Easy Current News

The Washington Water Trails Association Quarterly Newsletter

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You are invited to WWTA's Open House

November 18th, 6-8pm Good Shepherd Center Chapel in Seattle



Live Bluegrass by The Shed Boys! Delicious Food & Beverages! Good Folks!

Help us celebrate accomplishments and recognize our dedicated volunteers. Meet fellow members and learn more about WWTA.

> Please RSVP to party@wwta.org

Inslee Introduces Water Trail Bill

letter of support for legislation that would further National Historic Trail. Inslee started the proprotect and elevate the status of the Cascadia cess in August when he introduced legislation Marine Trail. U.S. Representative Jay Inslee introduced the legislation that aims to start the process of granting the CMT status as a National Scenic or National Historic Trail.

"Puget Sound is a national treasure both for its recreational opportunities and natural resources," said Inslee, a resident of Bainbridge Island, who serves on the House panel with jurisdiction over the Department of the Interior. "This designation would help ensure that generation after generation of Americans can enjoy the it will take a large amount of community support history and culture of these waterways."

A trail has to go a through long approval

Washington Water Trails recently submitted a process before it becomes a National Scenic or providing for funding for a feasibility study. An avid kavaker. Inslee thinks the Cascadia Marine Trail deserves the national recognition that this designation would provide, as well as the greater protections that would result.

> Following a successful study additional legislation will be required to authorize the trail designation. Finally, the National Park Service will create a management plan that will make the trail designation a reality. To be successful and engagement.

> > Continued on Page 5

Pioneer Park Joins the Trail

On Saturday, August 9th, Washington Water Trails Association and the Town of La Conner celebrated the designation of a new Cascadia Marine Trail campsite at Pioneer Park. But first, we needed a campsite to be celebrated! So began the day with a gathering of volunteers and WWTA staff for a work party, prepared to establish tent pads, transplant native plants, carve out a new trail and surface it with pit gravel.

Eight hours of leveling ground, rolling boulders, and setting posts resulted in a brand new CMT site with a view of the Swinomish Channel. La Conner Town Administrator John Doyle and WWTA Executive Director Julie Anderson conducted a brief ceremony while installing a trail marker at the landing site, the boat ramp on Sherman Avenue. The partners recognized more than two years of planning efforts for the new site, with participation from the Town of La Conner administration and the Department of Public Works, Washington Water Trails Association and local volunteers. Participants of the day's events enjoyed a celebratory cookout under a picnic shelter, just in time for afternoon showers.



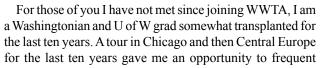
Volunteers create a trail to the new campsite

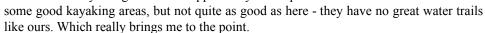
Pioneer Park is at the foot of the orange Rainbow Bridge in La Conner. The CMT site is across the street from the public boat ramp, on a knoll between the parking lot and the bridge. North of the park, nearby downtown La Conner offers eateries, watering holes, local art, and a historical museum. Pioneer Park is between two prime paddling and wildlife destinations: the Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve to the north and the Skagit Wildlife Area to the south. Swinomish Channel is often busy with boat traffic and the current can be difficult to predict. Use caution and follow the rules of thumb for predicting current listed in the online Cascadia Marine Trail Guidebook.

The Newsletter of WWTA / Autumn 2008 Easy Currents News

From Board President Don Crook

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Don Crook and I have the honor of assuming the WWTA Board President position with Jim Emery's end of term. Rachel Van Noord will also join me as Board VP with Judy Moyer's end of term. Fortunately, Jim and Judy will continue as Board members and we thank them for their on-going outstanding dedication and service. Additionally, the Board gains three new members - Laurie Staley, Ann Reiser, and (returning) Bruce Farrar. We are glad to have them on-board.





I joined WWTA, as I am sure you did, because I believe in public access to Washington waterways and ensuring these natural and cultural resources are there for future generations. Great things have been accomplished since WWTA's inception, but as somebody once said, "Not moving forward is standing still". Not particularly profound, but never the less true. Even today WWTA faces many challenges to maintain the accomplishments made - financial shortfalls, sometimes-indifferent governmental entities, and difficulties communicating, coordinating, and mobilizing our widespread membership. Julie Anderson and the WWTA staff, myself, and the rest of the Board commit ourselves to besting these obstacles, but we need all the help we can get. We solicit, welcome, and thank your for your help and support. See you along the trail.

From Executive Director Julie Anderson

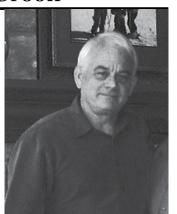
It's a turbulent time on the US and world financial scene. We can only hope that things will turn around sooner than later! WWTA is fortunate to receive funding from REI (page 5). This money is allocated for Leave No Trace Education, volunteer work parties, and water trail stewardship. The grant will go a long ways to help maintain existing programs, but WWTA will need additional help from its members to stay afloat in these unpredictable times. Please consider participating in our Annual Fund Drive and/or giving at your workplace (see page 3).

With all that is happening in the world, WWTA is still focused on protecting and increasing public access in Washington State. The enthusiasm and talent of all the folks

I have met in the last few months continues to amaze me. Whether it's volunteers, staff, agency folks... they all have one thing in mind – protecting and promoting water trails in Washington State!

In September WWTA hosted an international water trails conference. WWTA staff and volunteers met and networked with people from all over the United States and Canada. We shared ideas and gained new friends. Following the conference, WWTA attended the 25th Anniversary of the West Coast Sea Kayak Symposium. It was a great place for me to meet many of our members and volunteers!

On November 18th WWTA hosts an Open House. This is a chance for us to recognize our volunteers and site stewards, celebrate accomplishments, and meet our members. I hope you will join us for food, drinks and live music at the Good Shepherd Center Chapel. RSVP to party@wwta.org. See you there!



Easy Current News is published four times a year by Washington Water Trails Association, a nonprofit organization that promotes advocacy, education, and stewardship of public access to Washington's waterways for people in human and wind powered beachable watercraft.

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Number 4

Easy Current News

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Autumn 2008

Volume 17



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Keep it Local: Support Recreation on Washington Waters

benefits our health, communities, and environment. A similar case is perhaps even more valuable. As agency budgets see shortfalls, could be made for recreating local – and why it's more important WWTA will continue to champion for water trails, making sure that now than ever. In a time when travel is increasingly expensive and sites remain open and accessible. In the meantime, we continue to many people consider their carbon footprint when planning a vaca- advocate for new facilities and access points. WWTA is also working tion, getting in a human-powered boat and exploring your own state to provide better water trail information to its members. just seems to make sense. If you are a Washington resident, chances are you are within 100 miles of one, if not several, water trails. If you are not a Washington resident, we offer our condolences, and invite you to come play on the water anyways.

Many of you have heard the arguments for eating local and how it

During these times of economic troubled waters, WWTA's work

WWTA needs member support to keep afloat. Please consider giving during our Annual Fund Drive, your direct donation is vital

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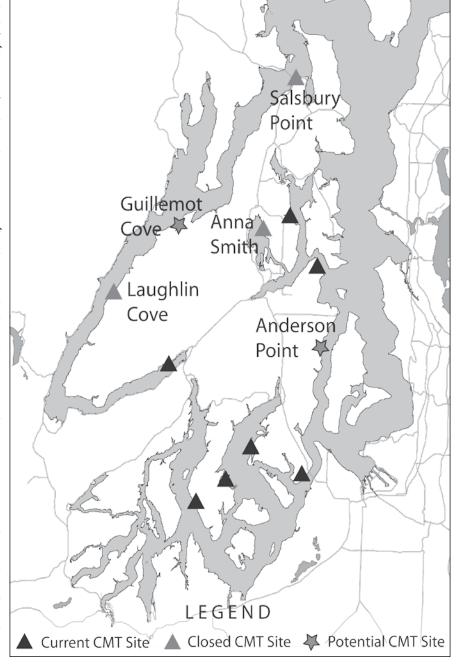
Kitsap County Cascadia Marine Trail Updates

In February, Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department unexpectedly closed its three Cascadia Marine Trail (CMT) Sites: Laughlin Cove, Anna Smith, and Salsbury Point. As cornerstone water trail sites on the Kitsap Peninsula's 300+ miles of shoreline, their closure leaves a gaping hole in the Cascadia Marine Trail. Although the campsites had been available for non-motorized boaters for many years, county codes prohibited camping in parks. When this discrepancy came to light, the park system opted to close the CMT sites with little notice.

Thanks to an outpouring of support from local WWTA members, articles in the North Kitsap Herald and the Kitsap Sun, and sustained efforts by WWTA staff to communicate the importance of the Cascadia Marine Trail, Kitsap County Parks and Recreation is committed to re-opening some of the water trail campsites, and possibly adding a couple more to the trail system. The County is working on approving code amendments to allow camping and the Parks department is crafting a contract with WWTA to help secure better communication between the two partners.

When negotiations are complete, WWTA expects to see Salsbury Point and Laughlin Cove re-join the ranks of Cascadia Marine Trail sites. The Anna Smith campsite will remain closed until substantial erosion problems are addressed. Some of the sites will see changes in respect to fire policies and overflow camping. One major change is that all Kitsap County park restrooms will be closed October 1 - March 31st. Potential Kitsap County additions may include Guillemot Cove on Hood Canal and Anderson Point on Colvos Passage.

WWTA members will be the first to know as soon as these very special Cascadia Marine Trail sites are available to the public. The online Cascadia Marine Trail Guidebook will be updated with changes to reestablished sites and details about new sites. Stay tuned and be sure to thank Kitsap County Parks for their hard work in re-establishing the Cascadia Marine Trail along the Kitsap Peninsula.



Cascadia Marine Trail Sites on the Kitsap Peninsula

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Water Trails Conference

In September Washington Water Trails hosted *Opening Doors to Water Trails*, the first international water trail conference since 2001. 65 participants from North America's eastern and western coasts enjoyed an array of presentations, panels, and discussions for three days in Port Townsend. WWTA cemented its position as one of the leading water trails organizations by organizing the event.

Financial and in-kind support from National Park Service Rivers and Trails, Washington State Parks, Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership, Sea Kayaker Magazine, and SeaTrails Adventure Maps ensured high quality presentations. WWTA member volunteers Sue Abbott, David Gluckman, Judy Moyer, Fran Troje, and Reed Waite assisted WWTA staff planning and conducting the event.

The Conference attracted representation from national organizations like the American Canoe Association, American Rivers, and American Trails; neighbors such as Oregon State Parks, Tillamook Estuaries Partnership, and the revitalized BC Marine Trails network; and instate efforts on Skagit, Columbia, and Pend Oreille Rivers.

Bob Campbell's keynote speech was *Chesapeake Water Trails: Making a Connection with the Bay, Then and Now.* The Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network includes the Captain John Smith Water Trail, 160 partner sites and 1,500 miles of water trails across its 64,000 square mile watershed.

One fifth of the attendees gathered to discuss planning the next water trails conference to be held within 3 years. Their enthusiasm encouraged American Canoe Association, American Rivers, and National Park Service Rivers and Trails program to hold talks in D.C. on promoting future conferences.

Keep it Local...

Continued from Page 3

to continuing WWTA's mission to promote advocacy, education, and stewardship of public access to Washington's waterways for people in human and wind powered beachable watercraft. You can donate online at www.wwta.org/afd.

Annual payroll deduction plans, offered by many employers and conducted in autumn, are another excellent way to fund WWTA work. A set amount is deducted before taxes from your check; it's one of the easiest ways to give. Your employer may run a giving campaign of its own, or work with the United Way or Earth Share of Washington. In any case you can designate, via a pledge form, your favorite charity – Washington Water Trails Association. See *Workplace Giving 101* on page 7 for how to donate via Earth Share.

For those who give directly, there's still time to check if your company has a charitable gift matching program which can sometimes double or triple your contribution. No matter how you give, you'll be securing the successful outcomes for WWTA and helping make the future better for people using Washington's valuable shores. Thank you!



Opening Doors to Water Trails Attending Organizations:

American Canoe Association

American Rivers

American Trails

American Whitewater Association

BC Marine Trails

Bend Metro Parks and Recreation

California State Coastal Conservancy

Center for Wooden Boats

Citizen Paddler

Connecticut Water Trails

Elakah Expeditions

Florida Circumnavigational Saltwater Paddling Trail

Florida Paddling Trails Association

Friends of the Petaluma River

GK Hodge Associates

Lando & Associates Landscape Architecture

Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics

Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership

Maine Island Trail Association

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

National Park Service

National Park Service Rivers & Trails

Northern Forest Canoe Trail

NPS Chesapeake Bay Gateways & Watertrails Network

Oregon Recreation & Parks Department

PacifiCorp Energy

Pend Oreille River Tourism Alliance

Port of Chelan County

San Francisco Bay Access Group

Sentier Maritime du Saint-Laurent

Saint Lawrence Water Trail

Susquehanna River Water Trail

The Mountaineers

The Writing Works

Tillamook Estuaries Partnership

U.S. Forest Service

WA State Recreation & Conservation Office

Washington Water Trails Association

Willamette Riverkeeper

REI Grant Supports Programs

On September 24th, the REI Distribution Center in Auburn awarded Washington Water Trails a \$10,000 grant for WWTA's Triple Impact Project. These grant funds will support costs associated in recruiting volunteers for work parties, educating hundreds of people in Leave No Trace skills and ethics, and purchasing materials to accelerate ongoing restoration projects at Cascadia Marine Trail campsites in Puget Sound. The grant will enable WWTA to increase public participation in the stewardship of Washington State waters and shores and improve the recreational experience of people in human-powered boats.

REI Grant funds will supplement WWTA's budget for native plants, allowing us to reach our restoration goals for 2008/2009. REI Grant funds also directly support WWTA's targeted Leave No Trace education and outreach programs, including the Sound Education and Action Kayaker Program and presentations at club meetings, conferences, and symposia throughout the year.

The Washington Water Trails Association Triple Impact Project will positively promote low impact water-based recreation, help conserve

natural shorelines of Washington State, and will educate future advocates for public access to Washington waters. Thanks to REI employees for their continuing support of WWTA!



WWTA Staff with the "Big Check"

Water Trail Legislation

Continued from Page 1

The legislation is currently in committee and you can help. Please show your support and write the committee chairs urging a hearing on the bill and a subsequent markup of HR 6470, which would study the feasibility of adding the Cascadia Marine Trail in Puget Sound to the National Trails System. Washington residents can submit comments to Representative Inslee directly on his website, or by mail. Other Committee chairs may be reached by mail.

Please contact the Committee Chairs:

US Representative Jay Inslee 403 Cannon HOB Washington, DC 20515-4701 http://www.house.gov/inslee/contact/

The Honorable Nick J Rahall, II Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources House of Representatives 1324 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raul M. Grijalva Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests & Public Lands House of Representatives 1324 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

SEA Team Partners With BLM in San Juans

The 2008 summer Sound Education and Action (SEA) Kayaker Program succeeded in reaching over 500 people on the water, at launch sites, in ferry lines, and at 20 Cascadia Marine Trail Sites. The SEA Team, composed of Ella Goodbrod and North Moench, conducted activities with youth, shared information with individuals, and gave presentations to clubs and groups they met on the water trail. Subject matter ranged from low impact recreation skills, onwater safety, and public access issues in Washington.



The SEA Team came across On Paddle's Wings, a youth group from Belfair, on Turn Island. The group of highschool students were completing a weeklong trip through the San Juan Islands in kayaks they built themselves.

This year the Team also surveyed recreational use on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) properties in the San Juan Islands. The BLM manages over 800 acres of land in the San Juan Islands. These lands include Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, two historical light stations, several campgrounds, and numerous small islands. The BLM hopes to have up to date visitor use information or data to better understand the activities that are taking place on BLM administered lands in the San Juan Islands. In addition to collecting visitor use information, the SEA Team evaluated properties for potential new water trail access or campsite locations.

Sea Kayak & Canoe Winter Seminar

February 7-8, 2009 · Community Center at Mercer View, Mercer Island

Warm up for a season of paddlesports during the indoor Sea Kayak & Canoe Winter Seminar. Spend two days in the company of paddling experts, instructors, and enthusiasts. Beginner and experienced paddlers alike will find courses to inform and inspire their next adventures on the water. Course topics include trip planning and navigation skills, fitness and technique, paddling destinations, gear selection, wildlife viewing, and more!

Early Bird Tickets: \$65 weekend pass, \$35 day pass After January 5th: \$70 weekend pass, \$40 day pass

More details at www.wwta.org/seminar

WWTA Members Have Good Taste

The West Coast Sea Kayak Symposium celebrated its 25th Anniversary in September as the largest and oldest symposium of its kind in North America and WWTA was there to help! Members, board, staff, and friends kicked off the weekend with the annual Member Potluck. Over 50 WWTA supporters turned out bringing with them a vast array of delicious appetizers, desserts, and main dishes like Bruce Farrar's Famous Frogmore Stew (see recipe below to relive the magic!). Thank you to all those who attended and a big thanks to all the volunteers who helped out at the WWTA booth. With your help we were able to sign up 20 new members!

Recipies from the Member Potluck

Frogmore Stew Recipe

Submitted by Bruce Farrar

Frogmore Stew has nothing to do with frogs. The name comes from a community on the South Carolina coast. For me it has become one of my favorite group-size meals. Similar to the crawfish boils in Louisiana, this "low country boil" is best served so it can be eaten with the fingers and shared with family and friends.

Ingredients (Serves 8 to 10):

4 quarts cold water

1/4 cup Old Bay seasoning

1 tablespoon kosher salt, more to taste 4 celery stalks cut into 1 inch pieces

1 yellow onion

1 head chopped garlic

2 pounds small red potatoes cut in quarters

4 ears corn cut into 3 or 4 pieces each

2 pounds smoked sausage cut into 1.5 inch slices

2 pounds medium shrimp, deveined in the shell

Cooking Instructions:

In a large pot (Luse a roaster pan) over medium-high heat combine water, Old Bay Seasoning, 1 T salt, celery, onion, garlic and potatoes – bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer until potatoes are just before tender – 10 to 15 minutes but be careful because you don't want mushy potatoes. Add corn and sausage and simmer until corn is tender – 4 to 5 minutes. Add add-ins as you want – I use mushrooms and a splash of my favorite spicy sauce. Add shrimp about five minutes before serving. Simmer shrimp until just turning pink - don't overcook! Taste broth and add salt if necessary. Serve immediately from the pot.

■ Dennis Hartup's Pina Colada Cake

Bake a yellow cake mix in a 9x13 pan. Let cool then drizzle can of sweetened condensed milk over the cake and allow it to soak in. Frost the top of the cake with cool whip and sprinkle with shredded coconut.







Work for WWTA: Workplace Giving 101

Workplace giving is an efficient way to support WWTA, especially if your employer offers payroll deductions through Earth Share of Washington (ESW). Earth Share of Washington is a federation of over 60 organizations inspiring people to care and provide for livable communities and a healthy planet. WWTA is one of 22 Washington-based Earth Share member groups. Your gift can be directed toward WWTA, or you can choose to make a general donation to Earth Share, to be distributed evenly among member organizations.

Giving to Washington Water Trails Association via Earth Share is an option for many corporate, state, county, and federal employees. Not sure if your place of employment offers Earth Share giving? Check the list of partners at www.esw.org/giving/partners. html. If your workplace does not have a relationship with Earth Share, please let WWTA know, we can help your business partner with Earth Share.

Government Workplaces

If you work for one of the many government agencies in Washington such as the State of Washington, the University of Washington, Washington State University, the federal government, City of Seattle, King County, as well as many other counties and cities, you can find ESW and member groups like WWTA listed in the campaign catalog under the "Earth Share of Washington." Write the ESW and/or the United Way Campaigns WWTA code number on your payroll pledge form.

WWTA charity codes for select government pledge forms:

WA State Employees - Combined Fund Drive Code: 0315055 King County Employees - Code: 2564

Federal Employees - Combined Federal Campaign Code: 49918

Griffin Bay

Stuart Island



Corporate Workplaces

If you work for one of many corporations that include ESW in your workplace giving campaign, find ESW on your payroll pledge form and write Washington Water Trails and/or ESW as a specific designation.

If ESW is not yet listed by your employer in your workplace giving campaign, you can designate Washington Water Trails and/ or ESW in the "Specific Organization" or "donor option" section of your United Way pledge form. Ask your campaign coordinator how to do this if it is not clear.

Volunteers

Cascadia Marine Trail Site Steward Reports Gayle Austin Ft. Ebey SP

Ken Biddle Skagit Island Jean Caldwell Potlatch SP Mark Cole Joemma Beach Doug Garland James Island Grey Wolf Ranch Kinney Point Timmy Hallmark Deception Pass Ed Herold Ft. Flagler SP Gerald Hodge Hope Island Suzanne Lewis & Katey Lent Kopachuck Lee Metcalf Ft. Ward SP Curtis Mobley Blake Island Patrick Morrison Ala Spit Dave & Helaine Mottershead Penrose Point Manchester SP Ronald Oberst Burrows Island Don & Robin Partington Kopachuck SP Reed Waite Pt. Doughty

Newsletter Mailing Party 8/6

Alan Goodman Dave Humeston Jackie MacRae Reed Waite

Mike Woolf

THANK YOUS

Kayak Point Beach Expo 8/3 Bruce Farrar

Opening Doors to Water Trails 9/16-18

David Gluckman Gerry Hodge Judy Moyer Micheal Silence Fran Troie Reed Waite

West Coast Sea Kayak Symposium 9/19-21

Sue Abbott Ken Biddle Mark Cole Don Crook Bruce Farrar Christine Ferris Dennis Hartup Gerry Hodge Judy Moyer Ann Rieser Fran Troie Reed Waite

Potlach State Park Work Party10/25

Gerry Hodge Joy Farquar

Supporters

Business/Organization Members

Anacortes Kayak Tours Cascade Canoe & Kayak Centers, Inc. Cascadia Kavak Tours Discovery Sea Kayaks Pachner & Associates, LLC Port of South Whidbey Island PT Outdoors SealLine Sound Rowers University Kayak Club

SEA Kayaker Team Sponsors

University of Sea Kayaking

Bureau of Land Management BumbleBar Delta Kayaks Kokatat Norcross Wildlife Foundation Outdoor Research Werner Paddles **WWTA Members**

Calendar



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

November

18: **WWTA Open House**. Celebrate accomplishments, learn what's new with WWTA and meet fellow members. 6-8pm in the Good Shepherd Center Chapel. Free. RSVP to party@wwta.org.

27-28: **WWTA Office Closed.** Happy Thanksgiving!

December

24-25: **WWTA Office Closed.** Happy Holidays!

31: WWTA Office Closed. Happy New Year!

January

- 1: WWTA Office Closed. Happy New Year!
- Deadline for Sea Kayak & Canoe Winter Seminar Early Bird Registration.
 \$65 for weekend pass, \$35 for day.

February

- 7-8: **Sea Kayak & Canoe Winter Seminar.**Indoor lectures and instruction at
 Community Center at Mercer View.
 www.wwta.org/seminar.
- 11: **Easy Current News Mailing Party**. 6-8pm at WWTA Office. RSVP to volunteer@wwta.org.

March

4: Deadline for Early Bird tickets to WWTA's Annual Dinner & Auction.

Early registration is \$60 per person, \$480 for table of eight.

April

4: It's A Shore Thing: WWTA's Annual Dinner & Auction. Entertaining, delicious, and a great cause, WWTA's annual fundraiser is not-to-bemissed. Visit www.wwta.org/auction.

Have time on your calendar for WWTA?

Get invovled!

WWTA is recruiting volunteers for the following positions:

- Cascadia Marine Trail Site Stewards for Lighthouse Park, Pioneer Park, and San Juan County Park
- Auction committee members, procurement helpers, & day-of -event volunteers
- Sea Kayak & Canoe Winter Seminar volunteers
- Grant writers & seekers

For more information or to sign up, email volunteers@wwta.org or call 206.545.9161



Preserving access to Washington's waters for future generations

Washington Water Trails Association 4649 Sunnyside Avenue North, Room 305 Seattle, WA 98103-6956

Nonprofit Organization U.S. POSTAGE PAID Seattle, WA No. 1464