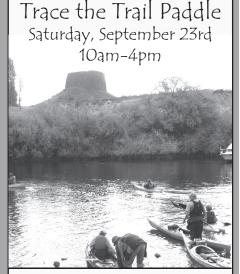
Easy Current News

Summer 2006

Field Notes from the SEA Kayaker Team Page 4



Join a one-of-a-kind paddle on the Northwest Discovery Water Trail. Paddlers begin on the Washington shore of the Columbia River at Plymouth Park and end the day at Hat Rock State Park on the Oregon shore. During this 9-mile upriver paddle, participants will gain 75 feet of elevation in the shipping lock and paddle past basalt canyon walls home to cliff swallows, raptors, and unique vegetation.

The event is free but participants must supply their own kayak and appropriate gear. This trip will require intermediate skills, including bracing, self-rescue, and experience with winds, waves, and currents. A vehicle shuttle will be provided for participants. Register with WWTA.

> Learn more, visit: www.ndwt.org

The Washington Water Trails Association Quarterly Newsletter

New Water Trail Sites on Hood Canal

July 13th, a quiet Thursday morning on the Hood Canal, shovels clanging against rocks marked the establishment of another Cascadia Marine Trail campsite, this one at Twanoh State Park. This is the fourth site in a series of openings dating back 3 years. In 2003 Washington Water Trails Association began an expansion into the Hood Canal. Triton Cove and Potlatch State Park were the first sites south of Salsbury Point and the Hood Canal Bridge. Longtime partner the Trust for Public Land (TPL) then agreed to open Laughlin Cove to non-motorized boaters for overnight camping, before the property was transferred to Kitsap County Parks.

Impetus for the new site came from State Parks' CAMP (Classification and Management Plan) process for its parks in the Lower Hood Canal. Boat-in camping has a long tradition on the Hood, is a low impact activity and does not bring motor vehicles into the parks. Development for Cascadia Marine Trail campsites is usually minimal. At Twanoh, two signs were set in a small shorefront area, which already had two picnic tables and a fire ring.



Rangers Stacy Rutland and Joel Pillers install a sign.

In August WWTA volunteers will clear a new area for people arriving by non-motorized boats to camp at Belfair State Park. The campsite will be near Little Mission Creek, with Plum Point to the east. If you'd like to help open this Cascadia Marine Trail campsite, see the Calendar on Page 8. Next in line on the Hood Canal is Point Hannon, near the Shine Tidelands, installing a vault toilet, clearing a campsite, and restoring a nearby wetland.

Rendezvous Paddles Return

WWTA Rendezvous paddles return! Board members are organizing occasional day trips on the Cascadia Marine Trail for members and non-members. Each paddle includes an educational component in addition to a good time on the water. On July 15th paddlers gathered



Paddlers pose at the Cama Beach vintage gas station.

at Camano Island State Park, home of the very first Cascadia Marine Trail Site. After a beach clean up, the group paddled north to Cama Beach State Park. With special permission from State Parks, the paddlers toured the restoration-inprogress of a 1930's resort. The new state park, currently closed to the public, will be home to conference facilities and rental cabins, a tribal education center, and a campus for the Center for Wooden Boats.

Join WWTA for the next Rendezvous on the Nisqually Delta, Saturday, August 26th. Paddlers will enjoy a presentation from naturalist Daniel Hull of the Nisqually Reach Nature Center and paddle one of the most pristine deltas on the shores of Puget Sound. Be sure to bring your binoculars and your sense of wonder! The paddle is suitable for skilled beginners. Registration is \$10 for members, \$15 for nonmembers. Return the form on page 7 or sign up online, visit: www.wwta.org/rendezvous

Easy Currents News

From Executive Director Reed Waite

The months of July and August are much like December at the office. Phones are quiet, meetings few and far between, and we get to some of the many many projects we thought earlier in the year that we'd never have time to do. In contrast to winter, incoming phone calls are from people planning to travel Washington waters in the very near future, seeking information about favorite existing or favored new sites.

This summer is especially hushed with WWTA's fulltime office staff of two, bent over computers, doing the work that three plus people performed last year. Bromley, out in the field, is working at retail stores, boat ramps, ferry docks,

campsites, and on the Cascadia Marine Trail with seasonal employee Jon Turner. The SEA Kayaker Team is getting the message out on low impact recreation, Leave No Trace ethics, and how to make sure boaters will have a better experience in the future.

It's splendid that Bromley will stay with WWTA after her second term as an Ameri-Corps member ends. She and Sarah will have over 4 years experience with water trails. Each brings a love of the outdoors and special talents to an increasingly professional organization.

The flip side is that WWTA will be without a full-time volunteer, Mennonite or AmeriCorps, for the first time since 2000. The expectation that we'll accomplish more is accompanied by the need for additional funding to support a staff of three fulltime professionals.

In the three-year period 2000 to 2002 WWTA payroll was over 54% of total expenses. Since 2003, payroll percentages have been dropping; in 2005 to 47.4%. In real dollars, payroll has gone up in the six-year period by \$28,000. WWTA is raising more dollars, spending more, and is becoming more efficient. If you appreciate the work that's being done, help us out with the donation of time (volunteering) or funding (dollars). Thank you.

From Board President Bruce Farrar

My guess is that every operator of a canoe, kayak or small sailboat enjoys the freedom they experience while on the water. Want to keep it that way? Then be safe.

During 25 years of non-motorized boating, my friends and I have never had an accident. Some might say this record is due to namby-pamby excursions with little opportunity for trouble. My response is trouble can be found anywhere. We in the boating community are best equipped to help ourselves prevent accidents.

Practice the following to increase your safety consciousness:

• Study safety

Read books and articles, enroll in classes and clinics

- Be well equipped Have safety gear and know how to use it, always wear a PFD
- · Plan ahead
 - Utilize maps, guides and other resources, file a float plan
- · Know your limits and the limits of your fellow boaters Know where to go and when to quit
- · Be fit and skilled

The strength of your body and mind can keep you from trouble

We at WWTA hope your summer is enjoyable and safe!



Easy Current News is published four times a year by Washington Water Trails Association, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and preserving Washington's marine environment by engaging individuals in personal exploration of this unique resource through education, volunteer stewardship, and low-impact travel.

Staff

Staff	
Executive Director Outreach Director Sound Action Educator SEA Kayaker	Reed Waite Sarah Krueger Bromley Henningsen Jon Turner
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Editor	Sarah Krueger





Summer 2006

Washington Water Trails Association 4649 Sunnyside Ave. N. Room 305 Seattle, WA 98103-6900 Phone: 206.545.9161 Fax: 206.547.0350 email: wwta@wwta.org http://www.wwta.org

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Annual WWTA Members' Pot CK!

Friday, September 15th • 5:30 - 8:00 pm Officer's House #7E, Fort Worden State Park Port Townsend

Join WWTA Members, Staff, and Board of Directors for an evening of good company, tasty food and libations during the West Coast Sea Kayak Symposium.

To RSVP, contact: potluck@wwta.org or call 206.545.9161

Real Money, No Joke



David and Parker on the job.

David Funes and Parker Woo, Meridian School third graders, spent their school days in Seattle's Good Shepherd Center, home to WWTA one floor above. The two raised \$26.22 for WWTA during the school's Community Day on June 13th. David and Parker created a cardboard WWTA storefront where they sold origami boats and hand-drawn water trail maps in exchange for "Meridian Bucks." A donation jar marked "Real Money - No Joke" collected legal tender for WWTA. Thank you, David and Parker!

Another fundraiser launched this summer when board member Miles Ohlrich began an 800-mile paddle from Anacortes to circumnavigate Vancouver Island. Miles will paddle 20 miles a day or more to raise money for two non-profits focused on State waters. WWTA and the Center for Environmental Law and Policy (CELP) will benefit from every stroke and donation. Show your support, visit Kayak for a Cause: www.active.com/donate/kayak_for_a_cause

Spring Stewardship



Blind Island volunteers atop English Ivy and Scotch Broom.

Thirteen WWTA members and Washington State Parks staff worked to rid Blind Island of scotch broom and English ivy on May 6th. The work party succeeded in removing all but a few inaccessible scotch broom plants from the small island in the San Juans.

Hope Island Site Steward Gerry Hodge organized a May 27th work party with sixteen WWTA members and South Sound Area Sea Kayakers and five State Parks staff members. The group spent 50 hours working to eradicate tansy ragwort from Hope Island's orchard.

Want to join the fun? Attend the Belfair State Park work party on August 17th or look for more work parties this fall!



Hope Island volunteers in the orchard.

Field Notes from the SEA Kayaker Team

Four weeks in to the SEA Kayaker Program and things are going well. This summer, WWTA hired Jon Turner, an energetic kayak enthusiast from Southern California, to join Bromley on the Cascadia Marine Trail (CMT) for nine weekends of Leave No Trace and WWTA outreach. From Friday morning until Monday afternoon, the team kayaks, camps, and chats with paddlers along the trail. Thus far, the team has reached nearly three hundred paddlers. Along the way, they have visited ten kayak outfitters and crossed paths with a number of guides and camp counselors. Each week brings a new adventure. Here's a sampling from the past four:

Week 1 – Orcas and Jones Island

A busy first week, the team's outreach efforts began while waiting for the ferry in Anacortes. Over the next couple of days, they reached nearly 100 people on Jones Island and surrounding waters, including 26 Camp Orkila counselors, an Outward Bound group, and the Nature Conservancy's caretaker on Yellow Island. Back on Orcas, the team spent time visiting the Island's many outfitters.

Week 2 – Vashon and Blake Island

A sunny week in Western Washington drew dozens of paddlers to all sides of Blake Island, as well as hordes of motorized boaters. Several paddlers joined the team at the CMT site each night, providing an excellent opportunity for discussion. The last afternoon was spent on Vashon, chatting with many of the Strawberry Festival participants and visiting the Island's outfitter.

Week 3 - Lopez and James Island

This week, the Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers joined the SEA Kayaker team. For two years, Dusty and Amy have been traveling via Subaru across the United States doing outreach for the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics. With two more people added to the mix, the team chatted with dozens of paddlers in the area and gave an impromptu presentation. To top things off, the group did an intense beach cleanup on Spencer Spit and updated the site's CMT signage.



Jon shares Leave No Trace resources with kayakers.

Week 4 - Seattle, Rattlesnake Lake, and Blake Island

Slightly different from other SEA Kayaker weeks, this week was spent doing outreach at the many outfitters in Seattle on Friday, tabling at Washington Trails Association's TrailsFest on Saturday, and a brief excursion to Blake Island on Sunday and Monday. Despite the unusually hot conditions, the team had a busy and successful week of outreach.

For more information about the SEA Kayaker Program and the team's whereabouts, visit www.wwta.org/lnt. The team looks forward to seeing you out on the water trail!

Special thanks to SEA Kayaker Program donors:

Annie's Homegrown, Bumble Bar, Island Outfitters, Kashi, and REI Lynwood Store

Clean Water at State Parks

Hood Canal's ecosystem is in trouble. Puget Sound is nearing this point, although many residents, according to a recent poll, are unaware of the state of the Sound. According to the Washington Department of Ecology, more than 5,700 acres of Sound and Canal underwater lands exceed safe and healthy levels of toxins. Governor Gregoire's cleanup initiative is fast action to restore these waters. Washington State Parks is making major investments in its aging water systems as part of the initiative.

Believing that state parks should be models of environmentally safe practices, and should lead by example, the 2006 supplemental budget included \$17.3 million to make improvements on storm water and wastewater treatment systems in 24 state parks in these two saltwater basins. Completion of projects is fast tracked with many expected by the summer of 2008. The funds also help State Parks fulfill its mission of natural resources stewardship and moves Parks toward its Centennial 2013 goal of taking better care of existing parks.

Twanoh State Park, site of a new Cascadia Marine Trail campsite, is closed to general camping this year as its entire wastewater collection and treatment system is being replaced. In Hood Canal, creosote removal and wastewater improvements are planned, or in process, at Belfair, Dosewallips, Kitsap Memorial, Pleasant Harbor, Potlatch, Scenic Beach, and Triton Cove. Parks with Cascadia Marine Trail sites on Puget Sound where work will be done include Blake Island, where WWTA volunteers surveyed creosote last spring, Camano Island, Deception Pass, Fay Bainbridge, Fort Ebey, Fort Flagler, Fort Worden, Kopachuck, Penrose Point, and Possession Point.



Sea Kayak Spring Seminar Success

Nearly 100 kayakers gathered at the Mountaineers Building on April 29th for the first annual Spring Sea Kayak Seminar. The Seminar, co-sponsored by WWTA and The Mountaineers, provided a forum for beginning and intermediate kayakers to browse vendors and attend lectures by expert instructors. Course topics included on-water photography, women-specific paddlesports gear, kayak repair, paddling technique, destinations, low-impact paddling skills, and more. The seminar raised over \$1,000 for WWTA and resulted in nine new memberships.



Participants browse the vendors between classes.

Thanks to the excellent Spring Seminar instructors: Andy Bridge of Werner Paddles Ken Campbell of Azimuth Expeditions Carey Gersten of Sea Trails Adventure Maps Dan Henderson of Cascade Canoe & Kayak Centers Hadley & Wayne Horodowich of the University of Sea Kayaking Dik Lang of REI Gary Luhm of Gary Luhm Photography Matthew Ross of Island Outfitters Barbara Sherrill of Kayak Academy Kirby Stevens of Coastal Waters Recreation

Thanks to the Spring Seminar vendors:

Backpackers Supply Cascade Canoe & Kayak Center Coastal Waters Recreation Island Outfitters Kayak Academy Olympic Outdoor Center SeaTrails Adventure Maps Seattle Raft & Kayak University of Sea Kayaking Werner Paddles

Staff Gets A+ in Low Impact Skills

WWTA's commitment to low impact recreation and resource protection increased June 5th with 100% of its staff receiving diplomas as Master Educators, the highest level of training offered by the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics. Leave No Trace is a national education program dedicated to inspiring responsible recreational practices through education, research and partnerships. Washington State Parks underwrote the course, Valterra Products of Mission Hills, California, donated fittings for poop tubes, and Kokatat lent PFD's and drysuits to participants.



Master Educators in training.

The five-day course began with a full day of class work including wildland ethics at the Good Shepherd Center in Seattle, continued with four days kayaking and in-the-field instruction and low impact camping skills demonstrations, and long evening discussions on outdoor teaching techniques while camping on the Cascadia Marine Trail. The graduates were awarded diplomas at the NOLS Pacific Northwest facility in Conway the final day. Whitman College Director of Outdoor Programs Brien Sheedy and Jan Prentice, a Master Educator from Port Orchard, were lead instructors.

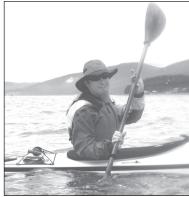
Two weekends after this course, Master Educators Bromley Henningsen and Sarah Krueger taught a weekend-long Leave No Trainer course at Andy Anderson Marine Park. 2006 is the fourth year in a row that WWTA has conducted Leave No Trainer courses.

REDUCE YOUR PADDLE PRINT

Petroglyphs, also known as rock carvings, petrographs or rock writings, and pictographs, painted onto stone, are the intellectual remains of earlier inhabitants. Just as you wouldn't take the Mona Lisa from the Louvre, or even touch it, regard these artistic human-made works found in the wild with the same awe and respect. These aren't travel souvenirs but fascinating artifacts of the rich human history you can

discover along our shores.

New WWTA Staff



Jon Turner

a kayak instructor and guide and has worked in numerous capacities as an outdoor educator. Currently a student at California State University Northridge, Jon is working toward a degree in Leisure Studies and Recreation, with an emphasis on nonprofit management. WWTA welcomes Jon's enthusiasm and experience!

On August 1st, Bromley Henningsen, a Missoula native who has lived

in Washington State for six years, joined the WWTA staff. But wait a minute - hasn't Bromley been on the WWTA staff as the Sound Action Educator for a while now?

Well, yes, sort of. For the past two years, Bromley worked at WWTA as an AmeriCorps volunteer via the Washington State Service Corps. She received a modest living allowance each month and upon the completion of 1,700 hours of service for each 10 ¹/₂ month term, received an educational award that helped her drop her undergraduate loans in half. Her second term is now over, but Bromley decided that two years with WWTA was not enough and decided to stay on as staff. She looks forward to delving into new areas at Washington Water Trails, as well as continuing her work with the Leave No Trace and stewardship programs.



Float participants ready for a day on the Clearwater River.

Jon Turner joins WWTA this summer as the seasonal SEA Kayaker Educator. During his three-month commitment at WWTA he will travel the Cascadia Marine Trail teaching low-impact recreation skills and promoting Leave No Trace ethics. He became a Leave No Trace Master Educator during WWTA's five-day course in June. Jon brings with him seven years of experience as



Bromley Henningsen



"Trails for Future Generations"

2006 Washington State Trails Conference Clarion Hotel & Conference Center • Yakima November 3rd & 4th

The Trails for Future Generations Conference is open to everyone with a passion for trails, on water or land. Conference sessions will focus on urban trails, funding, and succesful activism and outreach for trail advocates. After two days of networking and learning, participants may join guided field trips exploring nearby trails.

Details online at www.wwta.org/wstc



The Conference is hosted by the Washington State Trails Coalition. Founded in 1999, the purpose of the Washington State Trails Coalition is to protect, promote and enhance a statewide system of trails for both motorized and non-motorized oudoor recreation and transportation.

Clearwater River Float

On June 10th, river enthusiasts and friends of the Northwest Discovery Water Trail gathered at the Pink House Recreation Site in Orofino, Idaho to honor the Clearwater River and designate the water trail. After a ceremony and gift exchange with representatives of the Nez Perce Tribe, commissioners from Nez Perce and Lewis Counties installed a water trail marker. Escorted by Nez Perce and Clearwater County Sheriffs, participants boarded rafts and floated 19 miles of the fast-flowing Clearwater. The journey ended at the Clearwater River Company camp, where modern-day Lewis and Clark re-enactors gave a multimedia presentation about their experiences traveling historic water trails.

Volunteers

Stewardship Reports

Gayle Austin	Fort Ebey
Eric Bell	Burrows Island
Doug Garland	James Island
Gerry Hodge	Hope Island
Mark Levensky	Possession Point
Curtis Mobley	Stuart Island
Millard Martin	Salsbury Point
Pete Weiner	Point Robinson

Newsletter Mailing Party 5/3

Laura Deschner Tom Deschner Al Koski Jackie MacRae Fran Rehrmann Robert Taylor Mike Weller

Blind Island Work Party 5/6

Dianne Clark Frederick Clark Kristin Duin John Githens Eric Kocaja Carmelita Logerwell Edward Murphy Mark Murphy Toffer Palm

Puget Sound Sea Kayak Symposium 5/20-21

Bruce Farrar Jacob Farrar Toffer Palm Fran Rehrmann Michael Silence

THANK YOUS



day, year round. Pledge a small portion of your paycheck through your workplace giving campaign this fall. Your taxable income is reduced, WWTA receives donations as an Earth Share of Washington member, and together we'll be working, improving water access in Washington State.

Supporters

Business/Organization Members Aqua Sports Paddle Center Azimuth Expeditions Easy Rider Folding Kayak Adventures Hole in the Wall Paddle Club Kayak Academy Lil' Cat Boat Co. Ltd. North Sound Sea Kayaking Association NW Outdoor Center Ocean Kayak/Necky Kayaks Odyssey Builders Olympic Kayak Club Olympic Raft & Kayak **Outdoor Adventure Center** Paul Hirsch, Attorney at Law People for Puget Sound PT Outdoors Puget Sound Paddle Club Pygmy Boats, Inc Sea Kayaker, Inc. SealLine SeaTrails Spring Bay Inn The Mountaineers Foundation The Trust for Public Land Washburne Marine WA State Parks & Recreation Werner Paddles YMCA Camp Seymour

(For more Washington Water Trails merchandise, visit our website: www.wwta.org/shopping)		
WWTA T-Shirt		WWTA Rendevous Registration
Unisex size: M L XL XXL 3XL	\$20 x =	August 26th - Nisqually Delta \$10 x =
Women's Fit size: S M L XL	\$20 x =	Non-member \$15 x =
Lakes-To-Locks Trail Map		
West Region: \$6 (member), \$9.50 (non-m	ember) x =	
WWTA Decal	\$2 x =	
WWTA Patch	\$4 x =	
Donation	\$	
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WWTA will mail merchandise to the label address on the back of this form. Please correct as needed.		

Calendar

For updates and more info, visit www.wwta.org/news/calendar

August

- 12: Duwamish River Festival, 11am-3pm. Duwamish River Park in South Park, 7900 10th Ave S., Seattle
- 17: Belfair State Park Work Party, 9:30am-3:30pm. Help establish a new Cascadia Marine Trail Site! Clear trails, make campsites, and set signs with WWTA. Email Sarah or call 206.545.9161.
- 19: Sea Kayak Day at Seahurst Park, 8:30am-1pm. A family-friendly event for paddlers & non-paddlers alike. Onshore presentations & kayak tours of coastal geology led by a professional ecologist. For more info, contact the Burien Environmental Science Center, 206.478.0182.
- 26: WWTA Rendezvous on Nisqually Delta 10am - 4pm. Presentation by naturalist Daniel Hull followed by paddle through the delta. Sign up today, www.wwta.org/rendezvous
- 28: WWTA Board Meeting. 7pm Seattle Flagship REI (222 Yale Ave N)

September

- 4: WWTA office closed. Labor Day
- 12: Lower Columbia River Water Trail Meeting, 9:30am-12pm. Contact Chris Hathaway, chathaway@lcrep.org
- 15: WWTA Member Potluck. At the West Coast Sea Kayak Symposium, Port Townsend. Begins at 5:30pm at Officer's House #7E. RSVP to potuck@wwta.org
- 15-17: West Coast Sea Kayak Symposium. Major annual gathering at Fort Worden State Park in Port Townsend. Classes, presentations, film, demos, on water and off. www.wcsks.org Volunteers needed for the WWTA booth, contact volunteer@wwta.org
- 23: **Trace the Trail Paddle**,10am-4pm. Plymouth, WA to Hat Rock State Park, OR. 9 mile paddle through McNary Dam on the Columbia River. Info & sign up at www.ndwt.org
- 25: WWTA Board Meeting. 7 pm at Seattle Flagship REI (222 Yale Ave N)

- October
- 18: Easy Currents News deadline. Submit your articles & photos to editor@wwta.org

November

- 1: Easy Currents News mailing party, 6-8pm at the WWTA office.
- 3-4: Trails for Future Generations. Washington State Trails Coalition Conference, Yakima. www.wwta.org/wstc
- 23-24: WWTA office closed, Thanksgiving.
- 30: WWTA Board Meeting. 7 pm at Seattle Flagship REI (222 Yale Ave N)

Have some room on your calendar for WWTA?

Consider volunteering for our ongoing fundraising & stewardship efforts or joining the Board of Directors.

Interested? Write or call us: volunteer@wwta.org or 206.545.9161.



Preserving access to Washington's waters for future generations

Washington Water Trails Association

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