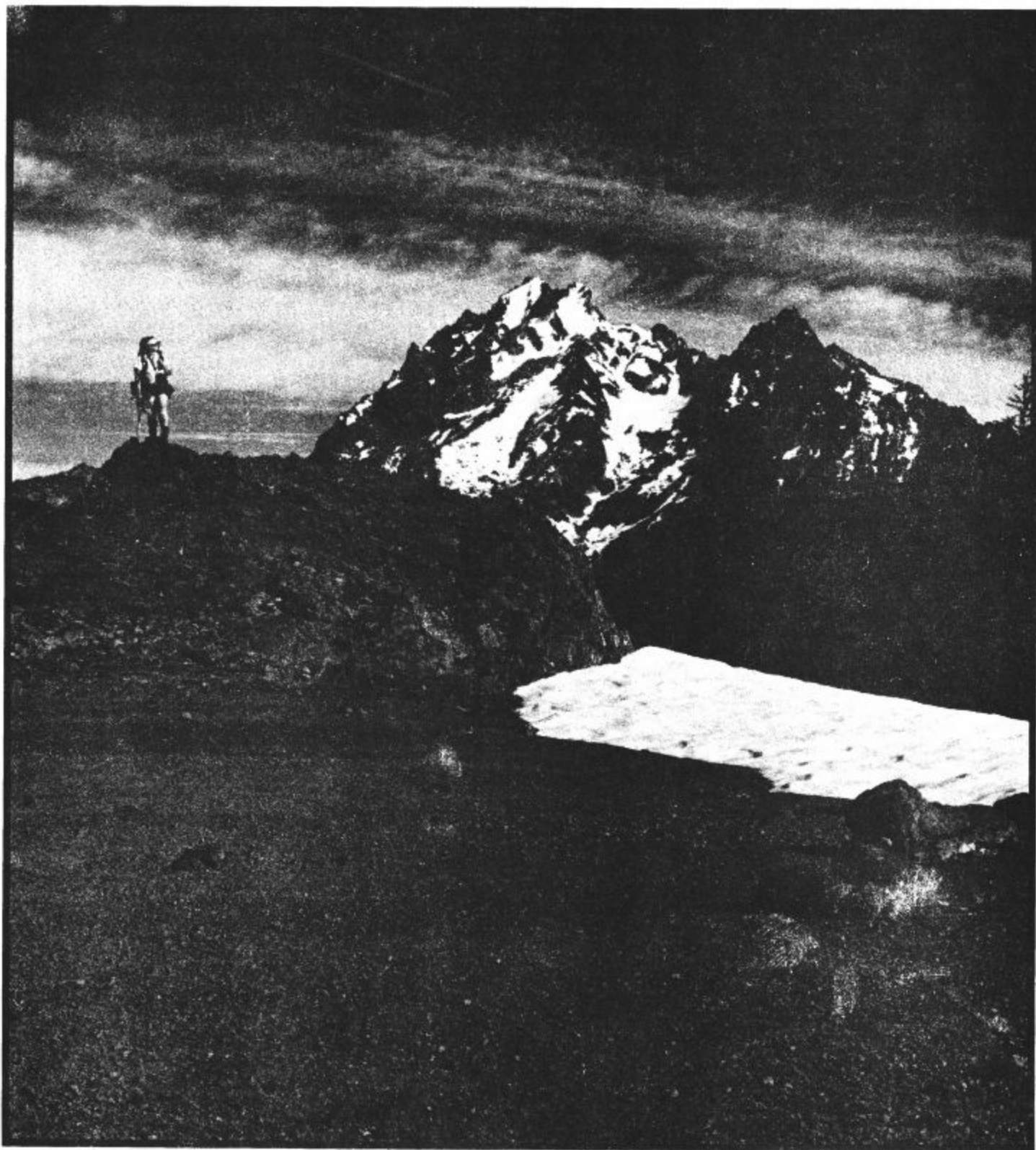


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VOLUME 5, NUMBER 8

RANDOM VIEW—



Martha and Ted Hueter near Tolmie Peak; Mount Rainier National Park.

Jane Habegger

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COVER PHOTO:

Ann Marshall below Volcanic Neck, with Mount Stuart in the background. Alpine Lakes Wilderness, Washington. Photo by Lee McKee.

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SCOUT LAKE

This is in response to LGM's comment on the Putvin Trail report in the July issue (page 7) regarding a possible cross-country route to Scout Lake from road 2466. I also had heard years ago that there was such a route and I found it in 1984.

Margie and I hiked up road 2466 (Boulder Creek road) past the Putvin trailhead to a concrete bridge at approximately 2 miles from the Hamma Hamma River road and about ¼-mile before 2466 crosses Boulder Creek.

The bridge spanned a gully with a small stream that originates from two small lakes on the northeast side of Mount Stone. At the north end of the bridge was a marked fisherman's way-trail which went straight up in a north-west direction through the very steep forested mountainside. We climbed from 3500 to about 5000 feet where we could look down on Scout Lake below at 4200 elevation.

Getting down to the lake from the ridge was easy with few trees and some boulder hopping. Along the way we

joined the trail coming from Upper Lena Lake. My memory says it took about four hours from car to lake. We were in good condition then.

Tom Taylor
Olympia, Washington

SAD CONDITION OF LOOWIT

I have just returned from an aborted trip on the Loowit trail 216 around Mount Saint Helens. The trail is a total disaster. It appears that nothing has been done to the trail for two or three years. Washouts, slides, trees of every size and description constantly confront you. In some places you must bush-whack, other places you must drop down along ravines because the trail across is gone.

We were on the South Side, the beautiful side of Saint Helens. We had to go in on trail 238 because road 1823 is washed out beyond Blue Creek. We connected with trail 204 which took us to the Loowit Trail. Trail 204 appears to have been abandoned and trail 238 will soon be nothing more than a gully.

About ¾-mile beyond where 204 and 216 meet is a great chasm. The trail is gone and it is far too dangerous to try crossing it without protection. The only way to cross sensibly would be to go way down to its mouth and back up. Years of trail experience told me to go back. We did.

We camped that night in a beautiful camp on the edge of the Lahar at the head of Sheep Creek. In the morning we headed west on 216 toward the South Fork Toutle River, planning to exit over Sheep Canyon Ridge. Oh how we blundered! To shorten the story we covered the 3 or 4 miles out in eight hours. You fill in the blanks.

It is no place for the novice or for the experienced backpacker who won't listen to that inner-voice that tells them, "NO." That inner-voice told us to go back and we did.

One sore point was the misinformation that was given to me when I phoned about trail conditions and was told by the National Monument Headquarters that the trail was clear and there should be no problems.

Fortunately neither my wife nor I are novices.

I talked with a young lady who appeared to be a real Trail Eater at the Learning Center the day after coming out. She had just completed the trail before we tried. Her comment was, "I should have turned back; the trail almost killed me."

Lenn Smith, The Vine Maple Savage
Shelton, Washington

PUZZLED

Why is the trail sign on page 34 of the July issue puzzling?

The left of the picture simply says three trails start from here, without giving directions.

Upper right tells you with arrow direction of the trail to Kandersteg.

Lower right simply points to an alternate route.

I will be available as a sign-reading and tour guide. Please enclose airfare.

George Gromer
Vancouver, British Columbia

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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.

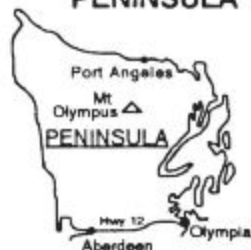
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PENINSULA



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow is off most trails. Roads are open.

TUBAL CAIN TRAIL, or Mount Buckhorn Ski Bowl (*Buckhorn Wilderness; USGS Tyler Pk, Mt Deception*)—Pulled into the dusty trailhead at 7am. About 20 cars at the parking area. The Tubal Cain trail is now completely snowfree to the ridge crossover, and is in excellent shape.

Once I crossed the creek, the trail started its upward climb into the meadows. The phlox, Indian paintbrush, penstemons, and violets provided their annual greeting like old friends.

At the high point of the trail, I traveled cross-country to the basin below the two peaks of Buckhorn. The snowfield between the two peaks is in excellent shape for skiing, and the snow is well settled. I encountered some very hard snow near the crest, and cramponed up the final 200 feet. Ate my little snacks and then clipped into my skis for the anticipated run.

I made five quick turns on the steep stuff. The edges were "biting" well, so let 'em run on the rest of the slope. Made 46 turns on the old Karhus, then

repeated the run, designing some pretty good figure 8s! The marmot at the bottom of the run whistled at me, so I knew he was impressed also! I waved at the marmot, and headed down the flower gardens toward civilization ... —Larry Smith, Port Orchard, 6/16.



TUBAL CAIN TRAIL

(*Buckhorn Wilderness; USGS Tyler Peak, Mt Deception*)—Our goal today was to hike to Buckhorn Lake by way of the Tubal Cain trail. The rhodies were just blooming and have probably another two weeks of blooms. The trail to Copper Creek is a very pleasant gradual ascent. We briefly lost the trail at Copper Creek but saw the boulders in the creek for the "boulder hopping" that is described in the guide book.

After crossing the creek we began to climb, again a nice gradual ascent. The two teens in our group had the task of counting the different varieties of wildflowers and came up with 32.

The views were more spectacular the higher we went. Looking for the spur to the lake, we came upon a section of washed-out trail. We saw a trail veer off to the left and took it. We expected to find the lake in 1/2-mile, so kept going. This trail is at times difficult to navigate with overgrown tree branches.

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.)

To our surprise, we ended up at Copper Creek again! No lake on that trail! All of us agreed we weren't looking forward to hiking back up that trail should it have gone to the lake.

On the way out we passed Ann and Lee. They looked familiar, but I couldn't quite place them until they passed and Tom, who had been talking with them before I arrived, mentioned it. Wow, celebrities spotted on the trail!

We'll try to find the phantom lake again next month when the "Wild White Women in the Wilderness" go on their annual adventure.—Suc Felix, Port Orchard, 6/27.



TULL CANYON, TUBAL

CAIN MINE (*Buckhorn Wilderness; USGS Tyler Pk, Mt Deception*)—Joe Wigel's "rhododendron alert" in the July issue was enough to cause Ann and me to head for the Olympics. *100 Hikes in Washington's South Cascades and Olympics* gives clear directions to the trailhead. The road had just been graded and was in good condition.

The rhododendrons are blooming and should be still doing so for several more weeks. The trail is easy walking and is quite popular judging by the signs of heavy use (litter) at Tubal Cain mine site. We had taken a copy of Kerry Gilles and Don Abbott's story of their trip in this area from the February 1995 issue ("The Royal-Buckhorn Loop").

We got a kick out of reading their observations and comparing them to what we saw—"Any remains of the mining items are rusted through, scattered about, shot up and used as

fire pits," they wrote, accurately.

After setting up camp at Copper Creek (we were the only ones there!) we explored the Tubal Cain mine entrance, declining to enter it more than a few feet, then headed up the trail farther.

The official trail makes a big switch-back after crossing Copper Creek, gaining elevation and the meadows above very gradually. Another trail (probably the original one; see the old 1946 USGS Tyler Peak quad) can be found by snooping around just after crossing the creek. It heads directly southwest, gaining elevation immediately without wasting time on switchbacks. It's still in good condition for the distance we travelled it and is probably the one mentioned in Gilles & Abbott's story.

We left the old trail shortly after getting out into the meadows and headed directly uphill for a few hundred feet to intersect the official trail which we took back to camp as a loop. The meadows had lots of wildflowers and we also saw a bear with cub higher up. When the mother sensed us, she changed her path away from us.

Back in camp all the animals decided to come out at once for an early evening visit—squirrels, Canada jays, and to our surprise, rabbits. Later that night

the mice decided to also come out, scurrying all over the outside of our tent!

The next morning we headed back down the trail and stashed our packs near the trail leading to Tull Canyon. After looking over the mine entrance just after the junction, we continued climbing up the trail with day packs. This trail is also in good condition.

In .7-mile it levels out and we spotted the remains of the plane that crashed in 1941. Again, Gilles and Abbott's description of the wreckage and remnants of Tull City was quite accurate.

While exploring a campsite off to one side we inadvertently unnerved a fawn who was hiding in the brush. It was so well camouflaged that we had no idea it was there even though it was less than 15 feet from us. We spent several minutes at the campsite looking over the map and that was apparently too much for the fawn who startled us by jumping up and running off. We immediately left and hoped the fawn didn't get too far from its mother.

We continued on the trail for another .8-mile or so to its end in a basin. We found the remnants of another cabin (a couple of logs) and what appears to be another mine entrance but there really is little to be seen in comparison to Tubal Cain and Tull City. The only reason we would come back to the basin would be to reach the open country above as Gilles and Abbott did. Unfortunately the rains started and our desire for further exploration ended quickly.—LGM, Port Orchard, 6/26-27.

DUNGENESS SPIT (NOAA 18471)—There are two convenient spots for launching kayaks or canoes to explore the waters around Dungeness Spit—Cline Spit county park and Dungeness boat launch. Both are described in *North Puget Sound Afoot & Afloat*. Cline Spit is probably less used by trailered boats and that is the one Susie and I chose to launch from.

Before launching, though, we drove into the Dungeness Recreation Area and paid our \$2 fee for a permit to land on the spit. We also learned that a portion of Graveyard Spit and the very end of Dungeness Spit were closed for wildlife reasons.

The wind was blowing from the south when we launched, creating a few small wind waves. Although the tide was going out, it was going to be a "high" low making it possible to do a lot of exploring (there can be lots of exposed tideland at lower lows).

We first headed east around the end of Cline Spit to the mouth of the Dungeness River. The river branches at its

mouth and we took the smaller fork up a short way before being stopped by shallow fast-moving water. The tide was between 3.5 and 4 feet and it probably wouldn't be possible to access the mouth if it were much lower due to exposed tidelands at low water.

Turning back, we headed north toward Dungeness Spit. The wind was playing tricks on us and was now coming from the northeast, causing more and larger swells the farther we went. After a mile or so we changed direction and headed with the swells instead of quartering them, landing just about where Graveyard Spit joins the main spit.

After a short break we headed up the spit again. Being past lunch time we decided it was time to land and eat even though we had not made it to the lighthouse.

The spit here is quite narrow and we walked to the other side. We were surprised to see how calm the water was in comparison to the swells we were in on what is usually the calm side!

After eating we headed back down the spit and explored the inner lagoon between Dungeness and Graveyard spits. Lots of seals and birds were in this area—the seals popped up and eyed us as we went by. The tide was now about 2 feet but there was sufficient water to allow for lots of paddling room.

Again we landed and walked over to the west side of the spit, marveling at how calm the water was on that side. From there it was a direct paddle back to Cline Spit and an end to a good day of paddling.—LGM, Port Orchard, 6/23.



RUGGED RIDGE, INDIAN PASS, BOGACHIEL

RIVER TRAILS (*Olympic Natl Park; USGS Indian Pass*)—Friday night Don and I headed for Rugged Ridge trail. It's right outside Forks and the only sign is the one at the main road.

Following the map we took two rights, crossed two bridges and came to the deadend road where the trail starts. The horse railings were hidden in the tall grass. The trail is on your right as you drive past it. Two guys arrived after us to check on some nesting murrelets up the trail.

The trail goes up for a mile, then skirts the ridge before it starts going down to the Calawah River, 3.2 miles. This trail is in the first stages of abandonment. The half-dozen downed trees need a chainsaw. Moss covers the trail, and as you hike along you feel and see the brush moving in closer.

Some gopher holes will break your ankle if you're not paying attention. The



Don Paulson

Deer at Grand Ridge, Olympic National Park.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

cedar-plank walks are rotted through, lopsided, and some are totally buried in moss. There are lots of ferns, and more huge trees to enjoy.

We found a terrific campsite nestled in the woods next to the Calawah. This area was once very popular, but the fire rings have bushes growing out of them now. A chorus of birds awakened us at 5am the next morning.

Crossing the below-knee-level Calawah from our camp, we beat the brush down at the Indian Pass trailhead. This 3.5 miles of trail has so many blow-downs it's like running a hurdle race. Most of the creeks are dried up. The pass is more like a small hump and easily done. Coming down, we connected with the Bogachiel trail and immediately saw the destruction the river had done.

A volunteer, who had been here since middle May, was in the process of dismantling the outhouse before the river took it. Don gave her a hand getting the roof off, then we hiked another 2 miles and made camp at Boulevard Creek Camp. A one-tent site with lots of view.

A fire got rid of the mosquitoes but not before they bit me a couple of times. Don went to check out the Tumwata Trail and I stayed in camp to read.

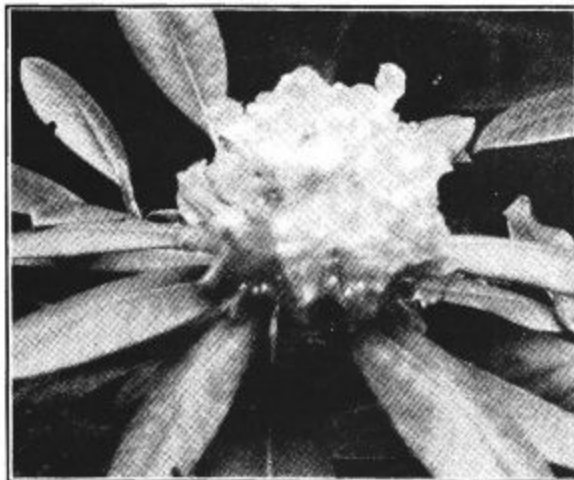
Some time in the middle of the night the rain came but the canopy of trees kept our tent dry. By the time we arrived back at the truck, however, we were both completely soaked.—Kerry Gilles and Don Abbott, Grays Harbor, 6/21-23.

THORSON PEAK (*Olympic Natl Forest; USGS Mt Washington*)—Mike Raymond and I had planned to climb Mount Baker this weekend if the weather was going to be okay. Thorson Peak was our alternate trip. As is typical for June weather, Baker was supposed to get brushed by a storm so we opted for Thorson.

This was our third attempt this spring/summer. The first ended on a heavily corniced ridge between the east peak and the main summit. In early May, our second attempt ended when the road was washed out just above Jefferson Lake.

This time we hoped we would be successful. The road had been repaired and we wanted to thank the Forest Service for keeping it open (provides access to routes on Washington, Pershing, and of course Thorson). We left the truck at 8:45 and started climbing straight up to the rock buttress below the East Peak (no snow).

Climbed the rock to a chute (partially filled with snow) to the East Peak. We then traversed the ¼-mile ridge to the



Rhododendrons in bloom on the Tubal Cain trail, Buckhorn Wilderness.

main peak. An easy scramble to the top with foggy views of the Olympics. Four hours up.

Our descent followed the main climbing route. Snow in the large gully between Pershing and Thorson. Back at the truck at 3:38. Great day for an alternative climbing plan.—Chas Pauly, Hadlock Mountaineering Club, 6/29.

TULL CANYON (*Buckhorn Wilderness; USGS Tyler Pk, Mt Deception*)—Took the opportunity of having most of a day available for hiking, so I loaded the skis on top of the old beater, put the medium-sized, gray-faced dog in the back seat and drove to the Tubal Cain trailhead.

Hiked the rhodo-lined Tubal Cain trail to Tull Canyon junction. This nice wide trail is great for leashing the dog along ... there will not be many more hikes for the dog, as she is getting up in age.

Hiked up the canyon into the blowing fog ... the pillow lava ramparts were particularly impressive, looking like castellated hulks through the holes in the white gloom. Made my way up to

the snowline at about 5000 feet at the head of the basin. The visibility was quite poor beyond 50 yards, so I used rocks to mark my way up to the 6000 foot divide.

The source of the clouds was the Big Quilcene valley, and they roared over the crest and past my face down into Tull Canyon. After cooling down a bit, I shoved off on my skis. The skiing was superb, and I zigzagged through all the little rocks I had laid on the snow. I stopped about every five turns so the old dog would not get left behind.

The sun was starting to burn more holes in the fog as I descended. Hiked on down

to my main pack and treated the dog and myself to some snacks. Many alpine flowers starting to bloom. Also, the rhododendrons on the lower trail are just getting into full bloom.

Arrived home just in time to shower and go to work. Thinking about the beauty I had just seen certainly made the work more pleasant.—Larry Smith, Port Orchard, 6/30.

HORSEHEAD BAY to KOPACHUCK STATE PARK (*NOAA 18474*)—The original destination for this Tuesday evening paddle was to have been Cutts Island but a southwesterly wind changed our minds.

Five singles and a double launched from the public ramp near the south end of Horsehead Bay. A narrow access road leads to the ramp with private property on both sides. Parking is at the junction where the access road leaves the main road. There are no restroom facilities.

Horsehead Bay is lined with fancy houses on both sides and the protected waters are usually busy with boat traffic.



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BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

This evening there were several skiers as well as passing boats

About ¾-mile later we left the protected waters of the bay and began to feel the effects of the southwest wind. The wind and waves were building and even though Cutts Island lies only about ½-mile offshore we thought it better to forgo the passage—the return trip into the wind and waves could turn nasty.

The problem we now faced was finding enough of a beach along the shoreline of Kopachuck State Park to land. We had brought along sandwiches for dinner and we were all hungry! Usually there is lots of room but tonight was one of the higher high tides with virtually no beach.

About ¾ of the way along the shore we finally came to a small sandy rise and headed in. The park is the site of one of the Cascadia Marine Trail camp sites and tonight it was taken by a couple who had paddled over from Vashon Island. The site is located at the south end of the park.

Back on the water we had about a mile of big waves and whitecaps to negotiate back to the protected waters of Horseshoe Bay. We kept track of each other in case a problem should occur and before long we were tucked in behind the spit at the north end of the bay in calm waters. From there it was a relaxing paddle back to the take out.—LGM, Port Orchard, 7/2.



MUNCASTER BASIN

(Olympic Natl Park; USGS Mt

Christie, Mt Hoquiam, Mt Olson)—I have had my sights set on visiting Muncaster Basin for spring skiing for a long time. The weekend was in "good weather" mode, so I shoved off early Saturday with my skis on the car.

Drove to the Enchanted Valley trailhead (gosh, this place looks familiar) and hiked the green trail to Fire Creek.

No one asked any questions about my skis, but for some reason the hikers kind of steered away from me! Maybe it's my perfume.

Sweated my way up to the Fire Creek basin. The snow is starting to melt fast on the south slopes, but there is still plenty for this time of year. It was a long slog to the upper basin, and I opted for those detours which took me away from any possible snow slides.

Broke over the divide to Muncaster Basin about 3pm. The basin was just perfect! Good firm snow, with little islands of trees and heather. I had to search for a safe way off the headwall. Eventually, I found a steepish little gully leading to easier slopes.

Being alone, I decided to use my little 9mm rope, and rappelled the short vertical section down to those slopes.

Set up my bivvy camp in the warm sun at the head of Rustler Creek. I decided to take a little nap as the snow needed time to firm up again. The view was sublime, and the "Eagle Peaks" looked particularly rugged. Mount Olympus and the Skyline area was a black and white etching against the northern horizon. The roar of The Rustler was carried up by the breezes. The isolation was a joy.

At 7pm I climbed up the snowy benches to the top of the ridge. The view down into the Quinault was breathtaking. Even at this time of day, I was dripping wet from the exertion and the warm air. I waited until I cooled down, then put on dry underwear and socks. What a luxury! I clipped into my skis and had a sublimely beautiful swoosh down the slopes, with Mount Olympus looming in front of my face.

Awoke to an intensely clear sky. The eastern horizon was just starting its purple anticipation of the impending sunrise. I drank a couple of morning brews and then started back to the Fire Creek divide. However, I could not resist dropping my pack and hiking up the miniature glacier between the double summits of the "Eagles." The morning breezes were keeping the snow firm. I hiked as far as I dared without needing crampons, donned the skis again, and enjoyed a beautiful run on pearl snow back down to my pack!

Cresting the divide, I could look at the whole range of peaks. The Quinault valley was still sheathed in blue steel, and the river looked like a shiny silver thread. I was able to make fast headway down Fire Creek. It only took a fraction of the time to ski down the route I had slogged up the day before!

I reached the Quinault trail about noon, bursting out of the underbrush

and practically into the laps of some unsuspecting hikers.

I must have looked pretty gruesome being covered in fir needles and all—I mumbled my apologies, as I didn't mean to scare them, but they just stared and said nothing.

Once I was about 50 feet from them I turned around and waved, just to let them know I was friendly. They didn't wave back. I guess I should have put on some perfume or something ... —Larry Smith, Port Orchard, 7/6-7.



MOUNT ELLINOR (Olympic Natl Forest; USGS Mt

Skokomish)—During some of my late-spring climbs of Mount Ellinor in fine sunny weather, I'm always amazed by the number of people ascending the steep snow chute in shorts and jogging shoes, many without axes or even ski poles—a scenario for disaster.

If anyone slips and doesn't stop immediately, they endanger both themselves and those coming up the lengthy funnel below.—Dee Molenaar, Port Orchard, 7/7.



COLONEL BOB (Colonel

Bob Wilderness; USGS Colonel Bob)—At 7:12am our party of 9 leaves Mud Bay Park & Ride, Olympia. From Highway 101 we turn onto Donkey Creek road and drive 20 miles on it and road 2302. Well maintained gravel to trailhead. Route is well signed. At 9:20 we reach Upper Pete's Creek trailhead; good parking and outhouse. 1000 feet elevation.

Head up trail. Fair tread and grade at beginning soon deteriorate to steep grade, rutted tread with a plethora of loose rock.

In 2.4 miles Pete's Creek trail ends and we join the Colonel Bob trail. Switchback up open slope below Gibson Peak, then back into welcome shade, bleeding hearts and miners lettuce. Intersect Fletcher Canyon waytrail in saddle between Colonel Bob and Gibson.

Break at Moonshine Flats, 3500 feet, 3.2 miles from trailhead, running water, frog ponds, shooting stars and avalanche lilies.

Reach summit 1:30, 4.1 miles from trailhead, 4492 feet, last ½-mile very steep, rutted and filled with loose rock. Lunch at summit. About 4 hours from trailhead to summit with considerate pace. This was a good place to be on the first 80+ degree day in Puget Sound.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 7/7.



LAKE OZETTE (Olympic Natl Park; USGS Ozette Lake)

—With Ann gone for a week with her

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

climbing group, Yellow Cat and I were left on our own to think of ways to occupy our time and also enjoy the good weather. YC opted to hunt and sunbathe. I chose an overnighter on Lake Ozette.

I've done lots of solo backpacking but not any solo water camping so a trip like this was a change from routine. By 9:30 I was at the launch ramp at the north end of the lake trying to figure out the best way to stuff all the "essential" equipment into my single sea kayak. Trying best to equalize the load between the fore and aft compartments so as to not affect trim, I stuffed away and was soon ready to head off.

You need a backcountry permit from the ranger station to camp on the lake. A number of good established sites are available, but basically you can camp anywhere along the shoreline except areas that are private property—although you will find only a few spots that are suitable. I was also advised that wind can come up suddenly and make travel on the lake hazardous and that in windy conditions it is best to travel along the shoreline for safety.

With the kayak loaded, permit in hand, and the car tucked away in the parking lot, I headed out. There were only moderate wind waves on the north end bay but from experience I knew that would change as I entered the main lake past Eagle Point.

In 2 miles of easy paddling I reached Eagle Point which has several nice established campsites. I got out to stretch my legs and also to walk past the point to scout the waters ahead. Just as I figured, a good southerly wind was stirring up the lake with lots of whitecaps. After a bit of internal debate as to the advisability of continuing, I decided to press on—following the shoreline just in case.

Rounding the point, my time of easy paddling was at an end; now I had to

fight a headwind and waves. I decided to follow the shoreline around the headland and into Ericksons Bay which has a nice campground at its head. This would provide an alternate camp spot, should I not want to continue down the lake, and allow me to get a feel for how well the loaded kayak handled waves coming from different directions.

In just over a mile of travel I was once more on shore looking over Ericksons Bay campground. There is lots of space to camp, firepits, and a bear wire. This is a popular spot—especially with power boat people.

I decided to press on down the lake. I put the rudder down so I could maintain my desired course easily. The wind was blowing steadily from the south with an occasional stronger gust, and after battling it for 2 miles I was getting a bit tired. I pulled into shore in the area of Cemetery Point and found a level spot to set up camp.

The wind continued until early evening when it finally settled down. Taking advantage of the quiet, I decided to check out Allens Bay before dinner. The end of the bay has several spots to camp. The rotting outhouse has been removed. The sign marking the Allens Bay trail to the beach has been taken down since it is no longer a maintained trail which seems a shame since the trail provided a nice walk out to the coastline.

As I broke camp and loaded the kayak the next morning, the wind was blowing only slightly from the south. Being in no hurry, I retraced my path along the shoreline, spotting several deer who watched me curiously while they enjoyed their breakfast browsing.

Before I knew it, I had travelled the roughly 6 miles back to the launch point and the end of the trip.

If you haven't been to Ozette since June, you will now find a sign for The

Lost Resort just before you reach the Ranger Station. The Lost Resort is brand new and is up a short access road to the north. It is a general store with a deli and espresso with camping sites and supplies available.

The resort plans to stay open year around. For more information, call 360-963-2899 (or write The Lost Resort, 20860 Hoko-Ozette Road, Clallam Bay WA 98326).—LGM, Port Orchard, 7/15-16.



MOUNT MULLER (Olympic Natl Forest; USGS Mt Muller)

—This was Heidi's hike. She found the mountain, she found the trailhead and she supplied the impetus to go. Lucky me got to go along.

Mount Muller is on the ridge between the Sol Duc valley and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The road to the trailhead is signed on the right side of Highway 101, by a power substation. It's a few miles west of Lake Crescent and about four hours from Ballard. It isn't on maps, yet. The trailhead is equipped with an outhouse. In this time of diminished federal funding, it's always a good idea to bring your own toilet paper.

The trail is a loop. Going clockwise,

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the general layout is up to the ridge (at Jim's Crossing), along the ridge to the summit, further along the ridge, down to the valley and back to start. This is the direction we followed to get to the top on the shorter (5+ miles) way to the summit. The tread is in great shape and doesn't seem to get much use.

There were plenty of flowers both in the forest and in the meadows on the ridge. On a clear day, the views into the Olympics and across the Strait of Juan de Fuca must be tremendous.

After a late lunch, we could see the rain coming from out of the interior of the Olympics and across the Sol Duc. On came the rain gear and off we went to finish the loop (7+ miles).

It was getting late as we returned to the car and in the twilight drizzle one section of moss covered trees and ground seemed to suffuse green into the air. However, in addition to the greater mileage returning by finishing the loop, the trail goes through clearcuts and parallels the highway.—Jim Cavin, Seattle, 6/1.

▲ CASE INLET (NOAA 18448)

—Two members of our Port Orchard paddle group live on the northeast shore of Case Inlet by Victor so we accepted their offer to launch from their beach for a paddle of the upper portion of Case Inlet on this 90+ degree day.

Because of the minus tide we needed to carry our kayaks a ways before launching and heading south toward Reach Island. The wind was blowing from the north, pushing us on our way, but we knew if it kept up we would have an uphill battle getting back.

We passed under the bridge joining the mainland with Reach Island and continued since all of Reach is private. The tideland between Stretch Island and the mainland was dry at this low tide, so we swung around the north end of Stretch and pulled out at the State Park at the northeast tip. No water or toilets here, but it is a nice spot. After a short break we continued toward the tip of Hartstene Island.

We went as far as McLane Cove on the mainland, deciding Jarrell Cove on

the island may be a bit too far for this relaxed trip considering the headwind we might face getting back.

After another short break we headed back planning to take the inside route around Stretch since the tide was now coming in and it would provide protected paddling.

Richard mentioned that the Museum of Puget Sound is located on Stretch at the site of the now-inactive St. Charles Winery. The winery is on private waterfront land (look for a big white building about halfway up the island south of the bridge). By our good luck it was open and we were cordially invited to join a tour in progress.

The museum is free (donations are welcome). If you're in the area, I would readily recommend visiting it. Call ahead, though, to make sure someone will be there and to get permission to land. The number is 360-858-7971 (PO Box 116, Grapeview WA 98546). We were just lucky to have found it open.

Back in our boats we crossed back to Victor with no difficulty.—LGM, Port Orchard, 7/13.



MOUNT JUPITER (*The Brothers Wilderness; USGS Mt Jupiter*)—Trail snowfree, road in rough and dusty but suitable for conventional passenger vehicles. This was a clear day, some clouds and haze but spectacular views.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 6/30.



NORTH FORK SKOKOMISH (*Olympic Nail Park; USGS Mt Skokomish, Mt Olson*)—I'm at Camp Pleasant, 6.7 miles from Staircase. My tent is on a ledge next to the river 6 feet below. Big maple trees covered in moss surround me, their arms extending over my tent. The wind blows softly and I listen to the leaves rustle. Many birds are chirping their songs.

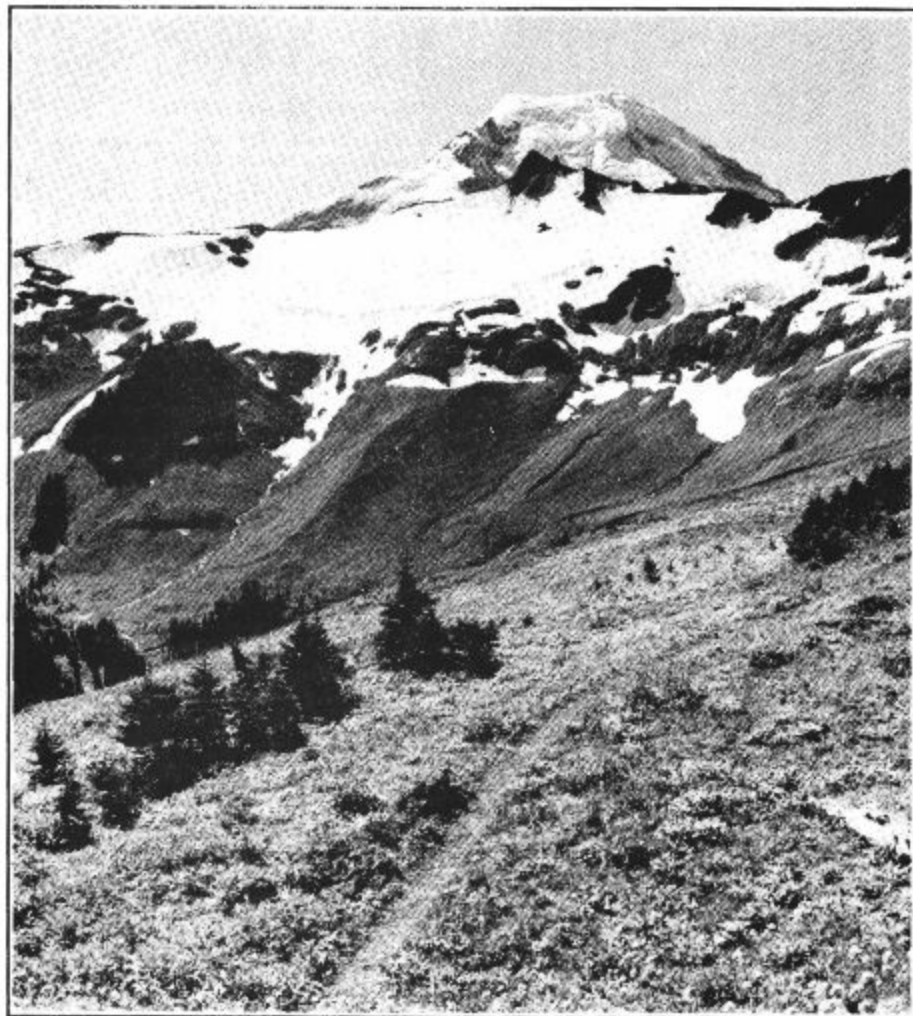
This is a large area with two bear lines and one small outhouse. I had been by here twice before and always said I would someday get back here to camp.

One couple is camped far across from me. He wants to see a bear. The fresh, giant paw print in the mud up the trail indicates a good possibility.

Two hikers came by dragging their kayaks. First time I ever saw that! They were headed for Nine Stream, about 3 miles farther up the trail.

This weekend is devoted to learning names of things from my 530-page *Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast*, by Pojar and Mackinnon, an absolutely terrific book!

Sunday morning at 8:30 Don comes hiking into camp, surprising me. He



Wandering Hiker

Cougar Ridge trail, with Chowder Ridge and Mount Baker. Mount Baker Wilderness.

has brought me a deli sandwich. He goes back to hunt for the Darky Mines that we were unable to locate last time we were here.

I'm watching for the kayakers. Oh, here they come. One goes under a giant log across the river, the other goes over. After a short visit we watch them go. They are having so much fun! Don comes back, having not found the mines.

The trail is good to this point. Three trees are down but you can walk under them.—Kerry Gilles, Don Abbott, Grays Harbor, 6/16-17.

WILDERNESS BEACH—The major headland cable ladder 7½ miles north of Rialto has been removed. The cable ladder has been replaced by a knotted polypropylene rope anchored to a tree at the top of the bluff.

This makes ascents and descents on this steep and often muddy slope significantly more difficult, especially with a heavy pack. The headland route can be avoided, however, by hiking around on the intertidal rocks at low tide.

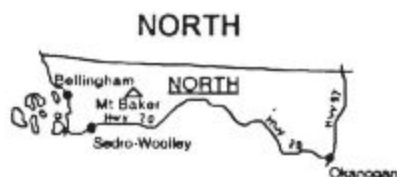
The parking lot at Rialto is reduced in size by about half. Backpackers must park at the Dickey River bridge and walk the road 1 mile.—Ranger, 7/3.

SKYLINE TRAIL—Not marked, not maintained, and not easy to follow! Requires advanced routefinding and mountaineering skills.—Ranger, 7/12.

DUCKABUSH—Trail okay to Ten Mile Camp. 150 trees down between Ten Mile and LaCrosse Pass. Lots of trees down between Upper Duck and Home Sweet Home.—Ranger, 7/7.

WEST FORK DOSEWALLIPS—Trail closed until late fall for replacement of High Bridge.—Ranger, 7/17.

PHONE NUMBERS—Hood Canal Ranger Station, 360-877-5254. Quilcene Ranger Station, 360-765-2200. Olympic Natl Park, 360-452-0300.



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow gone from roads and most trails, except patches in the highest passes.

BAGLEY LAKES (Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Shuksan Arm)—Larry and I drove up to

Mount Baker on this beautiful day.

This trail goes all the way around the lakes, from its beginning at the waterfalls running off the mountain to your choice of two bridges crossing the river. One side is mostly flat with a nice trail, and the other side is a little more adventuresome.

Temperature was around 80 degrees so we ran into only a couple of snowbanks and a few muddy spots. People were having fun, including ourselves, throwing snowballs. A July snowball feels good!

A couple of teenagers were snowboarding and we even saw one downhill skier. Wildflowers were everywhere. This is one of the most scenic hikes you could ever go on and we'll do it again in the fall.—Wanda Goms, Everett, 7/21.

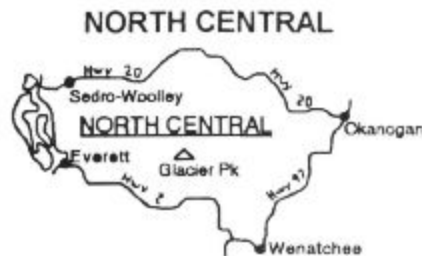
NORTH CASCADES NATL PARK—360-873-4590. Highway 20 is open with less than 1 foot of snow remaining at Washington Pass. Permits are required for any overnight stay in the backcountry.

Beaver Loop: Beaver Pass snowfree. Little Beaver logged out but brushy. Stillwell Crossing now bridged! From Twin Rocks to Whatcom Pass very brushy and trail difficult to find.

Easy Pass: Bridge at Granite Creek is out; *extremely hazardous crossing!* Bridge below Cosho washed out. Lots of bear sign.

Pyramid Lake: Logged out to the lake. Mother bear with cubs (one possibly injured) reported in area.

OKANOGAN NATL FOREST—509-826-3765. PCT both north and south of Highway 20 still snow-covered. Snow in the Pasayten Wilderness is rapidly disappearing with hot weather.—Ranger, 7/17.



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow gone from roads and most trails, except patches in the highest passes.

MOUNT PILCHUCK TRAIL WORK—Trail reconstruction began in July and will continue until snowfall, with work resuming in spring of 1997.

Work is expected to be completed by fall of 1997. The trail is being reconstructed and relocated to correct erosion problems and to improve hiker safety.

Trail closures may occur Monday through Thursday until late October to allow for use of motorized equipment and/or use of helicopters and explosives. **The trail will be open to the public Friday through Sunday** with short delays possible on Fridays.

For up-to-date trail information, call the Verlot Public Service Center, 360-691-7791.—Ranger, 7/3.



MOUNT PILCHUCK (State Park; USGS Verlot)—We drove to the Mount Pilchuck trailhead at the end of June. Got all the way to the parking lot and actually on the trail when we were stopped by a "TRAIL CLOSED MONDAY-THURSDAY DUE TO BLASTING" sign. This is the second summer of trail work here.

We would have appreciated a "TRAIL CLOSED" sign at the ranger station or at the turn-off to save us the 14 miles of bumpy travel.—Mystery Hiker, Granite Falls.



POINT 5725 (Henry M Jackson Wilderness; USGS Blanca Lk, Sloan Pk, Bedal)—This impressive-looking peak towers over Goat Lake. It is the easterly anchor of the seldom visited, large glaciated cirque dominated by Foggy, Pirate, and the Geminis. Ida Lake (also known as Clear Lake) sits in the middle.

Approach: hike the Goat Lake trail to the spur which drops down to Elliot Creek and the ruins of the Penn Mining Camp on the other side (cross on logs). Head up valley, climbing as you do to the 3200-3400 level. This will reduce the time spent in devil's club, slide alder, vine maple and the like. At length, you can reach the west ridge and take it to the summit, a spectacular viewpoint.

Expect a long, hard day in steep terrain. Roundtrip: 14 hours.—Garth, Mark, Rodger, Carnation, 6/28.



NORTH FORK SAUK to GLACIER GAP (Glacier Pk Wilderness; USGS Glacier Pk East, Glacier Pk West)—This week-long trip started at the North Fork Sauk trailhead south of Darrington. Nancy and Bettye came with us for the first night.

After camping near Mackinaw Shelter we climbed the next day to White Pass on the PCT. We had lunch here, then Nancy and Bettye headed back down. The remaining five of us set out to Foam Basin. It was snowcovered so we didn't drop down to it but stayed

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

high and camped on a tiny snowfree bench, collecting water from a snow-melt trickle. Beautiful starry sky.

The next day we crossed the ridge to the north and the remnant White Chuck Glacier to our base camp at Glacier Gap, about 7300 feet.

On the fourth day we got up early, traversed the Gerdine Glaciers and climbed up past Disappointment Peak to the Cool Glacier. The howling wind was so strong we were darn near blown right out of our crampons many times. In spite of being only a few hundred feet from the summit, we decided to turn back. We'll try again next year.

We were back at camp for a late breakfast. By evening dark clouds had moved in and on the fifth day we were storm-bound. Spent 36 hours at 7300 feet in two little tents while it rained and snowed. On the morning of the sixth day, although it was 30 degrees and snowing, the clouds had lifted and we decided to move. It snowed continuously to about 5800 feet, and then it poured rain. We spent our last night camped again near Mackinaw Shelter, and hiked out in the rain.

Lunch and bumbleberry pie at the Backwoods Cafe in Darrington helped us recover.—Ann Marshall, Port Orchard, 7/13-19.

GOTHIC BASIN (*Monte Cristo; USGS Bedal, Monte Cristo*)—For our wedding anniversary we farmed the children out and planned an overnight trip in the backcountry. The trailhead at Barlow Pass wasn't at all crowded when we arrived mid-morning. Donning our packs, we headed toward Monte Cristo, turning up the Weden Creek trail a scant mile from Barlow Pass.

The trail plunged through shoulder-high foliage toward the crossing of Weden Creek. A couple of blowdowns slowed us a bit, but a short way after the creek crossing the trail became clear and began its skyward ascent.

We passed lots of day-hikers and climbers, and wondered why we seemed to be the only people with backpacks. The day was hot, and the patches of snow we encountered were melting rapidly, making those stream-crossings exciting. True to its reputation, the trail was steep and boot-beaten.

At about 4 miles, 4 hours after we'd left the car, we entered Gothic Basin, covered in a shroud of snow. The upper lake was still completely frozen, while the lower lake was melted out, but had snow on its shores. Another party was camped on a ridge which had melted out. We found a snow-free campsite

with a beautiful view of the lower lake, and made camp.

It was wonderful to be in the backcountry again, even if most of it was covered in snow. The temperatures were in the 70s at 5000 feet, and the cool breeze coming off the snowfields was really welcome. Things didn't cool down much once the sun set, and all night we heard the drips and the roar of snow melting. In the morning we were amazed at how much of the basin was now snow-free. Another 10 days of warm weather and everything will be blooming.

We made our way down the trail, past more day-hikers and climbers, glad for the opportunity to find some solitude so close to home.—Ken and Laura Wild, Marysville, 7/13-14.



MOUNT DICKERMAN

(*Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Bedal*)—I left home at 6:30 am to get an early start on the trail. This is a definite get-in-shape hike: 4000 feet in 4 miles.

The trail is snow free and in fine shape till very near the top (5200 feet) then there's a lot of snow and no trail visible. Beautiful views, no bugs, lots of people coming up as I was going down.

Twenty nine cars in the tiny lot and along the highway on this beautiful, holiday Saturday. This is a great hike but way too popular.—Mystery Hiker, Granite Falls, 7/6.



WALT BAILEY TRAIL

(*DNR; USGS Mallardy Ridge*)—Lee's son Darren and his college friend Neal accompanied us on this trip.

Although the trail is continually being worked on, the road is being taken over by trees in many places. The old Jeep barreled right through (losing only its radio antenna) but newer cars with spiffy paint jobs might think twice.

The beautiful, narrow path goes through forest and meadows, over creeks and rock slides. The little plateau of tarns and blueberries at the top is a wonderful spot. I dropped down to Cutthroat Lakes only to see what luck Lee was having with his fish pole (none).

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South Baring; V-notch on the left.

Darren and Neal ran up Bald Mountain.

The trail is not on maps, but is included in the new (third) edition of *100 Hikes in the Glacier Peak Region*. Or stop in at the Verlot Ranger Station for a flyer with driving directions.—Ann Marshall, Port Orchard, 7/20.



BENCHMARK MOUNTAIN

(*Henry M Jackson Wilderness; USGS Benchmark Mtn, Blanca Lake*)—Yes! After two summers off Mr. Maphead put on a full pack and we spent the night on Benchmark Mountain. Not without some pain, but hey ... we did it! It was great.

The road to the trailhead is majorly bumpy and rutted but can be done if you take it easy and have high enough clearance. The trail has had a complete "lift" since last time we were there and is in super shape.

We hit snow just after achieving the ridge and found a wonderful, large campsite with tremendous views of Monte Cristo, Sloan Peak, Glacier Peak and Mount Rainier. No water except snowmelt. No bugs!—Mystery Hiker & Mr. Maphead, Granite Falls, 6/29-30.



WEST CADY RIDGE, BENCHMARK

(*Henry M Jackson Wilderness; USGS Benchmark Mtn, Blanca Lk*)—The North Fork Skykomish road is fine until you get to the Blanca Lake trailhead. Past there, driver beware. Water has eroded the road severely in places. Campers and trailers should not try. Low clearance vehicles may not want to risk it.

The trail up to the ridge is in great shape. One bridge is missing, but it is easy to get across the stream. The new switchbacks make the trek upward easier. Steve and I crested the ridge and

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

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at the east end set up our camp in a snowfree meadow. Water was available back down the trail a short way.

I filled a bucket and a water bag that lasted the three days. Good thing—the source was almost gone when we left.

The second day we hiked to the top of Benchmark Mountain. The trail was mostly covered with snow. The new trail goes almost to the top. Unfortunately we got to the top in a whiteout. Quickly we returned to a camp in the trees to eat lunch out of the rain.

On the third day, we were greeted with a view of Mount Rainier for a couple of hours before hiking out.—

Linda Rostad, Redmond, 7/3-5.



BARING MOUNTAIN,

South Peak (*Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Baring*)—Years ago, Ed Emery and I climbed the north peak of Baring (6125 feet) two or three times. Last year Sasha, the Siberian-American Princess, and I decided to climb the south peak (6010 feet), and we took the unmarked trail on the north side (see *Pack & Paddle*, July 1995). The *Cascade Alpine Guide* states that the south peak is only Class 2 from the V-notch between the two peaks. From the notch, however, the south peak was almost vertical.

This spring, Sasha and I decided to try the south side approach. Two tries got us high enough to see only a tower on the south ridge, and very wet.

On June 2, after reviewing old slides and the map, I decided the most efficient approach was the trail up from the north side, continuing on the ridge top to the northwest side of the basin at 4800 feet which allows an open view of both peaks.

Instead of dropping down to the continuous snow leading straight ahead to the V-notch, we contoured around on the south side of the bowl to intersect the largest ascending snow tongue and climbed to the notch at 5300 feet. This was quite steep, causing Sasha to complain more than once.

From the notch, we dropped down onto the south side a hundred or so feet, staying close to the wall. We ascended a series of benches, with some "scrambling" which required hands, causing Sasha anguish because she had to wait about 200 feet below the summit for me to return. It required 4 hours and 45 minutes up, and at least as long going down.

The "trail" back down had become a well-lubricated chute, but the summit view was outstanding and the climb as a whole was a real pleasure.—Warren Guntheroth and Sasha, Seattle, 6/2.



MIDNIGHT MOUNTAIN, PK 7480, THREE A.M.

MOUNTAIN (*Okanogan Natl Forest; USGS Midnight Mtn*)—A great "Plan B" scramble!

After getting turned back by the "road closed" approaches to McLeod Mountain, we shifted to Plan B, a loop starting at Slate Creek, elevation 2960, to the summit of Midnight Mountain (7595 feet) along the ridge to Peak 7480, next to the top of Three A.M. Mountain (7180 feet), then down a ridge to the Slate Creek trail and back to the car.

After spending the night beside the Twisp River at Mystery campground, we started at 6:30am from the trailhead at Slate Creek, up to the 6400-foot level on the way to Slate Lake where we contoured on snow around the creek drainage and then up to the summit of Midnight Mountain, arriving at noon.

After a summit lunch, we worked our way southeast along the summit ridge for ¼-mile. Bruce and Dick decided to ascend 7480 by way of an excellent Class 3 route that kept revealing itself as we worked our way along. The others dropped off the ridge, skirted 7480's cliffs and topped Three A.M. Mountain where Dick and Bruce met up with them at 3pm.

From then on it was just a pleasant stroll along an open ridge and then a quick descent through the woods down to the Slate Creek trail and back to the car, arriving at 6pm.

The weather was unbeatable—clear, sunny, and in the low 70s. The views were spectacular—270 degrees of rugged, snow-covered peaks and faces which John identified as we progressed.

The scramble was enjoyable and safe, all the "work" was early and "The Sound of Music" played in our minds as we rolled down the ridge on the last half of our loop.—Bruce Gibbs, Peggy Goldman, Johnny Jeans, Dick Michelson and John Roper, Seattle area, 6/12.



MAD RIVER

(*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Sugarloaf Pk, Silver Falls*)—This is a nice warm-up hike; pretty level trail and not open to motorcycles "until it dries out," according to the Ranger, who said that might not be until August this year (call to find out before you go: Entiat Ranger Station, 509-784-1511).

In early July there was still patchy snow, but fantastic wildflowers and forest. The amount of money that has gone into maintaining this trail is obscene, however; never seen anything like it. Concrete grid—like "grasscrete"—in steep and soft spots. Lots of it. A bridge you could take a small car

on across the Mad River. *Meadows* of flowers, ruttled by razzers.

The forest is marvelous, though, a very pleasant east-slope mix of trees. The river is wild, not having rapids, but being one long muscular snarl of white-water the entire way.

We were stopped at 4½ miles—no way to ford here at high water; no log across. People told us we could bush-whack upstream about a mile and cross Whistling Pig Creek and the Mad River on logs. We didn't get that far—ran out of time.

A cautionary note: the 2½ mile road up to Maverick Saddle is not suitable for passenger cars. We made it, barely, with continuous infusion of adrenaline.

Coming down, we talked to someone in a sedan who had punched a hole in their gas tank! I could see how this might easily happen. I'm not an exceptionally wussy driver, but I wouldn't take a non-4WD up there again, myself.—Peg Ferm, Monroe, 7/5.

CASCADE RIVER ROAD—Open to trailhead at road-end. Thanks, Dennis, Gary and all the road crew.—Ranger, 7/20.

DARRINGTON DISTRICT—360-436-1155. Mountain Loop Highway is open all the way through, but rough between Barlow Pass and the White Chuck River. Suiattle River road 26 open but rough. Green Mountain road (Suiattle) is for trucks only.

PCT: Skyline Bridge at the Suiattle River has been repaired. Still snow at Suiattle Pass, Cloudy Pass. Kennedy Creek bridge is still out, but you can cross on a footlog. From Red Pass north for 3 miles there is snow 5 to 15 feet deep.

Call ranger station for current conditions.—Ranger, 7/16.

STEHEKIN—Shuttle bus runs until 9/30. Transportation is provided by Stehekin Adventures; fare is \$4 one-way; no reservations needed. Shuttle goes as far as High Bridge only due to flood damage beyond.

For *Lady of the Lake* schedule and fares, call 509-682-2224. For float plane service, call 509-682-5555.—Ranger, 7/11.

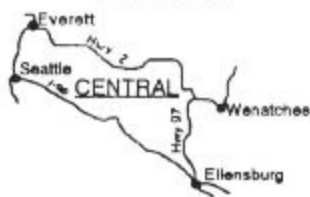
LAKE WENATCHEE DISTRICT—509-763-3103. Many roads still not open. Call for current information.

PHONE NUMBERS—Chelan Ranger Station, 509-682-2576. Entiat Ranger Station, 509-784-1511. Lake Wenatchee Ranger Station, 509-763-3103.

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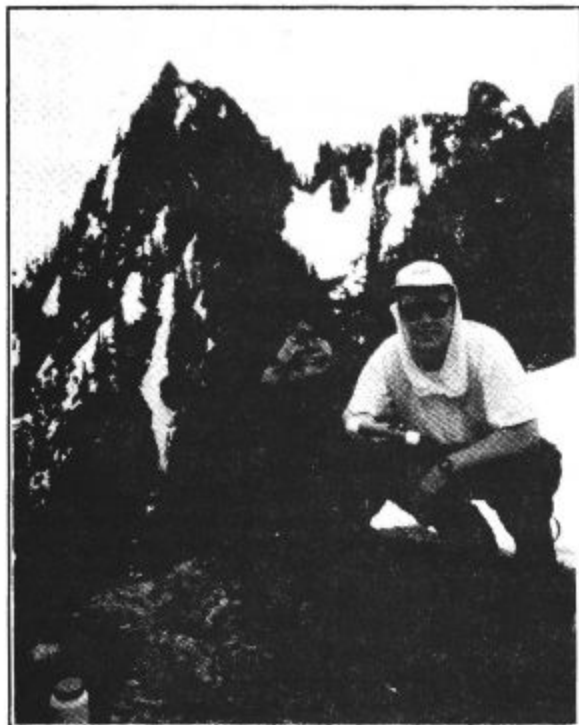


GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow gone from roads and most trails, except patches in the highest passes.

TUNNEL CREEK (*Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Stevens Pass*)—Hike the washed-out road for about 1 mile. This is not bad and makes a nice walk. Trailhead signed well.

Jerry and I took our two goats for a conditioning day hike. The trail climbed steadily up with a few nice views of mountains on the other side of the valley. There were two problem trees down across the trail. The first one we bushwhacked around. The second one presented too much of a challenge for the goats and we retreated. We were hoping to get to Hope Lake—another day!—NS, Brier Goat Farm, 6/96.

WHITEPINE ROAD (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Lk Wenatchee*)—The Whitepine road west of Cole's Corner is washed out so folks can't drive to the Whitepine trailhead.



Mark Owen admires the brand-new summit register on Point 4560+. In back is Garfield's North Peak; Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

A good family hike, however, is to walk the road beyond the barricade to the washout. For overnighing, a camp is just on the other side. Call it a walk-in camp! Mileage? Less than one.—NS, Brier, 6/96.

GUYE PEAK (*Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Snoqualmie Pass*)—The Kenworth Engineering Hike Club left Alpental parking lot trailhead at 4pm. A rain shower had just passed through and left a nice coating of water on everything that was immediately transferred to yours truly who happened to be in the front.

The track is steep and elevation is gained rapidly. At the trail intersection, sign on tree, we turned and headed east for Guye. A lot of tracks head off from this point; don't be tempted by the first ones. The main track is marked by occasional cairns and is easy to follow once you've found it.

The trail goes up to the pass between Guye and Cave Ridge; turn right to go to Guye or left to Cave Ridge. We turned right. There was a good show of flowers and we didn't hit snow until we reached the last flat spot before the summit ridge.

We ignored Beckey's route of going down the gully to traverse around to gain the summit (5168 feet) and settled for the scramble up to the first peak.

A snack and pictures. The views are tremendous, and a quick descent got us back to the car in just under 3 hours.—Fred Redman, Woodinville, 7/2.

SNOW LAKE (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Snoqualmie Pass*)—We met friends from Eastern Washington at Snoqualmie Pass for a short hike with children. They suggested Snow Lake, as we had never been there.

I wondered why the trailhead parking lot was so big, as there were only a few cars parked when we arrived at 9am. By the time we returned to the cars some six hours later, we knew why.

I don't think I've ever seen so many people on a trail before. I'm sure there were more than 300 coming in and going out. Considering the relatively good condition of the trail, compliments go to whoever maintains it.

Snow was still present on the slope down to the lake,

but the rangers told us it would be mostly gone by the next weekend. The kids loved the floating "icebergs" on the lake. The highlight of the trip was the contest to see who could hurl a rock with enough force and accuracy to hit and/or break up the most icebergs.

At about 6 miles roundtrip, this was a good season opener for our family.—The Wild Bunch, Marysville, 7/6.

POINT 7029 (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Cashmere Mountain*)—This high spot on Icicle Ridge is the former site of a lookout. It must have been an airy spot, since the footings are anchored to a huge boulder perched atop the ridge. The building must have filled the top surface of the boulder, leaving little or no room to walk around the edges.

The Fourth of July trail from the Icicle Creek road is the simplest access. From its junction with the Icicle Ridge trail, follow the Icicle Ridge trail west ¼-mile to the former lookout site. The elevation gain from the Icicle Creek road is almost 5000 feet. This trail is usually snow free or nearly snow free to the ridge sometime in late May.

There are perhaps a half-dozen blow-downs along the trail, but none that are difficult to get around for a hiker. More annoying is the brush that is enveloping the trail along many sections. Later in the summer, be sure to carry lots of water. This is mostly a dry trail ascending southwest facing slopes.

The views of the Stuart Range and other peaks too numerous to mention make the strenuous trek worthwhile.—Charlie Hickenbottom, Wenatchee, 6/9.

SCATTER AND FORTUNE CREEK LOOP (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS The Cradle, Davis Peak, Jack Ridge, Mount Stuart*)—The Czech Czich and I did one of my favorite hikes in the Scatter Creek area—when it takes four quads for a dayhike you know it must be a good one.

Our plan was to hike to the pass between Scatter and Solomon Creeks, take a cross-country route over a high pass to North Fork Fortune Creek, then follow the County Line trail back to its junction with the Scatter Creek trail.

There was more snow than I'd seen in the area in mid-May on previous years. It slowed us down considerably in getting to, and through, the meadows. To make up some of the lost time we skipped the pass above Solomon Creek, and climbed the snow-covered boulder field directly to the Fortune Creek pass. We'd planned on that as a lunch site, but when thunder began to rumble about

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us we dropped down several hundred feet first.

After lunch we traversed to where the County Line trail crosses the ridge west of Fortune Creek. We were lucky that a couple of bare spots revealed the tread, since even the south slopes were buried under snow. The trail then climbs over a second ridge, below the Scatter benchmark.

Is there a special name for the named benchmarks on the quads? [Ed. Note: Don't know. Can some reader help?]

I thought we could avoid a difficult creek crossing by staying west of the trail as it descended to the junction with the Scatter Creek trail. We did avoid the crossing but sure met a lot of wet brush in the process—next time I'll take the creek crossing!

While part of the time we hiked under black clouds, and were even sprinkled on briefly, most of the day was sunny. The snow slowed us down in the meadows, but it made the cross-country section easier. All in all a very enjoyable day.—TG, Skyway, 6/25.



IRON, TEANAWAY PEAKS

(Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Mt Stuart)—After the last issue went to press, I headed for the Teanaway with seven friends. How nice to have the washed-out bridge on Beverly Creek road 112 repaired!

We each took some of Nancy's load so she could go in with us with a very light pack. Just east of the junction with the Fourth Creek trail is a series of level spots at about 5200 feet. We set up camp in early afternoon right as it began to rain.

Saturday morning was beautiful and we headed out with day packs right after breakfast. Early on we lost the trail under snow and headed for the Iron Peak ridge, coming out on top a little south of the saddle. By about 10 o'clock we were all on the summit of Iron (6510 feet) enjoying the view of the countryside and watching dark clouds building in the east.

Lindy and I were intent on getting to the top of Teanaway Peak ("Gilded Mountain") that day, so we hustled everyone back to the saddle and started up the south side of our second peak. Not many were in favor of going up the rock ridge, so we crossed a snow chute to the easier south slope.

On the summit (6779 feet) we had lunch and wonderful views. The clouds were building but were still a long way off. We watched a party of Seattle Mountaineers reach the top of Iron. After our descent (which included a 2-hour nap in a sunny little meadow) we

spent the rest of the afternoon in camp.

Sunday morning we were up extra early to tackle Bill's Peak, but the clouds got lower and darker and soon it began to rain. After waiting two hours for the weather to improve, we packed up and headed out, surprising every one of our households by returning hours early. —Ann Marshall, Port Orchard, 6/21-23.



BEAN PEAK (Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Mt Stuart, Enchantment Lks)

—Lee and I headed up the Beverly-Turnpike trail to the Fourth Creek junction, and hiked up to Fourth Creek pass at 5580 feet. Following Mary's Teanaway Country, we picked up the trail along the upper Fourth Creek basin and followed it to the pass at 6400 feet between Bean and Volcanic Neck. Here a remnant cornice blocked the trail continuing east. Although we could have easily gone around its end, we decided this was far enough.

The day was beautiful and views of the Stuart Range and the Teanaway peaks were great. Lee lunched and read at the pass while I scrambled to the top of Bean Peak, 6743 feet, about 3/4-mile away. He could hear my "hello" from the summit and could see me wave.

We backtracked to a comfortable but buggy camp in the basin at the edge of the meadow. The next morning the wind had picked up so the bugs were not as bad. After exploring a bit, we headed out at a leisurely pace. Most of this section of trail between Fourth Creek pass and Volcanic Neck is in

good condition, except for the meadows below Volcanic Neck, where it is faint and marked with cairns.

About half-way down the Beverly Turnpike trail on our way out, we stopped to talk with a couple of hikers. He was carrying a shovel ("It's my walking stick," he said) and she was carrying a notebook to record a tally of plants—already she had over 30 on her list and they hadn't even reached the flowering meadows yet!

After we passed I realized we had just run into Andre and Carol Dale. Andre is well known for his trail work, and for the rest of the hike out we admired his shovel work, all the water bars now clear of debris.—Ann Marshall, Port Orchard, 7/8-9.



ESMERELDA BASIN (Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Mt Stuart)

—Lots of water running down the trail, large marshy and muddy sections and most creek crossings involved wet feet with one at about 1.5 miles a little tense.

The trail intersection with the Ingalls Pass/Longs Pass trail is buried under the remnants of an avalanche with the trail through the snow leading up to the [passes. Once across the snow, look downhill to find the trail to Esmerelda Basin coming out from under the snow.

We lost the trail again under the snow where the trail switchbacks up the hill about a mile before Fortune Creek Pass. There's still 3 to 4 feet of snow in the trees and up at the pass, but the flowers are glorious down low and in a few weeks when the water has



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gone down and the snow has melted, this will be a fabulous flower hike.—SIE, Bellevue, 6/16.

 **DEROUX CREEK** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Mt Stuart*)—On our way out from Esmerelda Basin, we stopped to check the river crossing on this trail and found it impassable.


There is a solid bridge on the far side of the river that, if put into place, would make this hike a great alternative to the crowds heading up to Ingalls Lake and Longs Pass. The logjam that used to be in the area is gone.—SIE, Bellevue, 6/16.

 **ESMERELDA BASIN** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Mt Stuart*)—We headed east of the mountains to see some sunshine and flowers. It seemed a bit early for Esmerelda Basin, but it was a good choice.

The sunshine eluded us, but I have never seen so many shooting stars along the trail. Early on, a large melting snowbank by a creek made for a tricky crossing. After that were many rushing creeks to cross that added interest to the trail. There was no more snow until almost Fortune Creek Pass, where it was just beginning to melt out.

Shortly after starting down, we met two young men with backpacks who asked if this was the trail to Ingalls Lake. When they found out they had missed the turnoff at the beginning of the trail, they decided to go cross country to the lake. That must have been a challenge.


We noticed that there was no sign at what appeared to be the junction with the trail to Longs Pass and Ingalls Lake.—Anne Dowd, Mercer Island, 7/2.

 **INGALLS LAKE** (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Mt Stuart*)—It was socked in at Snoqualmie Pass so we continued east to the Teanaway.


We were impressed by the amount of rock moved downstream during the winter floods. The North Fork road is now open and in better condition than we've ever seen it.

The trail is in good condition with no obstacles. We encountered snow at the pass, 3 miles in; the remaining 1½ miles to the lake was snowcovered except for the rock outcrops below the lake.

We were amazed that the lake was still completely frozen. I know summer is a month late this year, but I never expected this. I wonder what the record is for "ice-out" on this lake.—John Walenta, Seattle, 7/20.

 **SILVER CREEK TRAIL** **1315** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Kachess Lk*)—There are dozens of blowdowns, some quite large, but the trail is still very nice. The meadows are great with lots of flowers.


We went up to West French Cabin Mountain and saw three mountain bikers on the trail. Didn't know they were allowed here but I guess they are. They probably had quite a workout getting their bikes over all those blowdowns.—Sally Pfeiffer, Seattle, 7/7.

 **THORP, SOUTH THORP MOUNTAINS** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Kachess Lk*)—These are two on the list of "100 Highest Home Court Peaks" (see July 1995 *Pack & Paddle*).

Thorp Mountain is on a good trail, and during the spring and early summer the wildflowers are marvelous, and the views are great. Take the Salmon La Sac road to the end of Lake Cle Elum, turning off onto the French Cabin Creek road, and then to Knox Creek road.

The Knox Creek trail begins at 4200 feet and intersects the Kachess Ridge trail at 5100 feet. The north branch leads to the lookout at the summit (5854 feet). On return to the intersection, and heading south, the summit of South Thorp (5841 feet) is the third bump on the ridge, and is off the trail.

The best approach is to stay on the trail well past the cliffs on the east side, and then cut back to the summit on gentler slopes. Both summits can easily be done in one day; our round trip required 5.5 hours. They can be combined with West French Cabin Peak on a comfortable two-day outing. (Camping possible at several sites along French Cabin Creek road.)—Warren Guntheroth, Ed Emery, and Sasha, Seattle, 7/18.

 **WEST FRENCH CABIN PEAK, KACHESS RIDGE SUMMIT** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Kachess Lk*)—These are two more of the "100 Highest Home Court Peaks." See the driving instructions under Thorp Mountain (above), but stay on French Cabin Creek road.


In June, we left the car at a point where the middle of the road was washed out (3600 feet). If you have good clearance and 4-wheel drive you can drive to the trailhead, 4040 feet, ½-mile farther.

The French Cabin Creek trail meets the Kachess Ridge trail at 4880 feet; take the descending trail southward, underneath a very prominent toothlike peak which we called French Tongue.

The trail gains the ridge at 5000 feet, and travels southeast across a large,

pleasant meadow. To reach the summit of West French Cabin Mountain, 5724 feet, leave the trail and head up either the west slope, or better, the northwest slope. On the return, it appears shorter to drop down from the trail to intersect a branch of the logging road that connects to the trailhead.

To bag the second peak, 5525 feet, stay on the trail back until shortly before it drops down under French Tongue, and then travel west crosscountry, up the basin to Kachess Ridge. Several small summits appear about the same elevation. On the return, the adventurous—with ice axe—can descend on the west side of the Tongue to regain the trail back. The round trip, including both summits, was 7 hours.—Warren Guntheroth, Ed Emery and Sasha, Seattle, 7/17.

 **THOMAS MOUNTAIN** (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Kachess Lk*)—This is one of the "100 Highest Home Court Peaks," and, conveniently, is on a trail. It is east of Snoqualmie Pass, which means it is apt to be dryer in cloudy weather. (By the same token, on July 14th it was hotter!)

The biggest problem was to find the trail. The 1989 quad will get you close, but it took us at least a half-hour to find it. Leave I-90 at exit 70 onto a 2-lane paved road and take a left (westward). Turn right onto the road to Kachess Dam. Go past that gated exit and shortly turn right onto a narrow dirt road for ½-mile under the power lines.

At a junction, take the road that runs northeast. Near where a logging road—not on the map—ascends Kachess Ridge, turn back and look carefully for an unmarked trail (about 2350 feet) which heads east and quickly crosses Silver Creek (look downstream for fallen trees, or wade). There are no signs anywhere.

The trail divides shortly. The left trail is presumably the Silver Creek Trail; stay right. In about a mile is another branch trail, unmarked, that goes down Easton Ridge. (The town of Roslyn uses Domerie Creek as a water supply and has posted the eastern boundary of much of the trail.)

A third junction (4942 feet) leads eastward to Domerie Peak, but this has been (deliberately?) obscured. This is a reasonable turn-around spot, with good views of Cle Elum Lake, Rainier, and the Stuart Range. It is approximately 4 miles to this point.

The next mile is the nicest, in shady old growth, dropping a couple of hundred feet, then ascending to Thomas Mountain, 5269 feet. It took us 3.5

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hours. There is no water on this ridge. The trail is steep in spots, and sandy, making a walking stick useful, particularly when coming down.—Warren Guntheroth and Sasha, Seattle, 7/16.

ICICLE RIDGE (*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Leavenworth, Cashmere Mountain*)—One of the best parts of Icicle Ridge is the many ways that it can be approached.

From Leavenworth to the end of the Icicle Road several options attain the ridge. These numerous access points provide many one way hiking way opportunities. Janet Stanek and I did a fun version of Icicle Ridge that provided some bicycling as well.

We ditched her mountain bike in the woods near the Fourth of July trailhead. After returning to the Icicle Ridge trailhead near Leavenworth, we began our trek. The first 9 miles gain 6000 feet of elevation. We drank freely from the several quarts of water we were carrying and also located a source in the upper basin of Power Creek. Water gets increasingly scarce on this ridge as the season progresses.

We were the only ones on the ridge in the area of the Fourth of July trail that evening. The views from the former lookout site of the night lights of Wenatchee were impressive from this high vantage point.

We did the "tired thighs" descent of 5000 vertical feet the next day on the Fourth of July trail. It is in good shape except for a 1/2-mile section in the middle that goes through a forest of ceanothus. Major trimming is needed here.

Janet got the fast downhill bicycle ride back to her car while I safeguarded

the packs, an easy shaded task on a summer's day.

Flowers are prime on the ridge now. This ridge opens for backpacking probably a month before similar spots closer to the crest of the Cascades. Be prepared for big elevation changes and outstanding views in all directions.—Charlie Hickenbottom, Wenatchee, 7/6-8.

LEAVENWORTH DISTRICT—509-548-6977. Icicle road now open to the end. Eightmile road also open. Watch for logging trucks on these roads!

Icicle Ridge trail may be closed at times during logging. Call ranger station for schedule. Snow Lakes trail and parking area now open.

Enchantments has 95% snowcover in upper basin; 85% in lower basin. Expect meltout in early August. For Enchantment reservations, call 800-452-5687.

CLE ELUM DISTRICT—509-674-4411. Tremendous amount of flood damage. Crews are busy.—Ranger, 7/16.

NORTH BEND DISTRICT—206-888-1421. Middle Fork road is open to end, Dutch Miller Gap trailhead. All other roads open.

Denny Creek has bridge out; crossing could be dangerous.—Ranger, 7/3.

SKYKOMISH DISTRICT—360-677-2414. Foss River road is rough but open. West Fork Foss trail has bridge repaired but no handrail. Necklace Valley has new log at the 5-mile crossing.—Ranger, 7/3.

SOUTH CENTRAL



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow gone from roads and most trails, except patches in the highest passes.



MOUNT MARGARET

(*Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Chikamin Pk*)—The Kenworth Engineering Hike Club's Thursday hike had a good turn out of eight members. We met at the trailhead parking lot, having left I-90 at Exit 54 and followed road 4832 to road 4934 and turning left. Three of our slower members got a head start.

We caught the rest of the party before they entered the old growth forest. We soon hit the snow in the woods and could no longer follow the trail. We just went up on a heading that would bring us to the Margaret Lake trail intersection. It worked. A little way past this intersection is a side trail that gives a great overlook of the lakes and the summit and approach ridge.

From this point we followed the ridge to the false summit, then on to the true summit (5100 feet). The track was visible for short sections then disappeared under snow. The west slope of Margaret had plenty of snow with the east side clear and a very nice display of alpine flowers.—Fred Redman, Woodinville, 6/20.

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.

FOUND—Adjustable walking stick at Kachess Ridge trail. To claim, call Debbie, 206-881-5443.

FOUND—Hiking boots, complete with socks, at the Kachess Ridge/Silver Creek trailhead. Would really like to get them back to their owner. Call 206-363-6978 (Seattle) to identify.

FOR SALE—Sierra Designs tent, Stretch Dome. 3 to 4 person, 4 season.

1994 model with extended vestibule. Used only 10 nights. Call 360-895-3275 (Port Orchard).

FOR SALE—Pacific Water Sports "Seal" single kayak, good condition, paddle, cockpit cover. Very fast. \$1500. Roger Gray, Bremerton, 360-373-6642.

WE ARE LOOKING for families with children who are also avid backpackers. Please get in touch with us if your children have already climbed peaks in the 5000 to 6000 foot range and would be interested in climbing Mount Saint Helens this summer.

Sylvie and Larissa, 206-787-8072 (Edmonds).

FOR RENT by the week—Orcas Island waterfront cabin. Secluded area. Access to 1/2-mile of beach. Wildlife viewing; hiking; fishing; photography. Available May-Oct. Write 1819 Hickox Road, Mount Vernon WA 98273 for complete information; SASE appreciated.

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

FOUND—Front cover for Pioneer car stereo/cd player, at Tubal Cain trailhead. To claim, call Scott and Louise, 360-479-2196, and describe.

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MCCLELLAN BUTTE

(Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Chester Morse Lk)—This day the scheduled hike was McClellan Butte. Eight of us left the office parking lot with the usual enthusiasm and met at the trailhead parking lot (exit 42 on I-90).

A sign informed us that the trailhead was now .2-mile up road 55. Somewhat surprised we dutifully went to the new trailhead parking lot—a real thing of beauty with a new outhouse.

The new trail is a less direct route and eventually reaches the Iron Horse Trail without crossing Alice Creek. We then had to hike west on the Iron Horse Trail about ½-mile to pick up the trail. The trail from there up had had some recent work done on it.

At about 3500 feet we met a couple coming down. They excitedly told us to look out for the bear tracks above the trail overlooking the ponds. The first snow was at the first avalanche gully, then each gully crossing after. Once we entered the trees on the watershed boundary the trail was clear until the 4500 feet, then it was snow all the way.

We followed the obvious route in the snow until we had a choice of going up to the false summit or down to the ponds and across to the true summit, 5162 feet. We chose to go to the true summit. Doug Caley won the prize for the longest standing glissade down to the ponds.

The summit ridge was clear of snow but the steady rain and enveloping fog was enough for me to say "I'll wait here at the 5000-foot step." Five of the party braved the last 200 feet to the summit. A quick snack, added layers, cell phone home to report I'd be late and start back down.

Two of our party had fallen off the pace and had not reached the summit by the time we started down. Kicking steps up the slope from the ponds we heard voices calling from the false summit. It was our missing members, Tracker Wilker and Jack the Winny. Tracker had seen the bear tracks and declared them to be at least two days old. A quick descent got us down to the cars by 9:15.

The walk back along the Iron Horse Trail caused us to ask WHY? Our conclusion was that the new trail is now an easy access to the Iron Horse Trail and it saved having to build a new bridge over Alice Creek. The old trail was more scenic with the views of the creek and falls, and the ever present wire bindings for the old wooden water pipes. Is the "old trail" going to be maintained or access discouraged?—Fred Redman, Woodinville, 6/27.



PCT, Olallie Meadows south

(Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Lost Lk)—Seven of us from the Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club got out of our cars at Olallie Meadows to face 41 degrees and blowing mists. It wasn't raining, but the fog condensing on the trees showered us liberally until we got around the first ridge. After the heat of the previous week I took delight in my numb fingers!

The Forest Service has done a number of repairs on the PCT, including actually rerouting it in one spot. The trail is in good shape and the snow was gone almost everywhere. We were fortunate to have sun at Mirror Lake, and lolled for an hour with an early lunch, while Richard took his obligatory swim.

On the return we took the side trip to the unnamed lake at 4600 feet (just below Tinkham Peak). This is one of the little treasures of the northwest woods: not far from trail but unmarked and less-visited. Consequently it isn't too battered, and the beer-and-cigarette crowd haven't left their souvenirs for us.

On the hike out, we emerged from the shelter of the mountain's flank, back out into the blowing mists. It was warmer now though; it had gone up to 47!—Michael Leake, Issaquah, 7/9.



MILDRED POINT, COMET FALLS

(Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mt. Rainier West)—Bog orchids along side puncheon shortly before crossing bridge over Van Trump Creek.

The trail is moderately steep, lots of rock but most of it is 12" plus and embedded, much easier to walk on than small loose rock.

At 9:00 sun just hitting falls. Many shooting stars in boggy bank along trail beyond first view. Had intended to go on to Van Trump Park but checked out trail toward Mildred Point and find it open so go that way.

Some patchy snow on trail but melting fast and no problem. Fields of avalanche lilies, lovely. Follow ridge top to east to Mildred Point, 3.7 miles, 5935 feet. Have lunch. On the way back take photos of The Mountain and marmots.

Parking lot overflowing when I return at 4:20.—Paul G Schauffer, Olympia, 7/10.



SUNRISE (Rainier Natl Park; USGS Sunrise)

—A VERY hot Sunday! I had overheard a conversation by Richard N. in the Light Nursing Care units where I work about how he had loved seeing Mount Rainier whenever he was able to get within view of the mountain from a distance.

Talked to the nurses, and they said he could go, as long as he didn't overdo anything because of his heart. When I asked him if he wanted to visit Sunrise, he just beamed! So we drove on up. The snow is nearly gone and the flowers are just starting to pop out. I estimate the flower climax in about 3 more weeks, a little later than usual.

We took short strolls in the meadows, and Richard had a wonderful time talking to the rangers about the ecology. We watched the long strings of climbers heading up the Emmons Glacier. Richard bought a couple of souvenirs at the gift shop. He and I were both overwhelmed by the beauty and the closeness of the mountain. Richard chipped in my ear all the way there and back. He had me take a whole roll of photos, mostly of him with the rangers! —Larry Smith, Port Orchard, 7/14.



SUMMERLAND

(Rainier Natl Park; USGS White River Park, Mt Rainier East)—We ended up on the Summerland trail partly by default: the Mowich Lake road was still closed and most of the trails out of Sunrise remained under snow.

No complaints from our group of five, though, as the trail proved to be delightful.

The trail gently climbs through ancient forests and at about 3 miles crosses Fryingpan Creek, a picturesque and refreshing resting spot. The only significant climbing occurs in the last mile as you switchback up to Summerland campground. It was here that we encountered the first snow. At the top we were welcomed by backcountry Ranger Pam and ushered to a lovely camping spot (still covered by snow) complete with views of Rainier, Little Tahoma, and mountain goats which scampered on neighboring ridges.

After a starry night we made the short trip to Panhandle Gap, the highest point on the Wonderland Trail. This is a spot for great pictures, scrambles, and mountain goats. Indeed, we saw a group of about 8 sliding in the snow, making their way from high to low.

Bonnie, visiting from Massachusetts, marveled at the whole experience: Mounts Adams and Hood in the distance, icy slopes of Rainier underfoot, and not a cloud anywhere. We made our way to a summit of sorts, a peak topping out at just under 8000 feet. From there we all enjoyed the steep glissade down, newcomer Bonnie quickly mastering the skill while Linda C. couldn't match her friend's acumen. Even young Andrew, only 11, took to the sliding with relish. Our day was

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topped by another hearty meal and the patient wait as dusk gently gave way to the sky of a million stars.

The only trouble we had was Linda O. getting lost on the way down, scratching herself up while negotiating Fry- ingpan Creek instead of the trail. — Douglas Cuneo, Seattle, 7/5-7.

SKYSCRAPER, BUR- ROUGHS (*Rainier Natl Park; USGS Sunrise*)—We did a scramble out of Sunrise, planning to do a loop from Skyscraper to Burroughs 3 and back along the ridge.

That old saw that “on Rainier you can get snow in July” has a lot of merit. We left the Sunrise parking lot in a 45 degree breeze. I was very glad I had grabbed that extra fleece shirt on the way out the door. We started out a good clip. At 6400 feet, you feel the altitude, and the 400 foot gain up to the Wonderland Trail was more than enough to warm us up.

Except for a few low spots in basins, the Wonderland looks free of snow, and what is left is melting fast. Skyscraper (7078) makes an interesting alternative to Fremont (7181), though it doesn't have the lookout to climb. It doesn't have a built trail; however, the boot path gets enough use that you can easily follow it and restrict your impacts to the area already trod on.

Crossing to Burroughs 3 puts you into another world. The unstable volcanic slopes are loose underfoot and encourage lots of slides unless one is purposeful about every step. So we were lucky to have considerable snow cover on these steep north-facing slopes and bowls. We were not so lucky to have solid white-out conditions.

Between the thick clouds and the glare coming off the snow, visibility was all of 100 feet. So with compass and altimeter we picked our way up the easier slopes on the mountain's west end (skirting west of the cliffs on the ridge connecting Skyscraper and Burroughs). The summit (7828) must have been near the top of the clouds, because we could feel the sun's heat when we broke for a late lunch.

The trip back along the ridge was straightforward. Burroughs 2 is snow free and we saw a number of parties there. As usual, a few people had come in wearing only tennis shoes. And no one appeared to have brought an ice axe. In another couple of weeks the trail should be all snowfree; but I was concerned to see that the most exposed sections of the trail above Berkeley Park were the parts with the most snow. Fortunately, there were no signs



Jake at Paradise; Mount Rainier National Park.

Larry Smith

anyone had fallen.—Michael Leake, Issaquah, 7/20.

CHUTLA-WAHPENAYO NOTCH (*Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mt Rainier West, Wahpenayo Pk*)—View of Mount Rainier similar to that from Eagle Peak saddle except that Chutla cuts off less of the view of Rainier. Views of the undulating snowfields off the north face of Wahpenayo are the objective of this excursion.

Left Longmire, 2800 feet, 8:45am. Followed snowfree, logged out, well graded Eagle Peak Saddle trail to end of maintained trail. At 11:15 headed toward notch visible from this point. Crossed unstable talus and areas vegetated with phlox, beargrass, huckleberry. Stayed above trees and below cliffs, mostly on vague animal trails. (Would normally call them game trails but was in National Park).

At notch at 12:30, 5600 feet. Clouds built, visibility to west decreased and cold wet breeze hit. Left at 2pm. Angled down and westerly to maintained trail. Hele bore about 8 inches high. Looked like cheap little green cigars. Reached trail at 2:40, bridges at 3 and Longmire at 4pm. Most frequently asked question by those I encountered on way down was, “How much farther is it?”—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 6/21.

CORA LAKE (*Gifford Pin- chot Natl Forest; USGS Saw- tooth Ridge*)—Our hiking party of three geezers and one whippersnapper left Olympia looking for a day hike with good views and not too much elevation

gain. We decided on Mount Beljica, in the Glacier View wilderness west of Mount Rainier.

Unfortunately, the access road up from the highway east of Ashford is still closed 3 miles in, due to last winter's storm damage. Not wanting a long dose of road hiking, we regrouped and drove out the Skate Creek road to the Big Creek campground. The bulletin board map at the campground entrance let us plan alternates.

We settled on the trail to Cora Lake, north of the High Rock lookout tower. Follow the well-marked road system, taking the 8420 road up to the trailhead. The trailhead itself is unsigned, but is easily located 50 yards below where the 8420 road maintenance ends.

The first 200 yards of the trail are badly gullied, but don't despair. Beyond that point, the trail is a well graded path through a lovely old growth forest.

The trail switchbacks uphill, crossing an impressive cascading stream a couple of times. Particularly notable are the fine examples of old growth western hemlock, reaching 4 feet in diameter in a forest growing at 4000 feet elevation or so.

Cora Lake is a delight, larger than most mountain lakes, with quiet campsites, jumping fish, and no other people on a sunny Sunday morning. We continued uphill from the lake, coming to a marked trail junction that led west to Granite and Bertha May Lakes.

We elected to follow the trail up to the top of the basin above Cora Lake, however, and gained the ridgecrest at about 5000 feet. We scouted off trail

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from there to the west, looking for a route up onto the summit of High Rock itself, but quickly ran into steep cliffs with no apparent easy route up.

Instead we followed a way trail east onto the steep ridgecrest, and eventually made our way to the high point of this rather exposed crest. The reward is grandstand views looking directly up the Kautz Creek drainage to Mount Rainier, with good views to Saint Helens, Adams, and the Goat Rocks as well.

All this for an elevation gain of about 1500 feet on easy trails through some very interesting country. Recommended!—Cleve Pinnix, Olympia, 7/7.

SHEEP LAKE (*Rainier Natl Park; USGS White River Park, Norse Pk*)—The restroom at the parking area was still buried in about 10 feet of snow; however, the trail was snowfree in about 100 yards and it was dry for the next mile. When the trail turned northwest and began to climb, we encountered snow again but the trail was well marked to the lake.

The lake was beautiful, nestled within an outer ring of snow for about 200 yards on all sides. The sides of the surrounding mountains were mostly free of snow. We wandered cross-country east of the lake and found a great spot for a long picnic.

I brought my new binoculars and enjoyed scanning the horizon, including the Goat Rocks. The weather was perfect for sunbathing; however, we forgot sunblock and ended up with some sunburn. We did not see anyone else the whole day.—Tom Taylor, Olympia, 7/5.

RUSSELL RIDGE LOOP (*William O. Douglas Wilderness; USGS Rimrock Lk, Spiral Butte*)—I drove over White Pass on a sunny Saturday afternoon, turning off on Wildcat Creek road 1306 about a mile past the Rimrock dam.

In 2 miles keep left on road 1362, wind past the Post Pile columnar basalt formation, and in another ½-mile keep left on road 1381. The road climbs high above Rimrock reservoir and onto the ridge. Downed firs block the road at 7.5 and 8.5 miles, each having a tortuous 4-wheel-drive bypass. Trailhead parking at the ridge crest, 9 miles from the highway.

The trail leg leading westward to ridge meadows is across the road and unmarked. I instead followed trail 1111 signs leading north and downhill 1.2 miles to Wildcat Creek, the route skirting a clearcut much of the way. A good bridge crosses the creek to the trail 1113 junction, where I turned west and

entered the Douglas Wilderness.

A 2 mile gentle ascent through a succession of grassy meadows led to the Ironstone Mountain trail 1141 junction (in the shadow of its namesake), and the first of several encounters with herds of elk.

Trail 1141 rambles west ½-mile to Fox Meadow, then angles 90 degrees and heads south another ½-mile skirting the creek headwaters. At the next junction trail 1141 goes right (northwest); to the left, in a few yards is the Wilderness exit and the junction of the Russell Ridge and Andy Creek (trail 1110) trails. (The trail signs incorrectly label both forks as Trail 1111).

From here, Russell Ridge trail winds 3.4 miles back to the trailhead, with fine views of the Goat Rocks peaks. The tread shows some motorbike use, despite several blowdowns. Only a modest flower display in the meadows.—Andy Carr, Bellevue, 7/6.

AMERICAN RIDGE EAST (*William O. Douglas Wilderness; USGS Old Scab Mtn, Goose Prairie*)—I left my truck at the Goat Creek trailhead and bicycled 5 miles back down the Goose Prairie road to Trail 958's east trailhead, near Cedar Springs campground.

The first 2 miles are a reasonable ridge ascent to a 3700-foot viewpoint. The trail then turns super steep up to a 4500-foot knife edge on the ridge, where the traversing tread is sketchy and treacherous. You then perversely lose 400 feet just as steeply! The next 4 miles are viewless, gradually climbing to 5100 feet.

I was fairly winded now, and the looming aspect of Goat Peak was downright demoralizing. 1400 feet elevation gain in 1¼ miles—I took it slow, very slow. Trail 958C junction is at 5800 feet, higher than shown on Green Trails map 271. The views of Rainier, Aix and Bumping Lake were a fine recompense.

The descent via Goat Creek trail 959 lost 3400 feet in 5 miles and Jello-ed my knees. A 13-mile "loop."—Andy Carr, Bellevue, 7/7.

CAYUSE PASS—Now open, with traffic signals allowing one-lane traffic, alternating north and south. Construction on a permanent repair will start this fall.—Ranger, 6/19.

CARBON RIVER ROAD—Closed for 1996, but foot and bicycle traffic okay.—Ranger, 7/10.

GREENWATER ROAD 70—Closed at 7 miles due to severe flood damage.

Trailheads beyond the closure are inaccessible.—Ranger, 7/7.

HIGHWAY 410—Reconstruction continues between mileposts 48 and 54. Thirty minute delays Monday through Thursday.—Ranger, 7/7.

PHONE NUMBERS—White River Ranger Station, 360-825-6585. Naches Ranger Station, 509-655-2205. Mount Rainier Park, 360-569-2211.



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Snow gone from roads and trails, except patches in the highest passes.

JUNE LAKE (*St Helens NVM; USGS Mt St Helens*)—After visiting and being very impressed at the Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center, we felt the need to work our leg muscles.

We drove back to I-5, south to Woodland, east on 503 to Cougar, up road 83, past Marble Mountain Sno-Park, to the June Lake trailhead. The trail is an easy 1.5 miles with only a 500-foot gain. The lake is small but beautiful with a 100-foot waterfall cascading into it.

We hiked above the lake, past the Loowit Trail 216, out onto the lava Worm Flows for lunch and a nap. It was a very pleasant hike.—Tom Taylor, Olympia, 6/21.

GIFFORD PINCHOT NATL FOREST—The Windy Ridge viewpoint and road 99 is now open on weekends only; closed Mondays through Thursdays. Road 25 from Randle to Pine Creek is now open, with portions of one-lane travel while repairs are completed.

Roads still closed are 2304, 26, 53, 54, 59, 60, 63, 68 (portion), 74, 8117, 8322, 86, 90.—Ranger, 7/17.

CONRAD MEADOWS—The South Fork Tieton road 1000 is closed for repairs.—Ranger, 7/1.

PHONE NUMBERS—Mount Adams Ranger Station, 509-395-3400. Saint Helens NVM, 360-750-3900. Packwood Ranger Station, 360-494-0600. Randle Ranger Station, 360-497-1100. Wind River Ranger Station, 509-427-3200.

CHARLIE HICKENBOTTOM

CATHEDRAL PEAK

—SCHOOL'S OUT IN THE PASAYTEN—

Dave Brannon and I enjoyed five days in the uncrowded northeast section of the Pasayten Wilderness at the end of June. Amid a variety of weather conditions, we found conditions favorable enough to complete three climbs: a stroll up Apex Peak; a Class 3 scramble of Cathedral Peak; and a technical ascent of The Monk.

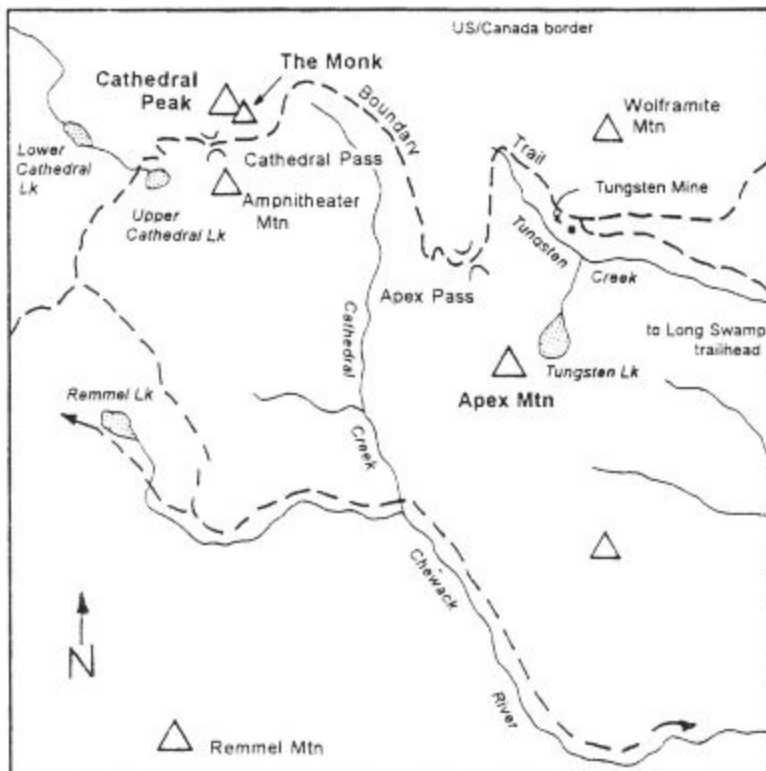
Dave created a window of time between his college finals and his summer job with the Forest Service. I finished my duties as an elementary teacher and began my summer leave. We were both in pretty good moods with the completion of our respective school year obligations.

The trek to Cathedral Peak can be done from several directions. We began from Long Swamp (shortest connections from Tonasket), since that enabled us to spend an evening in town with my older brother Gary. This trailhead results in the first 2 miles being downhill. It also means that one has to save energy for an upward pull at the end of the trip.

Our first afternoon on the trail included sunshine and later a hail/snow mixture. We managed 12 miles to the cabins near Tungsten Mine and were thankful for the comfortable shelter. The mining history in the area is fascinating. Many mining relics remain. The effort to get the various machinery on location must have been great.

Cold, blustery weather punctuated the second day, but we managed a walk to the summit of Apex Mountain and established a high camp on the ridge crest north of Apex Pass.

It was Dave's first visit to the area. The views of Cathedral Peak from here



are astounding. The steep cliffs of the south face and southeast buttress form a stark contrast with the largely rolling, green hillsides of the Pasayten.

Day three we moved our camp to the base of the south face and climbed The Monk in the afternoon. Steep, off-width cracks tested our resolve. I was pleased to finally complete a technical climb on my third visit to this area.

That evening we fell asleep at dusk. We felt the fatigue from the unrelenting steep climb and also carrying heavy packs for three days.

The fourth day we slept in until the warmth of the sun chased us out of our bags about ten o'clock. By noon we were on the summit of Cathedral Peak. The Class 3 sections are easy, but exposed in places. We climbed with caution as well as exuberance. It felt great to be carrying such a light pack that morning. We saw only three other

people during our trip, but curiously enough, they appeared at the summit as we were beginning our down climb.

The long return hike (16 miles) began that afternoon. We made it as far as the crossing of Horseshoe Creek by early evening. The bridge crossing has washed out. A somewhat precarious footlog is perhaps one quarter of a mile upstream from the confluence on the Chewack River.

We noticed mosquitoes that evening for the first time. It is near their time. The cool, damp spring may herald a bumper crop this summer.

The next morning we finished the trek. The final uphill 2 miles includes a few steep slopes and takes about one hour. The Chewack and Tungsten trails were logged

out during our visit.

Trails were snowfree to almost 7000 feet on south facing slopes. Between Tungsten Mine and Cathedral Pass was significant soft snow which taxed our patience and energy.

Charlie Hickenbottom, of Wenatchee, is a teacher who spends his free time hiking, climbing, skiing and mountain biking.

WALT CARRIVEAU

Around Mount Rainier

—THE WONDERLAND TRAIL, AUGUST 1936—

The secret to the success and enjoyment of my hike around Mount Rainier sixty years ago was in being lucky enough to have a perfect partner.

That perfect partner was my longtime friend, Roy Johnson, a tireless, uncomplaining hiker, a superb photographer, and above all, very tolerant of my incessant chattering.

Roy and I, except for our love of the outdoors, and particularly Mount Rainier, were an oddly matched pair. I am short and stocky, with short rapid strides, and quite loquacious, with a French Canadian decendency.

Roy is tall and rangy, with a long, strong stride, and not given to be talkative. He is of Scandinavian descent and embodies all of the fine characteristics of those good people.

We carried 65-pound packs, mine being a factory made Trapper Nelson pack, while Roy preferred a packboard on which he roped a package-like bundle of gear, in the manner of the early voyageurs.

Roy carried a professional type Speed Graphic camera, and I carried an old #2 A Brownie box camera, made before World War I, with a German-made lens. Roy got superb photographs. I got just pictures.

Roy wore army issue GI shoes, which were rugged and very comfortable. I wore high-topped, laced hiking boots, and the then-popular hiking britches. Leather jackets and felt hats topped off our outfits.

Our hike started from beautiful Mowich Lake on August 30th, 1936, and ended on September 8th. Mowich Lake is the largest lake on the mountain and at that time was considered an ideal starting point for the hike.

On the first day we headed for Golden Lakes and the South Mowich River. The weather was perfect and the



Walt Carriveau makes notes in his journal on the Wonderland Trail.

Roy Johnson

3.7 miles downhill going took us to the South Mowich River shelter cabin in time for a trail lunch.

The shelter cabin was in excellent condition, but unusually heavy spring runoffs had made a shambles of the riverbed and riverbanks. Downed trees carried by the swollen river were strewn all over.

After lunch and a bit of exploring, we resumed our hike and arrived at Golden Lakes by dinnertime. There we saw beautiful reflections of The Mountain and took some pictures.

We saw many deer tracks in the muddy lake shore, but no deer. We then hiked on to Sunset Park, where we found a very fine shelter cabin, with a good set of bunks and even a small cooking stove. We had hiked 11½ miles this day, with some of it hard going.

On our second day we left Sunset Park for Klapatche Park. We hiked 4 miles to the end of a road before it started raining. We took off our leather jackets and covered our packs with them. The jackets soon got soaked through, adding to the weight of our packs, but keeping the contents and our bedding dry.

We arrived at Klapatche Park shelter cabin at dinnertime, tired, wet and hungry. After dinner we dried our clothes, and went to bed, listening to the constant rain on the shelter cabin roof until

we fell asleep. We had hiked 7 miles this day, all hard, wet going.

On the third day we left Klapatche Park for Lake George, with a cloudy sky and the threat of more rain. We passed through Saint Andrews Park and proceeded on a road, where a Park employee gave us a 1-mile ride along the way. By a coincidence, the driver's name was the same as my wife's father's name, but no relative.

We arrived at Lake George to find the shelter cabin occupied by two teen-aged boys from Tacoma. The boys were sloppy campers and had their gear scattered all over the cabin.

They reluctantly gathered up some of their gear so we could have room to sleep that night. It was still raining and we had hiked only 5 miles this day.

On the fourth day we awakened early to find it still raining. We had a good breakfast and left for Indian Henry's Hunting Grounds. We hiked on a service road for 3 miles to the Tahoma Creek campgrounds.

From there we left the road and proceeded on a good trail for 6 miles to find the shelter cabin at Indian Henry's Hunting Grounds. It was still raining and quite foggy, making it difficult to search for the shelter cabin.

Roy and I separated and cast about in circles staying within hearing distance of each other. After about 15 minutes I spotted the eaves of the shelter cabin through the fog.

I signaled to Roy and we met at the shelter cabin, a well-built three-sided, open-front structure built of cedar logs. It contained a good bunk against one wall, a crudely built table and a rudimentary stove made from odds and ends salvaged from an old stove.

We were soon taking off our wet packs and wet clothes in the cabin and got a fire going with dry wood that some considerate hiker had left. We had hiked all day in the rain, and we were wet and hungry, so we made a

good dinner while our gear dried out.

To celebrate our arrival at this place we decided to make a dessert treat for dinner. We used some of our dried apricots and some of our precious Bisquick to make apricot turnovers. That topped off our chili dinner nicely.

Just as we finished our meal it stopped raining, the fog lifted and we were treated to a magnificent closeup view of the glorious mountain. The rain we had endured had been snow on the mountain, clothing it with a pristine mantle of white and glistening snow.

The rain had cleared the air and visibility was perfect. We took pictures but in about ten minutes the fog closed in again and the mountain disappeared from sight.

We saw several deer in the meadow near the shelter cabin during the clear period. This day we hiked 9 miles, all wet, uphill going. In some places the rain had created gullies in the middle of the trail, making hiking difficult.

On the fifth day we spent some time in the early morning exploring the parklike Indian Henry's Hunting Grounds. We found a beautiful reflection pool and took pictures of the faithful reflections of the mountain.

The morning was clear and bright and we savored the views of the grand mountain before reluctantly leaving the area. We had never before seen such a beautiful mountain meadow.

As we left the area we passed the much-photographed Mirror Lake. Like so many other hikers before us, we photographed the high fidelity reflections in the jewel-like lake.

Near the lake we saw several deer



Roy Johnson

Walt Cariveau, at the end of the hike.

and a bear, but could not get a picture of the wary bear. Our opportunity to experience the interest of wildlife sightings was greatly enhanced by the sighting of mountain goats on the steep flanks of Pyramid Peak, which overlooks the mountain meadow of Indian Henry's Hunting Grounds.

As we headed toward the Longmire area we passed Squaw Lake and observed the Devil's Dream Canyon, a terrible gash in the face of the mountain.

About this time, I discovered the "bargain" undershorts that I had bought as extras for the hike had not been a bargain after all. I had them on for the first time the day we hiked to Indian Henry's Hunting Grounds.

As they were quite wet anyway when we arrived at the shelter cabin, I decided to wash them out, along with a few other small items. Shortly after leaving Squaw Lake I noticed that the bargain undershorts seemed to be a lot smaller than they were when I first wore them.

We hadn't gone much farther when I realized that the shorts were beginning to bind and chafe me in a decidedly annoying manner. As I was wearing hiking britches and hightopped laced boots, I knew that getting out of the shorts would be no easy task.

Rather than undress to get rid of the shorts, I arrived at the brilliant idea of cutting them off with my trusty pocket knife. This I did, having dropped the britches far enough to operate on the pesky shorts.

After having cut up the shorts enough to get free of them, I then had the problem of disposing of them. I soon saw a large rock alongside the trail, which I proceeded to move, deposited the shorts under it, and put it back in its original place. (A word to the wise: Don't go hiking in bargain undershorts.)

As we proceeded downhill towards Longmire we passed Fishers Hornpipe Creek and we made good time on the dry trail, but the sky was overcast as we reached Kautz Creek. It had not rained in that area.

We continued toward Longmire, a resort built around a group of mineral springs. We had lunch there and tasted the water of the Soda Springs before leaving the area to head for the world renowned Paradise Valley.

We saw Narada Falls and photographed the graceful beauty of lacelike water dropping into a pool below. From

there an hour of brisk hiking took us to Paradise Lodge, a mecca for most Mount Rainier visitors.

It was very foggy when we reached the cabins near Paradise Lodge. We rented a cabin and proceeded to make ourselves a good dinner on the best cooking facilities we had seen since leaving home.

Roy and I always shared the cooking and cleanup duties, and never once did I ever hear him complain about my cooking efforts. However, I have heard other hiking partners say that my cooking would cure a dog from begging at the table.

While we were eating our dinner the fog cleared and the main mountain and adjoining peaks appeared in all their glory. Fresh snow highlighted the awesome beauty of that mountain we loved so well, and we were afforded a visual treat that we will never forget.

After photographing the beauties of the snowclad mountain we returned to our cabin, did a washing and then retired, exhausted, but happy and contented. This day we had hiked 12½ miles.

On the sixth day we awakened to a brilliant, clear day. The entire mountain was in full view and small patches of fog lay like water in the low spots in the lower valleys. It was easy to understand why the Indians once worshipped this mountain as a god.

We took several pictures of the ever-delightful Paradise Valley area before leaving for the Nickle Creek shelter cabin. On the way we saw several calm lakes and enjoyed more views of the awesome mountain that has defied the elements for so many centuries. It



Walt Cariveau

Roy Johnson, at the end of the hike.



Walt Carriveau on the Wonderland Trail.

looked close enough for us to reach out and touch.

We also passed Pinnacle Peak and Lake Louise, with more scenic reflections of the mountain. We then passed the filmy Martha Falls, Sylvia Falls and Maple Creek, all of which gave us good picture possibilities.

We soon came to Box Canyon, one of the oddest yet most interesting sights on the mountain. It is a deep, narrow canyon, cut into the side of a ridge, in a place where one would not expect to find it. Deep shadows in the canyon prevented good photographs.

After leaving this unusual natural curiosity we continued toward the Nickle Creek shelter cabin. Upon reaching it we discovered that it was a good cabin, but completely devoid of any furnishings, except for a very small stove.

We contrived a makeshift table, and as the dust was ankle deep in the cabin, we could not put our sleeping gear on the ground. We borrowed two folding iron cots from a nearby CCC camp and slept the night in comfort.

The Nickle Creek park ranger was a congenial young man, strongly addicted to paperback Western novels, and dressed in western garb, including ten-gallon hat, gaudy shirt, jeans and cowboy boots. We had hiked 9 miles this day.

On the seventh day we left Nickle Creek for Indian Bar, reached only by some of the steepest climbing we had yet encountered. We passed a very pretty waterfall, with the unusual name of Wauhaukaupaukin Falls. We took pictures and then proceeded to Indian Bar, all uphill going on a rocky trail.

As the name implies, Indian Bar was a sandbar on a gravelly creek bottom. The cabin was poorly built of small diameter, crooked logs, with wide, uncalked spaces between the logs.

The logs were so poorly fitted that I

was able to put our small cooking pan between the logs as I cooked breakfast. The oatmeal mush cooled nicely as the pan sat in the space between the logs to cool off. We were lucky that there had been no cold wind that night.

On the eighth day we left Indian Bar with no regrets. It had been the only undesirable shelter we encountered. We headed for Summerland on a trail that afforded beautiful scenic views of the main

mountain and the surrounding countryside.

In bright sunshine we climbed steadily to an elevation of 7000 feet, and it was the most interesting hike so far. We got beautiful, clear views of Mount Adams and Mount Saint Helens from high places on the trail. Excellent visibility made for good picture taking.

We passed Ohanepecosh Glacier and also Frying Pan Glacier, as well as Frying Pan Divide, the highest point we reached on our long circuit of the mountain.

We saw a very swift and turbulent stream that came from this glacier before we reached the Summerland shelter cabin, which boasted a natural stone cabin that treated us to the "solid comfort" of a bunk rack made of natural stone.

We had arrived at Summerland at lunchtime and after lunch we proceeded toward Yakima Park. Upon our arrival we found the camping area very crowded with holiday campers, and there were no rental cabins available.

From past experiences on the mountain we sensed that a mountain storm was approaching and that some kind of shelter was a necessity. We opted for a

snug haven under the low spreading branches of a group of alpine fir trees.

At this campground we became acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Wright and their twelve-year-old son Laurence. They were

novice campers and had pitched their wall tent very poorly.

We told them of the impending storm, with accompanying high winds, and suggested that they permit Roy and me to do a better job of tent pitching for them.

This we did, before crawling with our bedding to a sheltered space under our circle of trees. The storm did hit and our cozy nook turned out to be an ideal shelter, not only from the wind, but from the rain also.

The Wright's tent survived, but other poorly pitched tents in the area didn't. The Wrights were sincerely grateful and we became well acquainted with them and their son.

Their young son was greatly impressed and really fascinated by his first trip to the mountain and we made arrangements to visit the family in Seattle and show them the pictures we had taken on our hike.

As a result of our subsequent visit, I made arrangements to take the boy to Indian Henry's with me the following year, as Roy was unable to go with me. But that's another story. On that eighth day we had hiked 12½ miles.

On the ninth day we awakened to a clear beautiful day. After breakfast we hit the trail for Moraine Park. We hiked through some beautiful country before reaching the snout of the Winthrop Glacier, the second largest glacier on the mountain. We took pictures before continuing.

We passed the West Fork of the White River and headed uphill toward Mystic Lake, a pretty lake with good reflections, and with a well-built shelter cabin. The cabin was occupied by two women, who found it hard to believe that we hiked so far on the mountain. They had

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Roy Johnson near Willis Wall.

CHARLES BAGLEY

Boundary Waters

—BEAUTY, SNOW AND POLITICS IN MINNESOTA—

September 19, 1995—back to Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA) for the first time in years.

After many visits to Quetico Park, we decided to take a late season run through the center of the BWCA, hoping to miss the fabled midsummer crowds. Our We-no-nah Odyssey canoe zipped eastward through Birch Lake in the cool water and air, more suggestive of mid-fall than the end of summer. A family of otters crossed the lake ahead of us.

Portages onward: Carp Lake, Melon Lake, Seed Lake, Portage Lake and finally east end of Knife Lake where in late afternoon we pulled into a small campsite on the end of Robinson Island.

A quick dinner, centered around couscous, as usual, with various additives. That night—wow was it cold for summer-weight bags! The next morning we saw why—everything was rimed in frost sparkling in the morning sun.

Our breakfast was a whole pound of bacon and fresh eggs! For the two of us, it was a heavy load but the six ounces of grease poured off into the Nalgene jar carried for the purpose supplied us with cooking grease for the rest of our trip.

As we set off, the clouds moved in and the temperature hovered at 40. On a large island in the south arm we found another beautiful campsite and spotted in the distance the only other people we had seen all day camped on the south shore.

Another cold night. We took our ponchos, fortunately dry, and wrapped in them before getting into our summer-weight bags to let them serve as a "vapor barrier" liner. This improved the bag's warmth considerably.

The next day, intermittent rain and sleet. We huddled in the tent the whole day, the weather clearing just enough to allow us to cook dinner.

September 22, onward to Eddy, Jean, Annie and Ogishkemuncie Lakes. I had been through this area just once before, nearly 40 years ago. Nothing looked fa-

miliar. However, I had caught my 15 pound Northern somewhere in Jenny, still the largest fresh water fish I have ever hooked.

Then, out of a southeast cove of Ogish over the notorious 80 rod portage to Mueller Lake. Actually, the trail is in great shape, just one steep uphill stretch. Then, through the small chain of lakes to Agamok crossing the Kekekabic hiking trail. It had been mostly sunny all morning, and yet giant storm clouds were moving in.

Our last sunbeams illuminated a brilliant red maple growing out of an impossibly small crack in a huge expanse of granite near the shore. Then, onto the short portage to Gabimichigami.

At this shore of this lake, our previous expedition of years ago had been stopped by high wind and waves. Now, the breezes seemed gentle, although chunky storm clouds were heading in.

Only a little over a mile across, we should make it in 20 minutes. The key was to hit the far shore at the narrow channel that led into the next portage. Could we beat the storm? We thought so and off we went at full speed.

SNOW

But the wind picked up, and halfway across—were those really snowflakes?—they were! Giant flakes came pounding down on us as the waves increased and small white caps formed.

The far shore temporarily disappeared from view but compass directions kept us on course. Soon, cliffs emerged out of the white sheet ahead of us.

Since I had "borne off" a bit to the right, we turned left and, following the cliff line, soon entered the comparative safety of the channel, at least free of the wind, though the snow came down ever harder.

At the portage, we hurled things ashore, put up our tarp and crawled under it in a frantic effort to stave off hypothermia. The snow whipped in for a half-hour and suddenly cleared. It was

bright sunshine once more!

Then onward to Rattle Lake and finally our target, Little Saganaga. This marvelous lake is peppered with gorgeous islands and great campsites. We picked up driftwood washed high upon rocks as we went and thus took plenty of dry firewood to our campsite near the center of the lake.

Here as elsewhere, we stayed strictly at the official BWCA designated campsites conveniently shown by huge red dots on the W.A. Fisher Company maps (you need maps F12, F31, and F11 to cover this route. W.A. Fisher Company, PO Box 1107, Virginia MN 55792).

Again, the nights were bitter cold. We had chosen late September to get moonless skies and hoped to see northern lights, but hitherto clouds had blocked all view. Finally, this evening at about midnight, standing in bitter cold wind, we saw a great stretch of white with green trimming across the entire northern horizon.

SUN AGAIN

September 23, a gorgeous sunny day! Hard to believe this was the same lake and season. We cruised around Little Saganaga admiring many campsites, islands, beaches and reefs. No other souls anywhere.

But the ceaseless cold was getting to us. It was impossible to swim or wash effectively. We had planned another day at Little Saganaga but decided we had had it. To help our motivation, the gray skies and threatening snows were back again.

On southwestward through nameless lakes as well as Elton, Makwa, Panhandle, Pan, Anit, Kivaniva, and finally the "Kawishiwi River," really a string of lakes following an irregular fault line toward the southwest with only occasional portages. The initial lakes were small, reedy and not very exciting. On Panhandle Lake we saw the largest beaver dam that I have ever seen anywhere, over 200 yards long and

a good 20 or 30 feet above the former lake outlet.

Then, onto the south shore of Alice Lake, yet another gorgeous campsite. This day we were trying to move fast and so went through 13 portages totaling 598 rods and 12 miles of lake paddling in 7½ hours.

Here on Alice Lake as elsewhere, we found campsites in excellent condition. They were all well situated on either rock or patchy grass. Plenty of space for multiple tents, good access to water, and frequently superb sites for swimming (although we didn't try it in the 35-degree water).

The Forest Service's summer use limitations were succeeding in keeping human impacts tolerable here.

Our last day, on westward through the gigantic Lake Insula, an easy place to get lost, Hudson Lake and Lakes 4, 3, 2 and 1, their shores all considerably altered by clear-cut logging at the turn of the century and the dams constructed by the loggers to allow motorized launches on the lakes.

We pulled into Kawishiwi Lodge,

where we had left our car, at sunset, having covered 10 portages, 250 rods and 18 miles of paddling in 8½ hours.

POLITICS

The BWCA is under attack again. An alliance of commercial interests and others seeks to degrade the quality of the BWCA.

With their urging, and a considerable push from local state legislators from northern Minnesota, US Congressman James Oberstar (D-MN) has introduced HR3297 in the House of Representatives.

This bill would open more lakes to motor boat use, specifically all of Birch Lake, Basswood Lake, Lac La Croix, and Saganaga. Currently, two of these border lakes have all of their American waters closed to motor boats and two (Basswood, Saganaga) have about 30% open to motor power. These are among the most beautiful and popular of the border lakes. Canoeists' quality of wilderness experience will be destroyed by motor boats if HR3297 is passed.

Other bad provisions of the bill in-

cluding continuing truck and jeep entry into the BWCA and increasing motor boat use on many lakes.

HR3297 can only be stopped if we here on the West Coast write to our own members of Congress and ask them to oppose HR3297. Please do so!

△

Charles Bagley is a physician at the Northwest Cancer Center. He and his wife Nancy live in Seattle.

Around Mount Rainier

continued from page 24

been taken to the cabin on horseback.

After a good lunch we left Mystic Lake and continued our hike toward Moraine Park, our objective for the day. The trail was good, but all uphill climbing.

We reached Moraine Park in time to prepare dinner in daylight. We found the cabin in good condition and well furnished. There was a good stove, table and bunk and even a lamp with plenty of kerosene.

The cabin had been built on a hillside by a group of Boy Scouts, and was cabled to the side of the mountain to prevent it from sliding down the steep slope. We had a comfortable sleep that night, after having hiked 11 miles that day.

On the tenth day we arose early and headed out on the last lap of our grand circuit of our beloved mountain, which started and would end at the beautiful Mowich Lake.

We merged into the Mowich Lake trail at midmorning and hiked on it until noon. After a good lunch we started up Ipsut Pass, with its many steep

switchbacks that slowed us down considerably.

We reached Mowich Lake at mid-afternoon and again enjoyed the sight of that beautiful lake. We had a good snack there and then hiked 3½ miles down the service road to meet my relatives, who would drive us and our gear back to Seattle. We had hiked 17½ miles this day.

On our last day on the mountain we took my relatives, Doris, Louis and Maurie Cummings on a 4-mile hike to show them a magnificent view of our glorious mountain before hiking down the trail to the waiting car.

On the way down we missed the shortcut to the park gate and ended up in a dense forest, where we hiked for twenty minutes before we rejoined the main trail again. So much for shortcuts.

We soon reached the car and the end of a wonderful adventure. It was a never-to-be-forgotten experience, shared by a dear friend, ideal companion, and a perfect trail partner.

I dedicate this account of our hike to that wonderful friend, Roy Johnson,

and with him I share this short poem, written by Clark E. Schurman, another man who loved the mountain dearly.

Last campfires never die,
and you and I
On separate ways to
life's December,
Will always dream by
this last fire
And have this mountain
to remember.

△

Walt Carriveau and his wife Velma celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary at the end of July, along with Walt's 86th birthday. Walt grew up in Ballard, but in 1946 was transferred by Sears and Roebuck to Spokane, where he still lives.

Roy Johnson and his wife Margaret live in Ballard.

JOHN ROPER

THE PEAKS and LANDFORMS of MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

—FASCINATION WITH RAINIER LEADS TO NEW CLIMBING GOALS AND A LONG LIST—

Mount Rainier National Park is still largely a mystery to me. My native state's highest 14,410-foot summit has beckoned a couple of times, and I've made separate trips to Liberty Cap, 14,112 feet, and Little Tahoma, 11,138 feet.

But growing up in the North Cascades, Mount Rainier always seemed a long way south, attracting climbers of a whole different mind set.

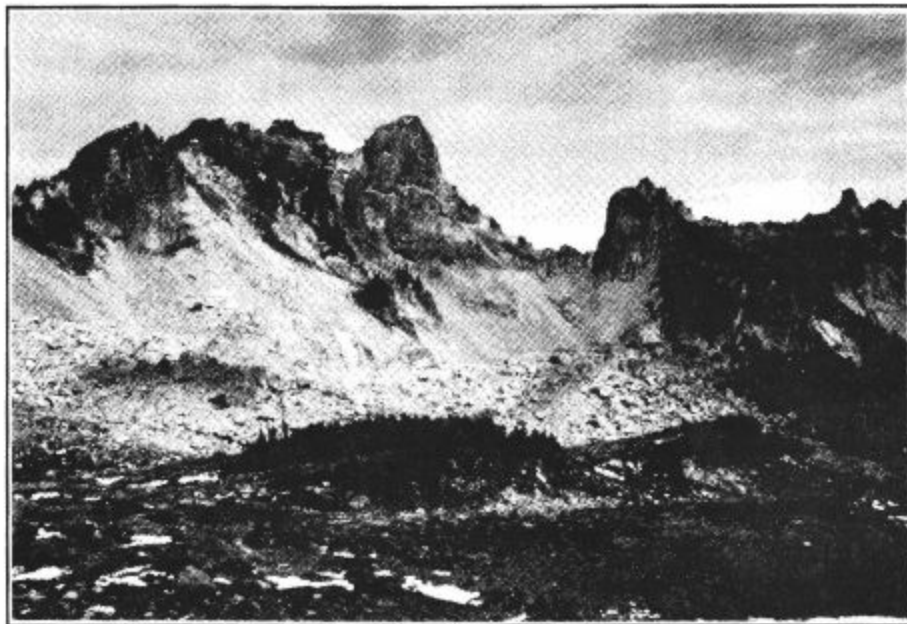
Landforms and Maps of Mount Rainier National Park

Over the years, my mountain interests have drifted south as the knowledge holes up north filled in, so now I have a new fascination with the state's symbol. For a while now, I'd thought of getting around to listing the Rainier-associated peaks, just to give myself a fresh set of climbing goals to work on.

Then out of the blue, Fred Beavon lit a fire under my tail when he sent me his list of the "Named High Points in Mount Rainier National Park," a great tally of 118 summits.

That got me looking at the maps in earnest. I started writing down all the named mountainous landforms I could see (peaks, caps, mounts, mountains, cliffs, crests, walls, spires, bars, pinnacles, ranges, crests, ridges, "islands," divides, faces, prows, cleavers, rocks, benchmarks, points, vistas, and divides), and their elevations.

It takes 14 different 7.5-minute USGS quads to cover the entire Park. The original eight 7.5-minute maps of the northwest section are dated 1971. Along with the provisional east border maps, dated 1988, and the southern border, dated 1989, they all fit together like this (see right):



John Roper

First Mother Mountain, on Rainier's northwest side.

Elevations

It was a little hard to decide exactly what the elevations of some of the less distinct landforms were, since they often did not have a precise top.

If the feature ended in a summit, I gave it that height (eg, Sunset Ridge and Liberty Ridge end at Liberty Cap, 14,112 feet). If the cleaver or cliff or

point petered out indistinctly on the map, I recorded the highest earth (as opposed to ice) elevation shown on the map.

Prominences

Next it was obvious that there are a lot of minor peaks and features around Mount Rainier that have names on the maps, but that are not particularly prominent and distinct. This led to calculating the prominence of each of the landforms, as well as the current 7.5-minute USGS maps allow.

The "prominence" of a peak/landform is the difference (in feet) between the top of the peak and the low point on the highest ridge running to a higher point. This sounds simple enough to calculate, but the maps and methods are open to interpretation. There

Golden Lakes	Mowich Lake	Sunrise	White River Park	Norse Peak
Mount Wow	Mount Rainier West	Mount Rainier East	Chinook Pass	Cougar Lake
	Wahpenayo Peak	Tatoosh Lakes	Ohanape-cosh Hot Springs	White Pass

are at least four ways to calculate a peak's prominence. (See page 29.)

For the various "100 Highest Peaks" lists in Washington or other states or locales, I think it is preferable to adopt the "clean" (no argument) prominence method, that is, making the saddle as high as the map allows, and the peak as low as allowed, to make sure that a peak's prominence is never overstated.

However, for this exercise in MRNP, the prominences are calculated by simply giving the peak and the saddle exactly the contour elevations that the maps say. I did this primarily because little things like Tokaloo Spire and Beehive would work out to having only one foot of prominence if the "clean" method was used.

To the three or four other "prominence purists" in the state, I apologize. To make your lives happy and "clean," simply subtract 39 feet (on these 40-foot contour maps) from the prominences shown on this list.

Zero Prominence

For many ridges and cleavers, a prominence of zero is given, only because these are more linear, slope-related, than peak-like landforms.

It is also worth noting that this list was a map-reading exercise. No doubt, field observations, past and future, will be able to fine-tune these rough prominence numbers, especially on the small-prominence points.

The prominence column may not make much sense or difference to many, whose eyes are now blurring over, but in reality, it highlights the significant separate peaks in the Park.

If the summit stands 400 feet or more above all the nearby surrounding land, it generally "looks like a real mountain" when you are actually in view of it. There are 221 landforms identified on this list, but only 66 (less than 30%) qualify as significant by the 400-foot rule.

I enjoyed finding that at least 14 of these 400-foot rule peaks were "unknown" and unnamed on the current USGS maps, and not mentioned in the climber/hiker guides. Surely Rainierophiles or rangers have regarded them, though.

Because many of the popular climbs in the Park have prominences of only 200 to 300 feet, this list was extended to include most of the 200+ foot prominence, unnamed points on the maps as well.



John Roper

Cowlitz Chimneys from Barrier Peak, on Rainier's east side.

New Elevations

Summits in the park that had a precise elevation on the 1955 Mount Rainier National Park quad (1:62,500) often show only with an imprecise closed contour on the newer 7.5-minute (1:24,000) maps. Many peaks "lost" or "gained" a few feet of elevation from the 1955 map to the current maps.

What Native Washingtonian born before 1960 doesn't remember when Rainier was only 14,408 feet? We loved it when the USGS gave us another two feet, though they still don't accept the satellite inflation to 14,411.1 feet.

Unofficial Names

The unofficial names noted for most of the unnamed summits are taken from Fred Beckey's *Cascade Alpine Guide*, or derived from a nearby feature. Some are the Indian name (Chinook jargon) equivalent of a nearby feature.

Some of the unofficial names listed are only to give the author a name, instead of a number, to remember. No offense intended. Call them nothing, or call them what you want.

For example, "Kwass Kalakala" (fearful bird) means *pigeon* in Chinook jargon, and is next to Pigeon Peak. "Hyas Pishpish" (big cat), at the headwaters of Panther Creek, is Chinook for panther.

"Hee Hee Chuck" means laughing

water, and "Last Laugh Mountain" is the last peak on the ridge south of Laughing Water Creek.

"Waterhouse Peak" is at the end of the Crystal Mountain ridge. "Yak PiLe" is a bump-peak just south of where (Yak)ima, (Pi)erce, and (Le)wis counties come together.

My eyes got a little bleary by the end of this project, so if you find any errors, omissions, or oversights, I'd like to hear about them. Finally, if anyone ever completes this list, please let me know. I'd like to shake your hand, and may offer to pay for your first psychotherapy session, or wish you a happy divorce.

△

John Roper, of Bellevue, is an inveterate peak collector.

MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

PEAKS and LANDFORMS, NAMED and UNNAMED

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Elev	Name	USGS 7.5' Map	Saddle	Prominence	Elev	Name	USGS 7.5' Map	Saddle	Prominence
14410	Columbia Crest	MRW	1300	13110	8446	Whitman Benchmark	MRE		0
14158	Point Success	MRW	14000	158	8364	Observation Rock	ML	8080	284
14158	Success Cleaver	MRW		0	8200	+ Ohanapecosh Pinnacle'	MRE	8040	160
14158	Kautz Cleaver	MRW		0	8080	+ Success Divide	MRW		0
14112	Liberty Cap	MRW	13600	512	7870	Echo Rock	ML	7640	230
14112	Liberty Ridge	MRW^/ML		0	7828	Third Burroughs Mtn"	S	7400	428
14112	Sunset Ridge	MRW		0	7800	+ Sugar Loaf	MRE	7789	11
13880	+ Tahoma Cleaver	MRW	13840	40	7690	Glacier Island	MRW	7280	410
13760	+ Willis Wall	MRW^/ML		0	7684	Tokaloo Rock	MRW	7440	244
13720	+ Curtis Ridge	MRW^/ML	13680	40	7605	Cowlitz Chimneys, Main	CP	6600	1005
13520	+ Wapowety Cleaver	MRW		0	7520	+ Needle Rock	ML	7440	80
13400	+ Ptarmigan Ridge	ML/MRW^		0	7480	+ Tokaloo Spire	MRW	7440	40
13280	+ Russell Cliff	MRW		0	7450	Cowlitz Rocks	MRE	7080	370
13000	+ Mowich Face	MRW^/ML		0	7421	Cowlitz Chimney, Central"	CP	7080	341
12920	+ Nisqually Cleaver	MRE/MRW^		0	7402	Second Burroughs Mtn"	S	7000	402
12760	+ Cowlitz Cleaver	MRE		0	7400	+ Banshee Peak"	CP	7000	400
12660	Gibraltar Rock	MRE		0	7385	McClure Rock	MRE		0
12440	+ Disappointment Cleaver	MRE		0	7317	Mt Fremont	S	6720	597
11680	+ 11700 Gendarme"	MRW	11592	108	7288	Goat Island Mtn	S^/MRE	6360	928
11560	+ St Andrews Rock	MRW	11400	160	7280	+ Meany Crest	MRE	7200	80
11560	+ Puyallup Cleaver	MRW	11400	160	7200	+ Mt Fremont (per map name)	S	7080	120
11434	Cathedral Rocks	MRE	11240	194	7181	Mt Fremont Lookout	S	7120	61
11138	Little Tahoma	MRE	10280	858	7176	Colonnade	MRW	6920	256
11080	Lower St Andrews Rock"	MRW	10992	88	7163	Williwakas Point'	MRE	7080	83
11000	+ Beehive	MRE	10960	40	7160	+ First Burroughs Mtn"	S	7106	54
10840	+ Thumb Rock"	MRW		0	7137	Old Desolate	S^/ML	6080	1057
10640	+ Emmons Cleaver'	MRE		0	7078	Skyscraper Mtn	S	6640	438
10188	Muir Peak'	MRE	10080	108	7040	+ Palisades Peak'	WRP	6400	640
10040	+ Red Tower"	MRW		0	7040	+ Sourdough Mtns=Palisades Pk	WRP	6400	640
9720	+ Steamboat Prow	MRE	9480	240	7026	Sluiskin Mtn, The Chief	S	6080	946
9584	Anvil Rock	MRE	9520	64	7017	Antler Peak	S	6600	417
9323	Whitman Crest	MRE	9040	283	7015	Cowlitz Chimney, North"	CP	6600	415
9200	Moon Rocks"	MRE		0	7006	Dege Peak	WRP	6680	326
8886	K Spire	MRE	8600	286	7000	+ Dege Pk, West'	WRP	6760	240
8690	Mount Ruth	S	8600	90	6998	Crystal Mtn=Silver King"	WRP	4694	2304

continued on next page

Ways to Calculate Prominence

As an exercise, let's try to figure the prominence of a theoretical peak that shows as the 7000-foot contour, where the pass/saddle that connects it to the next higher peak shows as the 6000-foot contour, by the various ways:

1) "Clean Prominence Way"
= 961 feet.

Dictum: Let no one dispute that this peak qualifies for this prominence level. Therefore, make the peak as low as the map allows, and make the saddle/pass to the next higher peak as high as the map allows, or on these 40-foot contour maps, add 39 feet to the contour shown for the saddle.

For example, a 7000-foot contour peak remains 7000 feet and the 6000+

pass would be figured at 6000 feet + 39 feet = 6039 feet, for a prominence of 961 feet.

2) "Best Possible Prominence Way"
= 1039 feet.

Dictum: Make the peak's prominence look as good as possible. Make the peak as high as possible, and make the pass/saddle as low as the map allows.

For example, a 7000-foot contour peak could be as high as 7039 feet on a 40-foot contour map, and the 6000-foot pass could be as low as 6000 feet, so the best prominence possible is 1039 feet.

3) "Call a Spade a Spade Way"
= 1000 feet.

Dictum: Whatever the map says the elevation of the peak and the pass is, is. For example: A 7000-foot contour peak = 7000 feet, and a 6000-foot contour pass = 6000 feet, so the prominence is 1000 feet.

4) "Split the Difference Way"
= 1000 feet.

Dictum: Add 20 feet (half of a 40-foot contour) to the peak, and add 20 feet to the pass before the subtraction. This is the Steve Fry method.

For example: A 7000-foot contour peak = 7020 feet +/-, and a 6000-foot contour pass = 6020 feet +/-, for a prominence of 1000 feet.

—John Roper

Elev	Name	USGS 7.5' Map	Saddle	Prominence
6971	Tatoosh Range (HP=Unicorn)	TL*WP/MRW	4840	2131
6971	Unicorn Peak	TL	4840	2131
6962	Marcus Peak	WRP	6440	522
6960 +	Silver Queen"	WRP	6640	320
6960 +	Sluiskin Mtn, The Squaw" S		6520	440
6951	Dawn Peak'	S	6720	231
6949	The Panhandler'	MRE	6680	269
6937	Pyramid Peak	MRW	6400	537
6920 +	Panorama Point	MRE	6880	40
6904	Waterhouse Peak'	WRP	6360	544
6861	The Throne"	WRP	6720	141
6840 +	Grubstake Point'	NP	6400	440
6840 +	Crystal Mountain (Ski)' NP		6400	440
6800 +	Tillicum Point	ML	6720	80
6800 +	Sluiskin Mtn, Papposes" S		6600	200
6796	Three Way Peak"	NP	6520	276
6790	Tamanos Mtn	CP	6000	790
6786	McNeeley Peak	S	6440	346
6776	Northway Peak'	NP	6600	176
6760 +	Boundary Peak	TL	6680	80
6716 ⊗	Andrew Benchmark	MRW	6600	116
6715	Crescent Mountain	ML	6400	315
6710	Dewey Peak"	CL	5432	1278
6708	Sour Tooth'	WRP	6400	308
6670	Puyallup Mtn'	MRW	6200	470
6640 +	Cowlitz Chimney, NE' CP		6400	240
6620	Slide Mtn, S Pk'	WRP	5920	700
6600 +	Baker Point	S		0
6600 +	Governors Ridge	CP	5320	1280
6595	Crystal Peak"	WRP	6280	315
6566 ⊗	Barrier BM on Govnrs Ridge	WRP	6120	446
6562	Pinnacle Peak	MRE	5960	602
6560 +	Stevens Peak	TL	5760	800
6524	Manatee Mtn'	MRE	6080	444
6521	Barrier Peak	CP	6200	321
6500	Mineral Mountain	ML	6360	140
6492	Fay Peak	ML	5960	532
6480 +	The Palisades	WRP		0
6480 +	Mother Mountain	ML	6160	320
6480 +	Governors Needle"	CP	6400	80
6454	Mt Pleasant	ML	6240	214
6452	Naches Peak	CP	5432	1020
6440 +	Basalt Cliff	MRW		0
6440 +	The Castle	MRE	6200	240
6406	Hyas Pishpish'	CL	5320	1086
6400 +	Golden Gate	MRE		0
6388	Middle Coug'	CL	5920	468
6385	Hessong Rock	ML	6160	225
6375	Secnd Mother Mtn" ML		5920	455
6370	Plummer Peak	MRE	5520	850
6360 +	Slide Mtn, N Pk'	WRP	6200	160
6358	Burnt-Lost'	WRP	6080	278
6350	Little Coug'	CL	5960	390
6339	Slide Mtn	WRP	6200	139
6337	Seymour Peak	CP	5880	457
6336 ⊗	Glacier Vista Benchmark	MRE		0
6327	Burnt-Ada'	WRP	6000	327
6322	Brown Peak	WRP	6120	202
6283	Iron Mountain	MRW	5560	723
6280 +	Copper Mountain	MRW	5960	320
6280 +	Deadwood Peak'	WRP	5640	640
6240 +	Pacific Point	ML	6200	40
6231	Wahpenayo Peak	WPk	5400	831
6226	Yakima Peak	CP	5760	466
6200 +	Independence Ridge S*/ML		5760	440
6199	Double Peak	CP	5400	799
6160 +	Chenuis Mountain	ML	5800	360
6120 +	Sunrise Point	WRP		0
6120 +	Castle Peak	ML	5920	200
6120	Double Peak, NE Pk" CP		5880	240
6108	Scarface	S	5360	748

Elev	Name	USGS 7.5' Map	Saddle	Prominence
6094	Aurora Peak	MRW		5760
6080 +	Jeanette Heights	MRW		0
6069	Sunrise Ridge	WRP		5800
6057	Peak 6057	CL		5320
6040 +	Wahpenayo Pk, SE' WPk			5800
6040 +	Mount Wow	MW		3880
6012	Lane Peak	MRW		5640
6010	Mount Ararat	MRW		5360
6006	Denman Peak	MRE		5800
6000 +	Cushman Crest	MRW		0
6000 +	Chutlia Peak	MRW		5560
6000 +	Tyee Peak	ML		5920
6000 +	Yak PiLe'	CL		5680
5982	Peak 5982	CL		5520
5960 +	Alta Vista	MRE		5880
5958	Eagle Peak	MRW		5680
5941	Panther Crag'	CL		5640
5935	Mildred Point	MRW		5840
5930	Emerald Ridge	MRW*/MW		5600
5920 +	Tolmie Peak	GL		5120
5920 +	Yellowstone Cliffs	ML		0
5920 +	Northern Crags	ML		5880
5840 +	Grand Park Mtn'	S		5360
5834	Shriner Peak	CP		5040
5804	Third Mother Mtn"	ML		5520
5786	Mazama Ridge	MRE		0
5760 +	Wallace Peak	ML		5160
5756	Buell Peak	CP		5520
5713 ⊗	Sunset Benchmark	GL		5640
5683	Howard Peak	GL		5520
5680 +	Redstone Peak	S		5400
5648	Stevens Ridge	MRE		5440
5614	Tenas Peak'	MW		5360
5610	Peak 5610	CL		5120
5608	Kwass Kalakala'	S		4920
5577	Satulick Mtn	MRW		5280
5570	Cowlitz Divide	CP*/OHS		5200
5556	Hee Hee Chuck'	CL		4800
5508	Florence Peak	GL		5120
5485	Gobblers Knob	MW		4960
5480 +	Elizabeth Ridge	ML*/GL		4960
5465	Arthur Peak	ML		5120
5460	Fawn Ridge	WRP		5360
5421	Peak 5421	CP		5040
5418	Gobblers Wobble'	MW		5120
5409	Bald Rock	CP		5080
5380 ~	Rust Ridge (HP=Howard)	GL*/ML		5120
5310	Gove Peak	ML		5240
5299	Last Laugh Mtn'	OHS		4400
5280 +	Indian Bar	MRE		0
5280 +	Goat Island Rock	ML		0
5255 ~	Alki Crest (HP=Tolmie)	GL		5200
5220 +	Nisqually Vista	MRE		0
5208	Tirzah Peak	ML		5040
5200 +	Faraway Rock	MRE		0
5135	St Jacobs Point'	CP		4720
5120 +	Berry Peak	GL		4960
5028	Peak 5028	OHS		4400
4952	Rampart Ridge	MRW/MP		4720
4927	Division Rock	ML		4880
4920 +	Two Bumps'	CL		4680
4907	Longmire Point'	WPk		4600
4880 +	Martin Peak	*GL		4520
4880 +	Virginia Peak	GL		4720
4844	Inspiration Point	MRE		0
4800 +	Aurora Point'	MRW		0
4800 +	Paul Peak	GL		4400
4800 +	Eagle Cliff	ML		0
4680 +	The Bench	MRE		4640
4680 +	August Peak	GL		4520
4680 +	Klapatche Ridge	MW		4520

Elev	Name	USGS 7.5' Map	Saddle	Prominence
4678	Tumtum Peak	WPk^/MRW	3560	1118
4560 +	Sweet Peak	GL	4320	240
4560 +	Nat-Nat Point'	WPs	4400	160
4473	Backbone Ridge	OHS	4120	353
4400 +	Echo Cliffs	ML		0
4280 +	Pigeon Peak	S	4240	40
4200 +	Ricksecker Point	MRW		0
3760 +	Cougar Rock	MRW		0
3720 +	The Ramparts	MRW		0

Symbols:

' —Unofficial name, not on map

" —Unofficial name in *Cascade Alpine Guide*, not on map

HP —High Point

+ —Peak elevation could be 39 feet higher

^ —High Point is on this quad

~ —Elevation shown is a mid-ridge point

⊗ —Benchmark

USGS 7.5' Quad Abbreviations

CP—Chinook Pass

CL—Cougar Lake

GL—Golden Lakes

MRE—Mount Rainier East

MRW—Mount Rainier West

MW—Mount Wow

ML—Mowich Lake

NP—Norse Peak

OHS—Ohanapecosh Hot Springs

S—Sunrise

TL—Tatoosh Lakes

WPk—Wahpenayo Peak

WPs—White Pass

WRP—White River Park



Paul G. Schaeffer

The Winthrop Glacier flows from the summit of Mount Rainier between Steamboat Prow (left) and Curtis Ridge.

A. MICHAEL KUNDU

Puget Sound

—A BLUEWATER KAYAKER'S PARADISE—

Centuries before bluewater paddlers plied the shorelines of Puget Sound, George Vancouver, the English explorer who extensively charted the northwest, predicted that this region would ultimately become a seafarer's paradise. Two hundred years after his explorations, sea kayakers are rediscovering the intricate beauty and geopersonality of Puget Sound.

In the past 50 years, the inland sea of greater Puget Sound has played a major influence on the rapid growth of coastal sea kayaking as a leisure activity. Many paddlers now consider Puget Sound to

offer some of the finest bluewater paddling opportunities in the world.

When you consider the characteristics of the Sound, vast networks of passes, channels and straits, amounting to over 2,000 miles of coastline featuring an abundant variety of wildlife, sea conditions, urban and wilderness scenery and a host of other attributes, it is easy to agree why such a stance prevails.

Puget Sound was created dramatically. Originally called "Whulge" by the coastal tribes that settled the area, the Sound was renamed by Vancouver

in honor of his second Lieutenant Peter Puget. But when glacial forces started carving the channels and inlets of Puget Sound millennia before Vancouver explored this region, humans were merely emerging bipeds, lacking the cerebral facilities to even imagine what a kayak might look like.

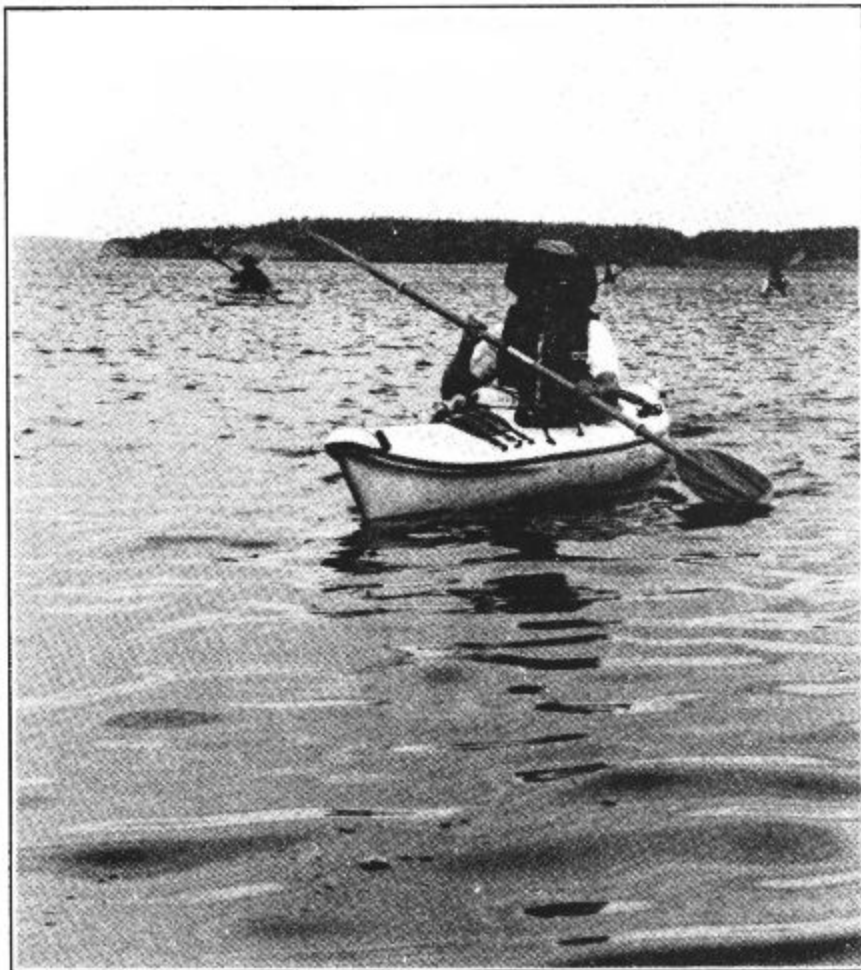
Centuries later, when the last layer of ice retreated from this estuary, the Olympic peninsula lay divided from the coastal Cascade range, separated by a network of deep troughs and channels. Ultimately, the seawater reclaimed the benthic basin and formed the 254-island estuary of Puget Sound.

Today, geographic forces like isostatic rebound and erosion constantly change the depths of various parts of Puget Sound. A combination of its biogeographic attributes, along with a temperamental climate from the rain-shadow effect of the Olympic mountains and the Sound's accessibility by Interstate 5 and Highway 101 on the Olympic Peninsula, has resulted in a paradise for the bluewater paddler.

There is a good reason why Puget Sound is teeming with marine life-forms. Seasoned paddlers also know that, wherever islands and coastal formations interrupt the linear movement of tidal currents, eddies, rapids and rip tides occur.

These motions stir the water column and encourage the growth of massive quantities of phyto and zooplankton, the building blocks of the marine food web. Naturally, fish and marine wildlife species are attracted to rich feeding grounds, and consequently, paddlers throughout the Sound routinely encounter seabirds, pinnipeds, otters and various species of whales.

The variable tidal influx found throughout the Sound—up to 7 meters in some areas—also provides an incredible opportunity to explore the organisms found in the intertidal zone. Brilliant purple sea stars and spiny or-



Lee McKee

Lesley Weinberg and other members of the Port Orchard Paddle Club in Admiralty Inlet, north Puget Sound.

ange urchins cluster among scores of mussels and anemones, all easily visible during tide cycles from the vantage of a sea kayak.

Many paddlers are also natural history buffs, and sea kayaks are an excellent vehicle to explore the coves and coastline of the bountiful Sound silently and unobtrusively.

Ocean conditions also contribute to the Sound's attractive paddling. Kayaking skills can be developed in areas where paddlers can learn to work with tidal currents, surf on mild to moderate swells, or paddle silently in calm, sheltered waters.

Narrow channels, Deception Pass being an excellent example, are great locations to learn about the actions that tidal currents can have on sea kayaks. Open shorelines along shallow, sandy beaches: Alki Beach, Fort Ebey State Park on Whidbey Island or near Fort Worden State Part on the Port Townsend side are safe locations to learn to brace swells during strong winds.

There are also casual touring areas all throughout the Sound; the many sloughs along Everett and Marysville, the Hood Canal and Nisqually River watersheds, the coastline of Lake Washington or along any of the other 24 river systems and estuaries are all excellent for casual exploration.

Throughout most of the year, temperature and weather conditions are suitable for paddling, and provided the proper safety precautions are taken—wearing a PFD, carrying a spare paddle, self-rescue device and personal signal, and being properly outfitted for the temperature—there is never a time when kayakers cannot paddle in some area of Puget Sound.

A new genre of kayak touring, "metropolitan bluewater paddling" is beginning to increase in popularity. In deference to this subset of paddling, Puget Sound is an excellent destination to explore the urban skyline, while adding the luxury of stopping along the many piers in Lake Washington or the Seattle waterfront district for a hot latté or refreshing iced café.

City routes abound in the Sound, from the cosmopolitan routes along the shore of Lake Union, or the more traditional, picturesque shores of Budd Inlet and Olympia. Twilight skyline perspectives from the low profile of a sea kayak are quite romantic—keep in mind however that when paddling in a heavy commercial traffic area kayakers



Jane Habegger

Launching kayaks in Totten Inlet, south Puget Sound.

should carry some form of signal, whether it's a personal strobelight or a full-fledged airhorn.

Urban regions are interesting places to paddle because the evolution of a city or coastal community is often very evident in the way that its waterfront has evolved. Bluewater paddling along urban shorelines, while still underrated, is a growing trend, and Puget Sound (once again) has a definite advantage over other regions for this evolving genre.

WHERE TO GO

Some excellent areas for paddling around the Sound include:

Nisqually River Delta—at the south end of Nisqually Reach, accessed by I-5, exiting north on Mounts or Meridian Roads. Excellent location for seals, shorebirds and beachcombing.

Washington Park Arboretum—near Union Bay on Lake Washington. Accessible by I-5 and NE 45th Street. Flatwater paddling near the University Arboretum and surrounding wetlands. Urban shoreline with access to shoreline snackbars and coffee stands.

Skagit Bay—one of the most interesting rural and wetland tours in the Sound. I-5 to Fir Island Road near Conway. Skagit Delta is an excellent location for shorebirds and eagles (in early spring) and kayak-mudflat beachcombing during lowtide.

Blake Island—South of Bainbridge Island in central Puget Sound. Accessed by launch points near Vashon Island and Southworth ferry terminals. Suquamish native fishing village, surrounded by excellent swimming beaches and camping. Good vantage point of the Seattle skyline.

Point Defiance Park—northwest of

Tacoma, accessible by I-5, Pacific Avenue and Ruston Way in Tacoma. Many interesting paddle routes in Tacoma Narrows and Dalco Passage; kayakers can cross over to Gig Harbor easily.

Fort Worden State Park—Approach Port Townsend on the Olympic Peninsula by way of Highway 101. Site of the annual Trade Association of Sea Kayaking symposium, Fort Worden features a sand beach to practice self-rescues. Campsites and beautiful vantage of Admiralty Inlet, Strait of Juan de Fuca and Vancouver Island. Good chance of seeing Dall's porpoise in Admiralty Inlet.

Squaxin Island, Case Inlet—Take Highway 101 and launch at Oyster Bay. This area is a protected and wind-sheltered place to explore for a day or two. Paddlers have an excellent opportunity to see shorebirds and seals hauled out on the flats around Sandy Point and Hope Island. Squaxin Island is a native reservation and retains much of the character of rural Puget Sound.

Seattle Harbor, Duwamish Waterway—Downtown Seattle tour with launch points at Alki Beach or Harbor Island. Industrial harbor shows the evolution of the Port of Seattle from the 1920s (central waterfront) to the new industrial port and headquarters of the state ferry system. North to Elliott Bay and marina, the route gives an excellent perspective of the flavor of Seattle; numerous landing sites are available.

△

Canadian writer Michael Kundu specializes in conservation and ecology. He lives in Everett.

MICK CAMPBELL

JOHNSON MOUNTAIN

—HIKING AND SCRAMBLING IN THE TEANAWAY COUNTRY—

Thanks to Mary Sutliff's wonderful 1980 book *Teanaway Country: a Hiking and Scrambling Guide to Washington's Central Cascades* (which I wish she would reissue, as mine is terribly worn), I began hiking in the hills and mountains north of Cle Elum and south of Mount Stuart sixteen years ago.

The trails and peaks of that area are free of snow weeks before those on the west side, and, more importantly, the weather is usually sunny and warm when the west side and summits are still engulfed in gloomy clouds and coolness.

Johnson Mountain is one of the lower elevation peaks in this area, and is therefore approachable earlier in the season than those higher peaks guarded by snowed-in roads. I've done Johnson many times, by nearly as many different routes, usually in May (although some years the trails are passable earlier).

This year, because of the lingering snow at higher elevations, I've done it twice; it therefore occurred to me that since it has rarely been described since Mary's book, I should share it with other frustrated hikers and scramblers for next year and beyond.

Johnson Mountain is near the upper edge of the left lower quadrant of the Mount Stuart map, and is indicated by an elevation of 5220. It is an east-west running ridge capped by several rocky outcrops, and is drained by Johnson Creek to the north and northeast, Jungle Creek and its branches to the southeast and south, Way Creek to the southwest and Malcolm Creek to the west. It is mostly forested, though the steep upper slopes on the north, east and southwest are mostly bare talus and rock.

Trail 1383A ascends from the northeast, beginning at the North Fork Teanaway River road (road

9737) at 3100 feet and reaching the east col at 4500 feet in 2.7 miles; it then drops to the southeast, ending at the Jungle Creek road (road 9701) at 3000 feet in 2.2 miles.

Trail 1225 begins farther west on the Jungle Creek road at 3600 feet, climbs the south ridge, then crosses the upper southwest slope to the west col at 4800 feet in 2.1 miles; this trail continues north, crossing a shoulder of Malcolm Mountain, crossing trail 1383 and finally reaching Koppen Mountain, 5.8 miles away.

Short trail 1235 traverses 1 mile across the north slope, joining the east and west cols. For scramblers, many approaches are available, and for hikers a number of loop possibilities exist.

Mary Sutliff suggests starting from the east col, ascending the east ridge to a rocky saddle below the 4800 cliffy east summit, then contouring along the north slope in a westerly direction, bypassing a long gully coming down from the ridge and taking the shorter gully with a slab at the beginning.

Once atop the ridge, a short walk leads to the 20-foot summit block, which is easily ascended by carefully rounding its south side and scrambling up its west edge (Class 2).

From along Mary's route, you can also ascend to a forested upper col just west the east summit; from here, the east summit can be reached by the south side of its west ridge; for the main summit, traverse south, then ascend the east slope through a notch between cliffs and turn north, walking to the upper ridge and continuing west to the summit pinnacle.

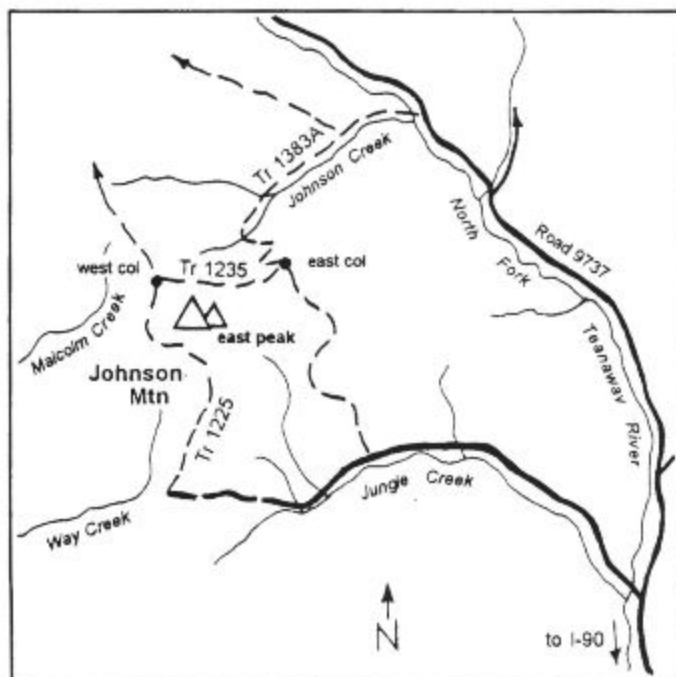
Also from the east col, taking trail 1235 westward about .5-mile to where it rounds a little ridge on the north slope allows a direct ascent up the north slope (steep snow or ice in season); the best exit onto the ridge is just east of the summit block.

Part way up this route are the ruins of an old cabin or storage shed, dating perhaps from the days sheep were herded along here.

A talus scramble can be made up the southwest slope; leave Trail 1225 just before it rounds a ridge after crossing the slope. Head for the notch between two rocky buttresses and continue on to the ridgetop west of the summit.

Finally, the west ridge can be walked from the west col.

Mick Campbell is a hiker, scrambler and contributor to Pack & Paddle. He lives in Puyallup.



DEBORAH RIEHL

Rescue Epics

—NO REST FOR THE WEARY—

On July 25, 1995, I hiked up Mount Dickerman—9 miles round trip with a 3800-foot gain, rated a strenuous hike. I was pleased at the improvements made in the trail since I hiked it last. The Mountaineers party I was with was very compatible as we all hiked at about the same speed and got along well.

Fortunately when I got home that afternoon I napped, because in the wee hours of the morning of the 26th, the Mountain Rescue pager went off.

It was now typical "rescue weather" outside—pouring down rain. The mission was for an off-trail backpacker below Pumpkinseed Lake up the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River. He had sustained a head injury as the result of rockfall.

I volunteered to take the Base Operations Leader position because after Dickerman I didn't particularly want to do another big hike with minimal rest.

When I got to the base camp near Ken's Truck Town, however, the sheriff informed me I was the only rescuer present with medical training so he wanted me to go in. So much for the cushy Base OL job!

Gore-tex was the uniform of the day as we started up the Dingford Creek trail at 4:30am. One of the backpacking party members, who had come out for help, gave us directions for finding our injured man. This party member had dislodged the rock which struck the injured man, but it had first nailed our guide in the arm, leaving him with a severe abrasion and contusion. Looking at that guy's arm I shuddered at the condition we'd find his friend's head in!

After a couple of miles of trail hiking, and as it began to dawn, we struck out cross-country toward Pumpkinseed Lake. The going was rugged, through typical Cascade under-jungle. But then it also became very steep.

We located the backpackers about 7am huddled in a group of protective

boulders in the middle of a very steep and rotten gully at the 3800-foot level.

My patient was in better shape than I'd feared—he was awake and alert though he looked like Johnny Carson's swami character with an enormous turban of bloody dressings.

The bleeding had stopped and he felt he could walk out. We were very glad we didn't have to carry him in that nasty terrain!

The party of six with him also consisted of children of various ages and a couple of inexperienced hikers who were understandably shaken by the accident. Constant frenzied barking came from somewhere up above—a dog with the group was stranded on a ledge where the accident had taken place.

While we rigged fixed lines and lowered packs, a teen in the party and a rescue team member climbed up to try to retrieve the dog. The dog, however, climbed to higher and more precarious ledges at their approach. They reluctantly gave up and hoped the dog would follow them down as they left. This was not the case as we heard mournful howling which tore at our hearts as we descended.

We rigged four fixed lines to ease the way down for the injured man, children, and less experienced party members. We divided up the patient's pack.

It was a long, slow thrash back out in weather that never improved. We finally straggled back to the trailhead at noon.

The injured man turned out to be a firefighter and several of his buddies were in base camp to meet him. As it turned out, this was not a simple recreational pleasure backpack. The firefighter and his party were taking the ashes of a fellow firefighter to Hi-Lo Lake to scatter them. The deceased firefighter had made annual trips to Hi-Lo Lake, his favorite fishing hole.

The next weekend some of the rescue personnel returned to the gully to try again to bring the dog out. They found

no trace of him and hoped he'd hooked up with another party.

A couple of weekends later I was volunteering at the SeaFair unlimited hydroplane races as a medical/communications resource. The fire department lieutenant and I got to talking as we sat in the headquarters van—the weather was once again terrible.

The conversation turned to search and rescue and then to the Pumpkinseed Lake mission. The lieutenant mentioned that the firefighter with the head injury was back at work and in fact working that day. He called him at the station on the phone. I learned that the laceration on his head couldn't be sutured due to its age and contamination and so was left open to heal on its own, with plastic surgery scheduled for later if necessary.

It was gratifying to have that contact with him as we don't always get a chance to find out the ultimate results of our missions, or talk afterward to the folks we bring out.

△

Deborah Riehl, AA7RW, is a member of Seattle Mountain Rescue. She lives in Bothell.

PANORAMA

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

COMBINING OFFICES—The Spokane offices of the Geological Survey and the Forest Service have combined. An interagency agreement established between the two departments last April set into motion the co-location of the two offices, a move that is becoming more and more common as federal agencies face funding shortages.

Both agencies have served the Spokane area for nearly 30 years—the Earth Science Information Center distributing maps, reports, aerial photography and digital cartographic data for the Pacific Northwest and the Forest Service Public Affairs Office providing recreation information, maps, and interpretive materials for the National Forests in the same area.

The joint office will share rent and equipment, saving \$45,000 per year. The new quarters are in the restored post office at 904 West Riverside, Room 135, Spokane WA 99201.

The phone number for the Forest Service Information Office is 509-353-2574. The phone number for the Geological Survey's Earth Science Information Center is 509-353-2524.

SHI SHI MINE CLAIM—Olympic National Park is examining a request by a group of individuals to start a mining operation near Shi Shi Beach.

In the 1930s, the Department of War condemned stretches of shoreline along the Washington coast, but in many cases allowed landowners to keep title to the mineral rights.

While the mineral rights predate the establishment of Olympic National Park, park officials believe they have the authority to regulate mining operations on park land, to protect park resources and ensure positive visitor experiences.

The mining group is arguing otherwise and has demanded that the Park either allow them to begin mining or purchase the mineral rights for what the National Parks and Conservation Association calls "an exorbitant sum." —*excerpted from The Mountaineers "Conservation News."*

SAND POINT—The revegetation project we first mentioned in the February issue, page 29, will get underway this September 14 through 21.

Volunteers are needed to transplant native vegetation and rehabilitate

campsites in this coastal area. Work will be concentrated on the weekends during that period, but volunteers are also welcome during the week or for the duration of the project.

Volunteers of all ages and skill levels are welcome to join in. In addition to taking part in the project, volunteers will have the opportunity to explore the dynamic seascape and the view the abundant wildlife on shore and in the intertidal zone. [*And watch out for those raccoons!*—Ed.]

Says Catharine Copass, Olympic National Park, "I think this is the first revegetation project at Olympic where one could *pack or paddle* to the project site!"

If you are interested in helping, contact **ONP Reveg Program, 600 E Park Ave, Port Angeles WA 98362 (360-452-4502 x 286).**

ADOPT A HUT—The Mount Tahoma Trails Association is spending the summer trying to repair the damage done by last winter's storms.

All hut users are invited to "adopt" their favorite hut and volunteer some time over the summer. Special work parties are scheduled for some tasks, or join a regular third Saturday session for routine cleaning, repairing and sprucing up. All work parties meet at 9am at Fire Station 23 in Ashford.

Summer volunteers can drive to the huts and spend the night. For details, call MTTA's Summer Work Party Coordinator Tony Abruzzo, 360-871-5754.

LOUIS ULRICH—Louis Ulrich, of Yakima, died in that city at the end of June at the age of 96.

He learned to climb in his native Switzerland, then moved to the US and settled in Yakima in 1931. In an article in the *Seattle P-I*, his climbing companions credit him with bringing European climbing techniques to the Cascades. Mr. Ulrich made many first ascents. Ulrich's Couloir on Mount Stuart is named after him.

DUNGENESS SPIT—The recently-released draft Environmental Assessment for Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge analyzes the problems stemming from increasing recreational use and decreasing wildlife use.

Alternative D (the preferred alterna-

tive) is briefly described as follows:

All of zone 4 (the half-mile of spit beyond the lighthouse) and all of the harbor side of Dungeness Spit will be closed to all public access year-round. Boats can be beached (by Special Use Permit) on a hundred-yard stretch of land next to the lighthouse on the bay side of the spit.

Beach landings will not be permitted anywhere else on the spit at any time of year. Despite the fact that walking, swimming, horseback riding, shell-fishing and saltwater fishing will be allowed in some areas, kayakers and canoeists will not be permitted to beach their boats in these areas.

It may be that the intent of this effort is to discourage paddlers from paddling around the end of the spit (and disturbing the seal haul-outs there) on their way to landings on the strait side of the spit, since such landings will now be prohibited.

Yes, there are some strange aspects to this plan. Remember, however, that this is a Wildlife Refuge, and that public use and access is viewed as incidental and very much secondary.

If you'd like to know how to get a copy of the full document, call Ben Zarlingo of the North Sound Sea Kayaking Association, 206-337-5403.—*excerpted from The North Sounder, newsletter of the NSSKA.*

DARK DIVIDE—The proposed motorcycle up-grade in the Dark Divide was squashed in June by Judge Barbara Jacobs Rothstein.

Judge Rothstein filed her decision in a suit brought by a coalition of twelve outdoor recreation and environmental organizations to stop the motorized trail project on Juniper and Langille Ridges in the Dark Divide area.

"We are thrilled with the court's decision," said Karl Forsgaard, one of several attorneys representing the coalition. "We believe Dark Divide is Washington's next Wilderness Area. The motorcycle project would have changed the character of Dark Divide and would have discouraged hikers from using the trails."

Dark Divide is the largest unprotected roadless area in western Washington.

The court's decision orders the Forest Service to halt the motorcycle trail reconstruction project until it evaluates

PANORAMA

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

the impacts of increased off-road vehicle use on sensitive wildlife species, such as mountain goats, and on other trail users.

DEAD SEA BIRDS—Thousands of sea birds, mostly common murre, have been washing up dead on Oregon and Washington beaches, according to an article in *The Chinook Observer* by C.V. Hollander. Biologists say the birds appear to be starving to death and they estimate 10,000 birds have died since the beginning of July.

The starving adult birds are abandoning their coastal nesting colonies to

return to sea, sacrificing their young to survive themselves.

In a Fish and Wildlife Service press conference on July 10, officials said that something is wrong with the food supply in the entire ocean system, according to the *Observer* article.

TRANS-CANADA TRAIL—A 16,000 kilometer trail is being built from Vancouver Island across Canada to Newfoundland, and from Calgary to Tuktoyaktuk.

The planned trail, a volunteer effort, is scheduled for completion in 2000. For more information, call 604-940-1803.

CYPRESS PARK—Trails in BC's Cypress Park, near Vancouver, are closed to prevent hikers from harassing black bears. Because of the late summer, black bears have not yet moved into the high country. Visitors to the park are trying to get too close to the bears for photographs or to feed the bears.

Park officials are trying to protect the ignorant human visitors as well as the poor bears. The closure will be lifted when the bears are able to move into their summer range.

ACCESS FEES ARE COMING ... may be here by next year

Congress has approved legislation (the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996) to allow National Forests to establish access fees at selected recreation sites. The legislation directs 80% of collected revenue to remain with the recreation site to offset site maintenance and related costs.

Two fee demonstration areas are tentatively planned for the Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. One fee site will be the Heather Meadows complex at Mount Baker.

The other will involve a user fee for the Alpine Lakes Wilderness OR a fee collected for trailhead parking Forest-wide. Fees will not be charged in 1996.

Specific details are being formulated; tentative plans are outlined below.

1. Heather Meadows

This popular, highly scenic recreation area attracts more than a quarter of a million visitors each year. The 2200-acre site between Shuksan and Baker includes the ski area, two interpretive trails, numerous alpine meadow trails, small lakes, wilderness trailheads and a public visitor center.

Plans are to charge for parking within the Heather Meadows complex during the summer months.

Fees collected will be used for a variety of needs including maintenance of trails, providing drinking water, and signing and interpretation in the Heather Meadows area.

2. Alpine Lakes Wilderness

This 393,000-acre wilderness is within a one-hour drive of 2.5 million people. The 700 lakes in this area are the major attraction for 150,000 visitors each year.

Tentative plans are to charge a minimal fee per person per day of visit. Fees collected will be used for such things as restoration work, enforcing user restrictions, maintaining signs and trails and enhancing sanitation.

OR

Trailhead Parking Fees

There are some 1400 miles of trails on the Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest which annually receive hundreds of thousands of visitors.

Tentative plans are to require permits (much like Sno-Park permits) for parking at all trailheads. Fees collected will be used for trail and trailhead maintenance.

Another demonstration area is the entire Wenatchee National Forest. Several projects may be implemented here during the first two years of the pilot program that runs from 1996 to 1998.

Examples of projects being considered for Wenatchee National Forest are:

1. Boat-in Campgrounds

Charging for overnight camping at boat-in campsites along Lake Chelan would raise funds to help maintain docks and camping facilities.

2. Developed Campgrounds

Current fees at some charge car-

campgrounds would be increased and new fee campgrounds would be designated. Revenue collected would be used to maintain and improve the sites.

3. Dispersed Camping

A general user fee for camping in undeveloped (dispersed) forest areas would generate revenue to improve sites to lessen impacts on lakes and streams and to clean up and rehabilitate the sites so that camping in these undeveloped areas can continue.

4. Recreation Trails

A general user fee for hiking, mountain bike riding, horseback riding and motorized trailbike riding is another possibility. The revenue collected could be used for trail maintenance, management and reconstruction.

Two specific examples of possible new fees are the Echo Ridge Cross-Country ski area, and the Peninsula Recreation Area on Rimrock Lake.

If you have questions or suggestions about the access fee program, contact:

Wenatchee National Forest
Supervisor's Office
215 Melody Lane
Wenatchee WA 98801

or

Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Supervisor's Office
21905 64th Ave West
Mountlake Terrace WA 98043

—compiled from information distributed by Baker-Snoqualmie and Wenatchee National Forests.

CONCERNING GORE-TEX—Gore-tex does not lose its waterproofness (*June, page 30*). It will still not allow water to enter long after coated nylon has peeled like a bad sunburn.

The problem with Gore-tex is that it loses its water repellency, sometimes in only a couple of months of active sea kayaking. Repellency is the beading and shedding effect of high surface tension. Several commercial treatments will restore the repellency, as will washing and ironing.

When the fabric does not repel water, it looks soaking wet. The evaporative cooling at the surface makes the inside of the Gore-tex cold and against your skin it will feel as if it is wet.

However, it is not leaking. It is still waterproof. If you wear long sleeves and don't look at your jacket, you will realize you are still dry and feel dry. You just look soaked.—*Lee Moyer, Pacific Water Sports.*

PADDLE FLOATS—If the dimensions are correct on the foam paddle float (*June, page 30*), it has less than half the buoyancy of the float Pacific Water Sports makes. In theory, the foam float should be enough since many paddlers can reenter with no float at all. However, I have seen large paddlers sink their floats in practice when things didn't go quite right.

This will be more of a problem if the paddler is using shock cord to secure the paddle, since it is harder to hold the paddle perpendicular to the kayak with shock cord.

We use a single chamber because it is simple and quicker than a dual chamber. We've had no complaints of leaks or bad valves, but if we lose half our air, we're still as good as the foam float.

I'm more inclined to take a paddle float that can be secured in the rigging out of the way than one that I have to remove every time I want to get into the hatch. We do use foam floats to teach rolling. Just cut bulk foam, put a slit in

it (or duct tape two pieces together) and jam it onto the paddle blade. It seems to stay quite well. We sometimes teach rolling by using graduated sizes. Pleasant paddling.—*Lee Moyer, Pacific Water Sports.*

PARADISE FARM—We heard about this food supplier from Jennifer Stein Barker (formerly of Garrison Springs Lodge, author of *The Morning Hill Cookbook*) who praised the taste and quality of Paradise Farm's backpacking foods.

We got a catalog and ordered the Backpacking Sampler—lentil soup, chili-mac, couscous and lentil curry, outback oatmeal and garlic fry bread.

I tried the couscous and lentil curry last month and found it very tasty. It was more than I could eat for dinner (the portions say "two servings") but was also very good cold for lunch the next day.

Recently Lee and I tried the chili-mac on a backpacking trip. Not quite trusting the "two servings" label with Lee along, I added an additional half-cup of macaroni, which was a good idea. The chili-mac is not an instant dish. It simmers for 10 minutes in its own sauce—no water to drain. This also was quite tasty, but a little too spicy for our palates.

We topped it off with the garlic fry bread, which was a real hit. The dough mixes up in a plastic bag which you then squeeze out in dollops into your pan. They cooked up real fast and, boy, did they taste good!

Paradise Farm is a family-operated business near Moscow, Idaho. They use organic beans grown in the Palouse for many of their items. Although much of their 64-page catalog is devoted to organic mail-order foods for everyday, 4 pages are entirely backpacking foods.

UPS service was very fast; we received the order less than a week after sending it. The Backpacking Sampler is \$14.80, plus \$4.50 for delivery.

Ask for a catalog—or order the Sampler—by writing:

Paradise Farm
1000 Wild Iris Lane
Moscow ID 83843

or call 800-758-2418 (fax 208-882-3655).—*Ann Marshall.*

BANDANA—A bandana can provide several ways to help keep you cool in

the summer.

1. Dunk in the stream and tie around your neck.

2. Pack snow in the middle and tie around your neck.

3. Drape over your head and hold in place with your sunhat for extra shade.

LUNCH IDEAS—A bagel and cream cheese does not squash in a pack, even when stored under a water bottle. An English muffin spread with peanut butter is also good but not quite as sturdy.

A big bag of homemade gorp is great to munch on all day long—raisins, nuts, chocolate chips, and lots of home-dried fruit. Crackers travel well when packed in a little plastic container; pair them with a couple of sticks of string cheese, which keeps well even in hot weather.

Apples pack well. Oranges are delicious on a hot day. Remember to pack out cores and peels.

For a drink, nothing beats water. Add a slice of lemon to your water bottles for a refreshing zip on a hot day.

AFTER A TRIP—Mildew can ruin gear that doesn't dry thoroughly. Even if it didn't rain on you, dry your tent and sleeping bag before putting them away. Clothing, especially rain gear, boots, sleeping pad and ground cloth are other moisture-catchers.

GET LIGHTER—The rule of thumb is to carry about 1/5 to 1/4 of your body weight. If you are a strong person, you can probably carry 1/3 your weight.

Don't struggle with more than your body is conditioned to carry; you risk injury and an exhausting trip. Pare every unneeded ounce from your gear. You may laugh at those stories of gung-ho backpackers cutting the handles off their toothbrushes, but they know how to go light!

Here are some weight-saving hints:
—carry one cup and one spoon for eating; you need neither fork nor plate. If you are going solo, eat right out of your cooking pot.

—discard unnecessary food packaging at home, before you start.

—hike in the same shirt and pants each day; you don't need to wear clean garments each day of your trip.

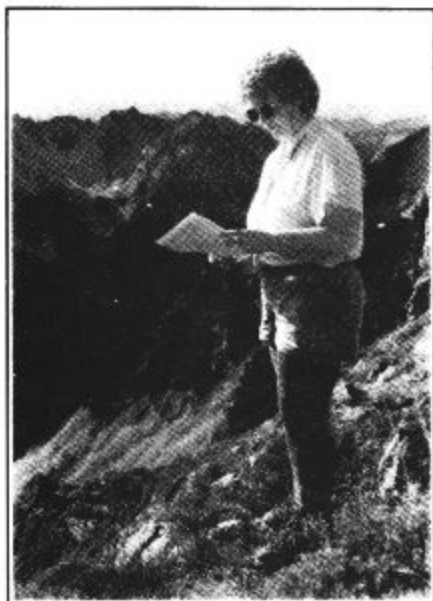
—cut the handle off your toothbrush.

WIN FAME & ADMIRATION!

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

PACK & PADDLE
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EDITOR'S JOURNAL



On the Blue Lake High Route.

FROM THE MAILBOX—"The format and personal reports from backcountry enthusiasts are what make *Pack & Paddle* so enjoyable."—*Enumclaw*.

"I sit down and read *P&P* cover to cover as soon as it arrives!"—*Olympia*.

"Great magazine! I count on it for trail status and information."—*Everett*.

"How about including a picture of your Administrative Assistant in the next issue?"—*Bremerton*. [Ed. Note: see this page for a photo of Yellow Cat at work.]

"Simply put, *Pack & Paddle* keeps me packing and paddling! Is there anything else nearly as important?"—*Seattle*.

"*P&P* is best for all-around reading and information."—*Seattle*.

"With three kids under the age of 5, reading *P&P* is about as close to the wilds as we get. Keep it up."—*Portland*.

MEETING FOLKS—On our hike to the Tubal Cain mine a couple of weeks ago, Lee and I enjoyed talking with Tom and Sue Felix, subscribers from our own town of Port Orchard, who were out for a day hike with a dog and two teenagers.

Since we don't walk around wearing shirts that say *Pack & Paddle* (hey—maybe we should get some!), we are pleased when fellow hikers recognize us and say hello.

TWO ON THE TRAIL—Tom Felix said Lee and I looked "just like our photographs" and he mentioned our

book *Two on the Trail*.

That brought back memories! *Two on the Trail* (long out of print now) was the account of our 1000-mile hike through Washington and Oregon on the PCT in 1983.

Thirteen years ago in July was when we started out. It was a year of slow snowmelt, and from the Oregon-California border to north of Crater Lake we were "confused" more than once by lingering expanses of snow over the trail.

Mostly, we had great weather all the way through Oregon. And lousy weather through much of Washington. But our last four days from Stehkin to Manning Park were beautiful, with sunshine and a few skiffs of snow left over from the storm that had chased us into Stehkin.

The trip took us ten weeks. We both kept journals of our experiences, and those journals became *Two on the Trail*.

TUBAL CAIN NAME—Got a call the other day from a visitor from the South who had just heard of the Tubal Cain Mine. He wanted to know what the history of the name was, because the words, he said, come from the organization of Masons.

I looked in the guidebooks and in *Place Names of Washington*, but couldn't find a clue. I called the Quilcene Ranger Station and talked with Steve Rickets.

Steve told me the words come from Genesis, in the Old Testament, and re-



Yellow Cat on the job, doing her favorite thing—supervising.

fer to smiths who forged iron tools.

His reference is the book *The Lure of Tubal Cain*, by the late Eva Cook Taylor. Steve says it is an excellent book for anyone interested in this part of the Olympics. The book was published in 1972 by the Jefferson County Historical Society.

NO SUMMIT—Our women's group had a great outing in July, but we didn't make the summit of Glacier Peak due to high winds. After I got back, several people told me, "You got within a few hundred feet. That's close enough."

Not really. It doesn't count. Turning back was smart, and it was a unanimous decision, but we've got to go to the top for it to count.

BOBCAT—As Lee and I were hiking down the trail last week, we stopped to admire some tracks in the mud. Very fresh. Looked like cat tracks.

Not long after that, Lee stepped off the trail for a minute. While I waited for him, I swung my arms and twisted around to keep the bugs away. Suddenly my eye caught a glimpse of something in the blueberry bushes about 30 feet away. It was a brown cat face, and it was creeping closer and closer with the same intent look that Yellow Cat has when she sneaks up on a bird.

I thought at first it was a cougar. I grabbed my walking stick and yelled for Lee. The cat leaped and ran the other way and I could see its mottled coat, check ruffs, and short tail. A bobcat! I was thrilled.

I'm sure it was curious about my flailing arms. I wish now I had kept quiet and just watched. I'll probably never see another one.

See you in the backcountry,

Ann Marshall

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