are," said Hogness. "The center at Washington Pass will tell visitors about the history and spirit of mountaineering, and about mountains. Right now hundreds of thousands of people stop at Washington Pass and they learn very little about what is around them."

The solar-powered center, built of stone and wood, will stand on National Forest land and will be maintained by the Forest Service.

Proponents hope to raise the necessary \$1.2 million this year and to construct the center next summer.

For more information, contact **Friends of Washington Pass, 514 Lost River Road, Mazama WA 98833 (509-996-2585).**

YOSEMITE RESERVATIONS—The Yosemite Association, which processes backcountry wilderness permits, has now imposed a non-refundable \$3/person processing fee.

Call 209-372-0319 for more information.

PCT REROUTE—Crater Lake National Park has been part of the Pacific Crest Trail System since 1939.

For over 50 years it has not been possible for hikers to view Crater Lake from the PCT. This is because the trail had largely been routed through the park along pre-existing fire roads 2 or more miles away from the rim. Since the trail's location prevented a view of Crater Lake, many hikers preferred to leave the PCT to hitchhike or walk

along Rim Drive. Planning efforts for a reroute of the PCT began in 1993 and were completed in 1994.

From the southern trailhead, hikers can follow the PCT to where the reroute starts at the Dutton Creek trail junction. In going uphill toward Rim Village, you may find evidence of the first road to the rim—a route constructed by the US Army in 1865.

Once you reach Rim Village, head west along the Discovery Point Trail to a small picnic area at Lightning Spring. From there follow the PCT along a roadbed. Upon reaching the backside of Liao Rock, begin a descent away from the rim along several miles of new trail.

The rerouted PCT is for hikers only. Parties with stock animals are required to use the old PCT section, though they have access to the rim by going up the Lightning Springs Trail and tying stock to a hitchrail several hundred yards below Rim Drive.

Hikers should be aware that the only water available to them is at Rim Village. Overnight camping on the trail is not permitted within a mile of the rim to reduce impacts on fragile vegetation.—*excerpted from an article in "Crater Lake Reflections" by Steve Mark.*

MOUNT RAINIER FEES—Mount Rainier National Park has begun charging a "special use fee" for climbing on the mountain. The fee will be charged for climbing or hiking on glaciers or above the normal high camps such as Camp Muir or Camp Schurman.

The fee went into effect on July 16. The charge is \$15 per climber per climb. A \$25 per climber annual fee will be available as an option for those planning to make multiple climbs during a calendar year.

The "special use fee" will ONLY be used to support the Park mountaineering program. The program consists of Climber Safety and Education (climbing rangers, current information); Human Waste Collection and Removal (blue bags, composting and dehydrating toilets); and Program Administration (permits and registration).

The Park mountaineering program currently serves about 10,000 climbers annually (6600 independent climbers and over 3000 guided climbers). These 10,000 climbers account for less than

PANORAMA

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

one-half of one percent of the Park's annual visitation of some 2,000,000 visitors! The high cost of the mountaineering program in relation to number of visitors served puts it into the "special use program."

RANGER SAVES LIFE—On June 23 while on routine patrol, Ranger Keith Flanery was at the Queets River trailhead in late afternoon. Noting that the water level of the river was appreciably higher than the morning flow, Ranger Flanery decided to remain at the river crossing to watch hikers as they forded.

After a man crossed with a 10-year-old boy, a 12-year-old boy attempted to ford. He was swept off his feet into the pool below the Queets/Sams River confluence, and sank from sight.

Ranger Flanery jumped into the river, which was cloudy from glacial melt. He saw the boy's hand below the surface as the boy was swept past him. Swimming after the boy, he grabbed the hand and pulled the boy to the surface. With the help of another hiker, they pulled the boy to shore.

Ranger Flanery was commended by the Olympic Park Superintendent.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED—Volunteers are needed at the Quinault River Visitors Center to meet and talk with Park visitors, answer questions and assist with book sales, and possibly lead short walks on the Maple Glades Nature Trail.

A volunteer is also needed to serve as the Graves Creek campground host. The Park will provide a free campsite.

For more information, call Roger Blain or Dan Pontbriand at 360-288-2444.

MOUNTAIN LOOP PROTEST—In mid-July the Pilchuck Audubon Society, the Western Ancient Forests Campaign and LightHawk sponsored a campout and public education weekend to oppose the expansion, paving and partial relocation of the Mountain Loop Scenic Byway.

NEW SPECIES—Four new species have been discovered in an area of the Hanford nuclear site that has been closed to the public for over 50 years.

The new species include a variety of bladder-pod plant and three leafhopper insects.

In addition to these previously unknown species, scientists discovered fifty populations of known, but rare, plants.—*excerpted from The Mountaineers Conservation Newsletter.*

LYME DISEASE—The bacterium that causes Lyme disease spreads far faster than many experts believe, so patients should be treated with antibiotics as quickly as possible to prevent serious complications, say researchers at the University of Montana.

The most common tick-borne disease in North America, Lyme disease infects about 10,000 people annually. Making an accurate diagnosis is difficult because routine blood tests are unreliable.

The first symptoms of Lyme disease occur anywhere from several days to several weeks after the bite. They include headache and fatigue and a skin rash with a bull's-eye pattern.

Advanced symptoms, which can occur months or even years after a bite, are much worse: leg and arm pain, arthritis, blurred vision, facial paralysis and loss of balance.

The carrier tick is tiny, about the size of a pin-head, not the large tick commonly seen in the eastern Cascades. Victims may not even be aware they have been bitten.

Only mosquitoes transmit more diseases to humans than ticks. Ticks, however, can carry more than 100 viruses and are most notorious for spreading "tick fever," which includes Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Rocky Moun-

tain tick fever, and Colorado tick fever.

In 1993, Washington had 8 reported cases of Lyme disease; Oregon had 7. Compared to New York, with 2622 cases in that year, the problem doesn't seem serious—unless you are one of those few who was infected!—*information from the Seattle Times, the Columbian, and Sawtooth NRA.*

DARK DIVIDE LAWSUIT—The Forest Service wants to build a motorcycle trail on Dark Divide, in Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The Dark Divide Roadless Area south of Packwood contains Langille and Juniper Ridges and is the largest unprotected roadless area in western Washington.

The Forest Service also wants to rebuild existing trails to make them easier for motorcycles.

A lawsuit filed in July by a group of hiking and environmental organizations will try to stop the project.

PHOTO EXHIBIT—Outdoor photographer (and *P&P* subscriber) Don Paulson is exhibiting a selection of color images at Christophe's Cafe during August. The show includes a selection of recent photographs from Northwest parks and beyond.

Christophe's Cafe is upstairs in the Waterfront Books store at 112 Washington Ave, Bremerton (360-373-2343).

See Don's photographs also at the Olympic National Park visitor's center in Port Angeles.



Rodger and Garth above Coney Basin, on the second ascent of North Gemini; Henry M. Jackson Wilderness.

Mark Owen

REST STOP

EQUIPMENT, RECIPES, TIPS

BEFORE YOU NEED IT—Several times while hiking I've heard the phrase, "I'll wait until I need it." Now when that thought crosses my mind I take it as a warning.

My own experience occurred while climbing Mount Hood. Phil and I were dressed as Saturday climbers—down parkas and jeans. As we started up from the lodge the weather started turning bad. But I was not worried—I had rain pants in my pack. It started to snow and my jeans were getting wet, but I would save the outer garments until I needed them.

At that time it would have taken about a minute to take the pants out of the pack and put them on.

We continued up the mountain until we were in a full whiteout, my pants were wet and I was shivering in the wind.

"Now I need those rain pants," I thought. But the situation was more complicated. If I took my hands out of my mittens they were numbs in seconds. I had to retrieve the pants and put them on in stages, each time taking longer to rewarm my hands before the next step.

The final task was to tie a knot in a wet drawstring. It took 10 or 15 min-

utes to get those pants on and the pack on my back. It would have been so easy just a few minutes earlier.

I've changed my equipment a little. All zippers on my pack and clothing have zipper pulls that I can operate with one finger or my teeth if necessary. Also, all drawstrings have toggles—no more fussing with knots to tie.

When it starts to sprinkle, I have rain gear on or immediately ready—not buried in my pack. And now when I find myself saying, "I'll wait until I need it," I realize that I need it.—*MR, Seattle.*

BREAKFAST BARS—These firm, chewy bars are simple to make, travel well, and are fairly low fat for those of us who watch fat a little closer these days. They are not too sweet for a fast breakfast with coffee. From July 1995 *Eating Well* magazine.

Cherries are better if you can find them; one source is Chukar Cherries, in Prosser, Washington (800-624-9544, mail order, in addition to some retail outlets).

- 1 cup white flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/4 cups packed light brown sugar

- 1/4 cup oil, canola preferable
- 3 large egg whites
- 2 cups low fat granola with raisins
- 1 cup dried cranberries or dried tart cherries

Preheat to 350°. Non-stick spray a 9x13 baking dish. Whisk together flour, baking powder, salt and set aside.

In a large bowl beat together egg whites, brown sugar and oil on high speed until smooth. Add flour, mixing on low only until blended. Stir in granola and cherries or cranberries. Spread in pan as evenly as possible.

Bake 20 to 25 minutes. Cool in baking dish on rack. Cut into about 20 bars.—*VB/MA, Arlington.*

NEW PCT GUIDE—The fifth edition of *The Pacific Crest Trail, Volume 1: California* will be available in mid-August.

To order by phone, call Wilderness Press at 800-443-7227. Or write Wilderness Press, 2440 Bancroft Way, Berkeley CA 94704. The price for the book is \$24.95.

MILT KENNEY—We received word at press time that Milt Kenney, who has helped so many PCT hikers, is ill. To send him a card or note, call the PCTA office at 800-817-2243 for his address.

Gear Review—your most favorite / least favorite equipment

BUYING A DAY PACK—Needed a new day pack. Hope our experience will save some time and money for others.

First buy was an **REI Tourstar**, approximately \$85. It looked to be just what I needed but after two uses I changed my mind. It seemed to ride very high and to swing back and forth a lot while skiing. Simply was not possible to keep the weight off the shoulders. I found it to be extremely uncomfortable and I returned it after two uses, very disappointed.

We already had a **Kelty Redwing** with many hard miles on it. It is a good fitting pack with a few disadvantages. It has no top flap, so the single layer of material and panel zipper allows things to get wet quickly from the top down. The flat outside pockets are too shallow, limiting their use, although I think this

has been "fixed" somewhat in more recent models. Approximately \$85.

The new **Kelty Moraine** is the replacement I decided on, and after several months of use I am very pleased. Capacity approximately 3000 cubic inches. May seem on the large side, for a day pack, but I always cram too much in a rucksack ending up with a shape resembling a beach ball, and squashing lunch in the process.

The Moraine is a narrow profile, top-loading pack with two side pocket/ski slots, a large top pocket, a large-enough-to-be-useful outside pocket, compression straps, and an ice ax loop.

It has a drawstring extension collar that provides extra weather protection and room for extras. It has a very comfortable padded back and waist belt, and is perfect for skiing and day hikes.

It does not swing all over the place,

keeps weight on hips where it should be. I carry the same things as before but the gear is distributed better making it more comfortable. There is extra space for things that don't go on every hike, like crampons.

We like it so much we are buying a second one. It is a lot more pack for the money than either of the other two for about the same cost. Available at REI, Olympic Sports, Campmor at prices from \$80-\$100.—*VB/MA, Arlington.*

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EDITOR'S JOURNAL



Yellow Cat assists with reading the map while I am on the phone.

FROM THE MAILBOX—"Especially appreciate the Ranger reports in the Backcountry News section; it's valuable basic information."—*Tacoma*.

"Pack & Paddle is the awesomest magazine in the world!"—*Edmonds*.

"I always read P&P cover to cover; my husband knows better than to disturb me once I've begun reading."—*Yakima*.

"Hiking is a part of my life where stress and worries are left behind. So for me P&P is a little slice of hiking I can enjoy in my easy chair."—*Granite Falls*.

"We Eastsiders need to represent ourselves better in your magazine!"—*Spokane*.

"I really enjoy this magazine. The people writing the articles could be my hiking buddies."—*Longview*.

BEST SWIMMING HOLE—Readers from Lake Stevens suggest a "contest" to discover the best Northwest swimming hole.

"Readers could send in photos and descriptions of their favorite places to swim," they write. "Those not wishing to let the hordes know where they go could just send a photo."

Realizing that some of the best places—such as Lake Metan on the Mount Pugh trail or the rock tarns on top of Mount Persis—aren't exactly "swimmable" until August, they suggest that photos be submitted in September.

This sounds interesting. We request

that everyone visit their favorite mountain tarn in August, photograph it (with or without swimmers) and send it in before September 30.

MONTANA—Recently, Lee and I took a car trip to the east slope of the Rockies so I could visit a piece of property I own in Montana. It had been years since I had been there and I hardly remembered what it looked like.

I was delighted to discover that I own several acres of mountain wildflower meadows!

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK—On our way home, we made a quick tour of spectacular Glacier National Park, and found places we'd like to return to for further exploration.

PLEASE TELL US YOUR NEW ADDRESS—When you move, please let us know your new address as soon as possible. That way you don't miss any issues of *Pack & Paddle*, and we save lots of money on postal service charges.

You can drop us a postcard, or give us a call with your new address.

USGS MAPS: WHY WE INCLUDE THEM—With every Backcountry News report, we try to include the appropriate USGS map or NOAA chart.

This is to help you locate the trail or region and to give you as much information as possible. We don't include maps by other mapmakers because

USGS maps and NOAA charts cover the entire country with no gaps.

To order USGS maps, write to
Western Distribution Branch
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Box 25286 Federal Center
Denver CO 80225

and ask for the "Catalog of Topographic and other Published Maps" as well as the "Index to Topographic and other Map Coverage" for whatever state you are interested in (west of the Mississippi). Be sure to specify a state!

For NOAA charts, write to
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National Ocean Service
Riverdale MD 20737

and ask for the "Catalog of charts and publications for the United States Pacific Coast."

These publications are free and will give you all the information you need to order government maps.

NO FAX—Several people have asked recently what our fax number is. We don't have one.

See you in the backcountry.

Ann Marshall



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