



The Recreation Report



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

The Return of the Regional Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| North Region | 2 |
| E&E Forester | 2 |
| IMBA | 2 |
| South Region | 3 |
| New Rec. Tec. | 3 |
| Volunteering info | 3 |
| In the News | 4 |
| Closure Season | 4 |
| Events Calendar | 4 |

Welcome to the first issue of the **Recreation Report**, Pacific Cascade Region's recreation and volunteering newsletter on Department of Natural Resources (DNR) land. The newsletter will be a quarterly report whose purpose is to provide recreational users a source for information and resources within the DNR's Pacific Cascade recreation areas. This also will serve as a forum for our recreational staff to keep you informed on the status of the trails and recreation spots that you all enjoy.

Some of the things the newsletter will include are a calendar of upcoming events as well as articles to help highlight and inform users and regional partners on what is going on within the DNR. Thank you all for your contributions to the DNR and we look forward to working with you on expanding this newsletter.

Sincerely,

Nick Cronquist

Outreach & Volunteer Coordinator

New Standards in Trail Building, IMBA Visits Capitol Forest

The International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) had a trail building seminar in Olympia on the 18th and 19th of October which was organized by our local user group the Friends of Capitol Forest (FOCF). IMBA is a non-profit educational association whose mission is to create, enhance, and preserve great trail experiences worldwide. IMBA encourages low-impact riding, volunteer trailwork participation, and cooperation among different trail user groups.

Friends of Capital Forest provided a BBQ lunch on Friday for participants in a day long trail school seminar. The IMBA crew provided great information on current standards for building and maintaining trails. Working with DNR staff IMBA and FOCF located a poorly built stretch of trail that they could reroute. Saturday IMBA sponsored an onsite trail building seminar. The volunteers from the trail school on Friday were then able to go out to the site and put there newly acquired knowledge to use. With their help a poor section of trail was brought up to current standards and was followed by a group ride. Thank you to all that participated in this great event.



Workers help dig out and clear a new reroute for a trail

Link to a story written for the Olympian
<http://www.theolympian.com/southsound/story/627522.html>

Volunteer to be a Camp Host

If you or someone you know would like to be a camp host next summer please contact your recreational manager for an application

The Pacific Cascade Region encompasses more than 540,977 acres of State Trust Land. This includes 33 recreation sites and 270 miles of maintained recreational trail.

Introducing Randy Warnock

North Recreation Manager

Hello, my name is Randy Warnock, and I am excited about working in Capitol Forest as the new recreation manager. My background is in private construction and it has been a privilege to have worked for DNR the last 25 years. I started in the Engineering Division working on facilities throughout the state. In fact, I helped build the last fire lookouts in Washington. About half of my career has been in Engineering and Facilities statewide and as construction superintendent.

The other half of my DNR career has been at Cedar Creek Corrections Center in Capitol Forest. I was the DNR superintendent at Cedar Creek with 14 crews of 10 offenders each plus crew supervisors and managers.

It was time to look for other opportunities, and I was excited that I was able to become the new recreation manager.

For the last 35 years, I have been married to my best friend, Rhonda. With my wife, family, and friends, I have backpacked, mountain climbed, snow-shoed, cross-country skied, canoed and sea kayaked throughout Washington.

I also am an avid outdoor photographer, and have had over 100 of my photos published. Between wilderness adventures, camping and working on wildfires, I spend over two months a year in a tent. You can email him at, Randy.Warnock@dnr.wa.gov

Dwight Combs: New Capitol Forest E and E Forester



I am Dwight Combs, the new Education and Enforcement Forester for Capitol Forest. I am retired from the Washington State Patrol after 27 years, 12 as a patrolman 15 as a detective.

As the E and E Forester, I am in a position to be a conduit between the state and the user groups working in partnership to address the needs of Capitol Forest. I am a member of a team, DNR recreation and our stake-holders,

in making the recreational user areas of Capitol Forest **safer, cleaner, more productive**, and helping in **identifying and prosecuting** those that choose to misuse and destroy our forest.

Since my hiring in June 2008, I have attended user- group and neighborhood meetings. The concerns that have come out of the meetings are being addressed and many have been corrected. This is only the tip of the iceberg. With the friendships that have been developed and the professional attitudes that immersed from my many dealings with the multitude of the user groups, the goal of making Capitol Forest an area of choice to bring families, mountain bicyclists, ATV users, campers, hikers and horse riders will be accomplished.

DNR Under New Leadership With Goldmark

As a result of the November 5 elections, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources will be under the guidance of Peter Goldmark as Commissioner of Public Lands. Mr. Goldmark will be the thirteenth Lands Commissioner to take office and has a background in public service. He graduated from Okanogan High School in Okanogan and is the first Lands Commissioner to hail from the Eastern half of the state. Mr. Goldmark is a rancher and has also served as a wild-land firefighter for

more than 30 years.

In this time of transition, we will continue to keep you, our community partners, aware of all things that will affect your partnerships with the DNR. Whether in recreation or in volunteering, your needs and opinions will continue to be heard and addressed by the region staff. We want to continue to look forward and expand our efforts in reaching the public's needs in working with the DNR.

Yacolt Volunteers Rock!

South Recreation Manager

Hello everyone,

My name is Jessica Kimmick, and I've been the Recreation Manager for the Pacific Cascade Region of the DNR for a little bit over a year now. Since I've started, the one thing that has become apparent to me is how much volunteers do for the recreation program and for the agency in general. In the short time I've been here, I have had the opportunity to see excellent work done and thousands of hours donated by our volunteers. For this, my staff and I would like to say thank you to each and every one of you.

I would also like to remind you that we have our Trail Advisory Group (TAG) meetings which are held every other month in Woodland for updates and information on everything recreation related, and everyone's invited and encouraged to attend. Please contact me for more information.

I look forward to seeing you and working with you soon!

You can email her at, Jessica.Kimmick@dnr.wa.gov

Kyle Buckmiller: New Southern Recreation Technician



My name is Kyle Buckmiller and I am the non-motorized maintenance and operations recreation technician for the trails and campgrounds out of Tukes work center in Battle Ground in the Yacolt Burn State Forest. I attended college in Spokane, WA achieving my degree majoring in Natural Resources, with my minors focusing on parks and recreation operation,

forestry, fish and wildlife, and environmental science. I graduated in March of this year and was hired on the Department of Natural Resources in May and moved to the Battle Ground area from Spokane. I have volunteered for the United States Forest Service for five seasons as a wilderness trail steward in the Pasayten wilderness, and four seasons working for the Washington State Parks Commission as a Park Aide. You will most likely find me fishing, hunting, hiking, camping, or snowmobiling during my free time.

Closure dates are from December 1 through April 30 for region recreational trails unless specified.

Volunteering Information

Create the Next Volunteer T-shirts

We are looking for creative new designs for the 2009 recreation volunteer t-shirts. These designs should represent our entire group of dedicated volunteers throughout the region. If you feel that you have a great idea, or would like some more information about the competition please email nick.cronquist@dnr.wa.gov no later than March 1st. Winners will be chosen by DNR recreation staff and announced in the Spring Newsletter.

Picture Competition

As part of future newsletters, we will be holding a volunteer picture competition. We are seeking quality pictures from our users that show volunteers working and recreating on DNR land. All winners will receive a small prize, as well as being recognized in the newsletter. Winners will be chosen by our DNR staff at our district meetings. To enter, email images to nick.cronquist@dnr.wa.gov and include your name, date, and the location on your pictures.

In the News: Rock Creek Camp Host

In the September 8 edition of the Clark County Columbian, our long time Rock Creek campground camp host, LeRoy Leaf, was featured in a spotlight news article. Written by staff writer Michael Anderson, Leroy was asked about the years of service that he has put in and some of the things that he has seen in his time at Rock Creek. The article is an insightful look into a

devoted camp host and an amazing volunteer. Please have a look at the link provided to read more information about our wonderful host. Or make a trip out there to meet him yourself and enjoy the beautiful campground that he has enjoyed looking after for all of these years.

Article Link.
<http://www.columbian.com/article/20080908/NEWS02/309089956>

Winter Trail Closure Season Goes Region-Wide

Starting with the 2009 recreational season, the Pacific Cascade Region will have region wide closure dates from December 1 through April 30. This will help in DNR's efforts to limit resource damage in the wet winter months, and aid in maintaining the trail systems.

The closure will apply to all ORV trails, as well as on other specific trail systems based on

necessity as determined by the DNR recreational managers. The closure duration will not be increasing rather it is an adjustment of one month to allow for the ground to harden for the busy use season.

If you have any questions on these closures please contact your recreational manager.

Upcoming Scheduled Events:

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| Mega Fat A** Ultra Run Event | Fall Creek Day Use | January 17 |
| The Great Gravel Pack-In | Mima Falls Campground | March 7 |
| Earth Day Festivities (Observed) | Mima Mounds Natural Area | April 25 |
| 5 th Annual Capitol Peak 50 mile | Fall Creek Day Use | April 25 |
| Spring Fling ORV Poker Run | Middle Waddle Day Use | May 2-3 |
| National Trails Day | DNR Recreation Trails | June 6 |
| Smuggler Poker Run | Middle Waddle Loop | August 15-16 |
| Rock n Roll Poker Run | Jones Creek Trailhead | August 23 |

Questions on these events or if you would like to have your event added to the calendar please contact Nick Cronquist

Current Campground Closures

Capitol Forest

All campgrounds are closed during the trail closure season.

Winston Creek

By reservation only

Butte Creek

Closed for season

Dougan Creek

By reservation only

Merrill Lake

Open March 15–Nov 15

Snag Lake

Closed for salvage logging

Western Lakes

Closed for salvage logging

Woodland

By reservation only

DNR PACIFIC CASCADE REGIONAL OFFICE

601 Bond Road
 PO Box 280
 Castle Rock
 Washington
 98611

(360) 575-2025

Newsletter E-Mail:

nick.cronquist@dnr.wa.gov

DNR Website

www.dnr.wa.gov