

OUTDOORS WEST

Fall 2020

The Official Publication of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs

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Our National Parks and Lands Finally Get Some Help

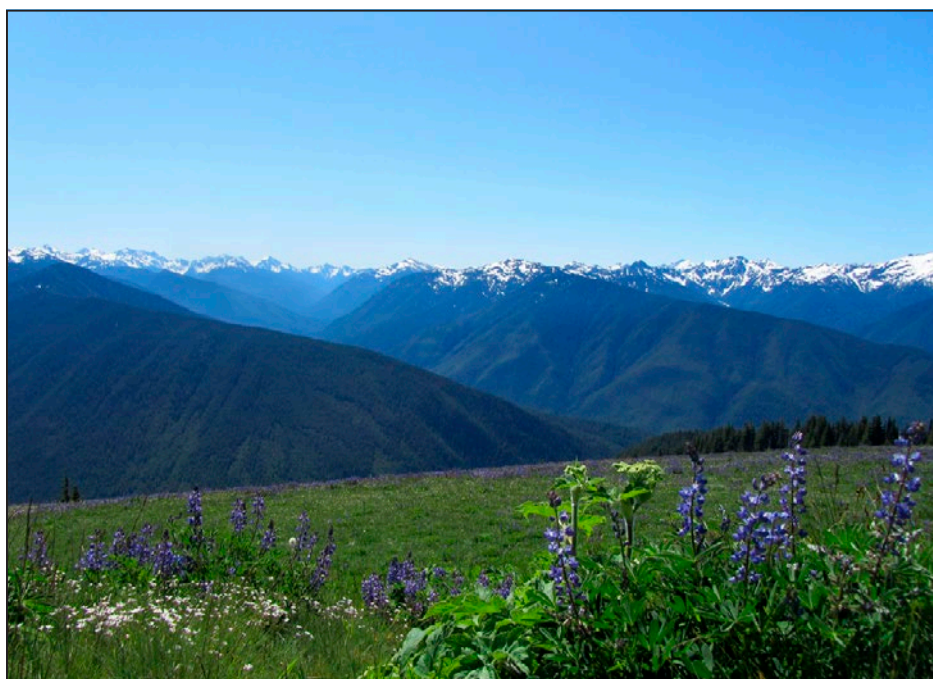
On August 4th President Trump signed the Great American Outdoors Act, the largest public lands spending bill into law. The bill establishes the National Parks and Public Lands Legacy Restoration Fund to address the almost \$10 billion in deferred maintenance projects on our National Parks and federal lands. Western National Parks including Mt. Rainier, Olympic, Crater Lake, Yosemite, Redwoods, Glacier and Yellowstone will benefit.

The bill also secures full permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, whose \$900 million per year is funded from offshore oil and gas royalties. The funds are to be used for deferred maintenance projects in lands administered by the National Park Service, Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Education.

The Senate passed S. 3422 in June on a bipartisan vote of 73 to 25. Western Senators from Washington, Oregon, California, Montana and Colorado were Co-Sponsors and voted for the bill; Idaho Senators were opposed. On July 22nd, the House passed H.R. 1957, which was sponsored by the late Representative John Lewis, also by a bipartisan vote of 310–107. Today's bill would allocate the full \$900 million to this conservation program each year in perpetuity.

For FY2021–FY2025, there shall be deposited into the Land and Conservation Fund an amount equal to 50% of all federal revenues from the development of oil, gas, coal, or alternative or renewable energy on federal lands and waters. Deposited amounts must not exceed \$1.9 billion for any fiscal year.

Support for the bill came from park gateway communities, and tourism and outdoor recreation industries and the promise of improving the economy and the creation of more jobs. Support for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, however is mixed, many object to tying conservation funding to oil and gas revenues and the contribution to climate change. This received support from the American Petroleum Institute, who saw it as underscoring the need to continue development of domestic offshore energy reserves. But it was opposed from groups like Wilderness Watch that see it as furthering fossil fuel development and damaging climate action and the Green New Deal.



Hurricane Ridge at Olympic National Park by Jeff Hoffet

FWOC VIRTUAL EXCOM AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, November 14, 10 am–12 noon, see page 3

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2020 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Angora Hiking Club, Astoria, OR
 Bark, Portland, OR
 California Alpine Club, Mill Valley, CA
 California State Park Ranger Association (CSPRA), Bowman, CA
 Chemeketans, Salem, OR
 Chinook Trail Association, Vancouver, WA
 Contra Costa Hills Club, Oakland, CA
 Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Portland, OR
 Friends of Mt Hood, Clackamas, OR
 Friends of Nevada Wilderness, Reno, NV
 Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau, Grants Pass, OR
 Great Old Broads for Wilderness, Durango, CO
 Hobnailers, Spokane, WA
 Indian Creek Botanical Mission, Selma, OR
 Klahhane Club, Port Angeles, WA
 Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, Williams, OR
 Mazamas, Portland, OR
 Mt. St. Helens Club, Longview, WA
 Nature Friends, Mill Valley, CA
 North Cascades Conservation Council, Seattle, WA
 Obsidians, Eugene, OR
 Olympians, Hoquiam, WA
 Olympic Parks Associates, Seattle, WA
 Oregon Nordic Club, Portland, OR
 Oregon Wild, Portland, OR
 Rusk Ranch Nature Center, Cave Junction, OR
 Santiam Alpine Club, Salem, OR
 Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter, Los Angeles, CA
 Sierra Club, Kern-Kaweah Chapter, Bakersfield, CA
 Sierra Club, Loo Wit group, Vancouver, WA
 Sierra Club, Mother Lode Chapter, Sacramento, CA
 Sierra Club, Oregon Chapter, Portland, OR
 Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter, Fresno, CA
 Sierra Club, Toiyabe Chapter, Reno, NV
 Siskiyou Audubon Society, Grants Pass, OR
 Siskiyou Field Institute, Selma, OR
 Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Salt Lake City, UT
 Tamalpais Conservation Club, Mill Valley, CA
 Trails Club of Oregon, Portland, OR
 Washington Alpine Club, Seattle, WA
 Whitman College Outdoor Program, Walla Walla, WA
 Wilderness Watch, Missoula, MT
 Winter Wildlands Alliance, Boise, ID



FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS

Established in 1932 for the Mutual Service and for the Promotion of the Proper Use, Enjoyment and Protection of America's Scenic Wilderness and Outdoor Recreation Resources

FWOC News

The last Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs' Annual Meeting was held September 28th, 2019 at McMenamins Olympic Club in Centralia, WA. There was the election of new officers, voting on 2019 Resolutions and a conservation presentation on the Chehalis River by Mark Glyde, representing the Quinault Nation. The Chehalis River is the longest prime salmon and steelhead free flowing river entirely in the state of Washington. It is also prone to flooding and now a retractable dam is being considered.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic in February, FWOC and member clubs have had to cancel long planned events and celebrations, as well as their hiking and recreation programs. Conservation organizations innovatively sponsored webinars in replacement. However by this summer, most hiking clubs had resumed a hiking schedule with guidelines of masks, distancing, limited numbers and no lunch together or carpooling. We salute our member groups in their positive attitude, resilience and ingenuity. However, the recent wildfires, and pervasive smoke with hazardous air quality in California, Oregon and Washington, along with an impending election presents yet more challenges.

Stay safe and be well,
 Raelene Gold, Editor

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FWOC TREASURER'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow FWOC members,

I've been tapped to report on the status of ExCom activities for this summer's *Outdoors West* third page news, and it occurred to me that I haven't checked in this way in quite a while!

First, a reshuffling of officers that was done last year by Presidential appointment and announced at the March 2020 ExCom meeting:

I've moved from Secretary to Treasurer, where I've been learning the duties of this new office while on-the-job, so to speak. A big thanks to our previous Treasurer, Sylvia Milne, who so capably filled this role for us for the past four years.

Sylvia will move on to become our Membership Coordinator, which we felt was an office we needed to fill to achieve our goals of growing the organization and expanding our reach.

Mae Harms will take over as Secretary, to replace me in that position. Welcome aboard, Mae!

And finally, we recently had a resignation from our Vice President, Robertson Miller, because of his personal time commitments getting in the way of club activities. He will continue to manage our website, however, and we are grateful for the expertise he brings in there. If you have not seen the new look, visit it and see at www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org.

There has been much discussion of the hopes we had to hold a 2020 summer convention in La Grande, Oregon, however the Covid shutdowns that are still with us in a very real way precluded our ability to even plan for it.

The focus is now on the 2021 planning, and it was noted that the three year normal rotation moves the venue to California again in 2021. But in the meantime we will be moving ahead with setting up video conference capabilities for the quarterly ExCom meetings, which we know is necessary short term and may be necessary into the indefinite future.

Please, everyone, stay safe and healthy out there!



Treasurer John Rettig

Regards,
John Rettig, Treasurer

FWOC VIRTUAL COMBINED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, November 14, 10–12 noon

(zoom link to be sent to Member Clubs and Individual Members)

Agenda will include:

Annual member business 9/28/19
and ExCom meeting 3/14/20 minutes
Treasurer's Report and Investments Report
Officer and State VPs' report
Nominating Committee Report

Vote for FWOC officers and State VPs
2020 FWOC Resolutions (submission
form page 9)
Website and *Outdoors West* Report
Planning for 2021 Annual Convention



CLUB NEWS

Compiled by Raelene Gold



The Federation has a widely diverse group of member clubs and organizations. The 1932 founding members and early joiners were focused on getting outside into western landscapes and mountains climbing and hiking. They also had a strong interest in conservation and saw the Federation as a vehicle to address conservation legislation. Since the 1970s with the new environmental movement, new members, called environmental organizations rather than clubs, have tended to prioritize conservation of certain states or areas.

Please send your print or email newsletters or a newsworthy article for Club News to Raelene Gold at raelene@seanet.com or by mail to Raelene Gold, 16614 Juanita Dr NE, Apt A104, Kenmore, WA 98028.

CALIFORNIA

California Alpine Club CAC which owns the Alpine and Echo lodges, suspended their use at the start of the pandemic. The lodges got a deep cleaning and repairs by members before reopening in July under strict guidelines. Hikes which were also suspended gradually restarted also with strict health screenings, masks, limits of the number of hikers and physical distancing on hikes and breaks.

The CAC Foundation awarded eight grants in 2019. One grant was to the Pacific Crest Trail Association to support the Tahoe Trails Skills College that trained volunteers to maintain trails. For 2020 because so many organizations have lost revenue, they are donating \$2,000 to organizations they know and trust, including the Point Reyes National Seashore Association, Slide Ranch, the Pacific Crest Trail Association and the Alpine Watershed Group. Arlin Weinberger is the President of the CAC Foundation.



California State Parks Ranger Association CSPRA. A number of CSPRA members traveled to Nepal's Chitwan National Park in November 2019 for the 9th World Ranger Congress. More than 550 rangers came from many

nations for the triennial gathering to discuss missions of preservation and protection of parks and wild lands. CSPRA members and friends donated generously to the Ranger Foundation (RF) so that several Latin American park rangers could also go. Their trips to Nepal for WRC would have been financially impossible without RF grants. The Ranger Foundation (founded by CSPRA in late 2017) has granted assistance to families of rangers killed in the line of duty in several Latin American countries where illegal drug activities and poaching are particular hazards. RF recently started a new grant program for families of park rangers in Latin America who have died from COVID19. Three COVID19 grants have been made so far. Late 2018 fire storms in both northern and southern California affected park workers who lost belongings and homes. Donations to the Ranger Foundation helped California State Park folks as well as National Park Service employees who suffered losses.

Thanks to Ann Meneguzzi



The Contra Costa Hills Club successfully celebrated its Centennial on February 22, 2020 just in the nick of time before the pandemic. Their

founder Harold French wanted to save the land in the Oakland Hills from development, so he did and the their hiking club was born. They have an extensive program of hikes mainly in the San Francisco Bay area, which this spring and summer was severely curtailed by the raging pandemic in the area. They have resumed hikes since August but these are limited in size. The local transportation system BART has extended its service area which opens up more hiking options via public transportation, but due to the pandemic they are only using their cars.

Contra Costa Hills is another member club that has a fund to give out Conservation Grants. FWOC ExCom Member Beryl Vonderheid who is Chair states that members of the Conservation Committee donate to the Committee. They gave \$3,895 to 22 different groups in 2019, including the National Parks Conservation Association, California State Parks Foundation and the East Bay Regional Parks Foundation along with smaller groups.

Thanks to Beryl Vonderheid

OREGON

Angora Hiking Club in Astoria celebrated their 100th Anniversary



CLUB NEWS

Compiled by Raelene Gold



with a Drive-By to the oldest living members' home and a photo at the Astoria Column. Over 20 cars and 30 members honked and waved Angora backpacks to honor Bob and Aletha Westerberg who began the club in 1920 on top of Saddle Mountain. This was a necessary adaptation of the long planned celebration that had included a reunion hike to Saddle Mountain. The Westerbergs have been members for over 65 years. A memory 'shadow box' was presented to the Westerbergs with thanks for keeping the club going all these years. The parade of cars then went to the Astoria Column for a group picture around the bronze 3-D map. Angora Hiking Club donated that map to the City of Astoria in 1966.

They are also resuming hikes starting with a Fort Clatsop (where Lewis and Clark spent the winter of 1805-6) to Sea hike. New hike rules include masks, social distancing, limited numbers and no car-pooling.



Friends of the Columbia Gorge who are known for their stunning Gorge wildflower hikes, reluctantly cancelled their Spring and Summer hikes and are now considering Fall hikes using a survey of members' opinions. Friends also collaborated with the US Forest

to be prepared to travel and hike in the National Gorge Scenic Area under our new conditions.

Several years of grassroots organizing and advocating by Friends and their allies paid off in August as the Columbia River Gorge Commission addressed climate change, protected imperiled salmon runs, and curbed urban sprawl in its draft revised Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

The Columbia Gorge: A Place Worth Protecting is a stunning video produced for Friends' 40th Anniversary. Friends of the Columbia Gorge turns 40 in 2020. The 40th Anniversary video, produced by Holden Films, explores the story of a Native American family whose history is deeply intertwined with the Gorge and the evolution of their organization



Oregon Wild is celebrating *Call of the Wild 2020* on October 9, 2020, its largest fundraising event of the year to raise funds for the fight to protect Oregon's wild places. It's a camp-inspired digital celebration and a chance for conservation-minded friends to gather and celebrate each other and the accomplishments they have achieved collectively.

Service, Travel Oregon, Oregon Department of Transportation and the Columbia Gorge Tourism Alliance to put out "Ready, Set, Gorge." Check out [ReadySetGorge.com](https://www.ReadySetGorge.com)

Call of the Wild is their largest fundraising event of the year and has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the fight to protect Oregon's wild places over the last several years. While we can't gather in person this year, we wanted to make sure everyone still had the chance to put on their camp gear (flannel encouraged!) and gather together virtually. They are offering some special ticket prices this year with varying benefits (from beer koozies to camp meals) and have a digital silent auction and a great raffle as well! For more information and tickets, go to www.oregonwild.org.

Oregon Wild, a leader in protecting Oregon's forests, also recently responded to the wildfires devastating Oregon, reminding members that despite the destruction the trees will survive and come back and to follow official instructions and to care for their friends and communities.



Mazamas responded to the pandemic restrictions with timely webinar programs on topics including: "Should I Teach My Kids to Ski? The Future of Snow in the Western US," "Climate Change and Forest Connections in the Pacific NW" and "Where's the Water? The Past, Present and Future of Streamflow in the Cascade Mountains."

They also sponsored a Mask contest for artists. The winning design was SAFE DISTANCE, submitted by Kim Freiburger! The runner up design was MT. ADAMS, submitted by Kim Freeman. The masks were sold for \$21 including shipping for early orders.

CLUBS IN ACTION

The Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA)

SUWA is dedicated to the preservation of wilderness in the Colorado Plateau in Utah, where environment is continually under siege. Executive Director Scott Groene reports in their newsletter, *Redrock Wilderness*, that the Trump administration has intensified its “pillage of the public estate” and to “gut laws protecting our air, water and land, and weaken rules that guarantee the public role in public land management decisions.”

SUWA is party to a lawsuit by Earthjustice to restore the Grand Staircase Escalante and Bear Ears National Monuments to their original size before the 85% downsizing by the Trump administration. SUWA continues to work for the passage of the Red Rock Wilderness Act, a citizen’s wilderness proposal for Bureau of Land Management lands in Utah. The proposal includes lands in southeast Utah near and around three national parks, two national monuments and a national recreation area

Sierra Club—Mother Lode Chapter

The transportation sector is the largest and fastest-growing source of carbon emissions in the US. In total, the US transportation sector—which includes cars, buses, trucks, planes, trains, ships and freight—produces nearly 30 percent of all US climate emissions—more than any other sector. But this doesn’t have to be the case. The **Sierra Club’s** Clean Transportation for All campaign is working to ensure that we all benefit from a 21st-century clean transportation system with access to cars, trucks and buses that rely on little to no oil at all as well as to clean public transit—and other local clean transportation solutions—that centers equity and justice.

Wilderness Watch

Wilderness Watch is a strong supporter of the Safe and Quiet Skies Act, **H.R. 4547** and is urging others to get their Representatives to become a co-sponsor. This bill, introduced by Rep. Ed Case, will help protect Wildernesses, National Parks, and National Wildlife Refuges from the disturbing noise and intrusion that comes from low-flying aircraft on commercial air tours. **H.R. 4547** will prohibit air tours above National Parks, National

Wildlife Refuges and Wildernesses. The ban would extend to lands within a half-mile from the edges of these natural areas. Furthermore, **H.R. 4547** would help protect natural sounds everywhere by imposing a minimum flight altitude—of 1,500 feet above ground—for commercial air tours.

In addition, WW is advocating for **S. 827** and **H.R. 1321** the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act. In addition to designating 23 million acres of Wilderness, NREPA specifically: 1) Designates biological connecting corridors, ensuring the continued existence of native plants and animals and mitigating the effects of climate change; 2) Expands and provides greater protection for many existing Wilderness areas in the Northern Rockies by protecting their surrounding wildlands and their wild rivers; 3) Establishes a number of wildland “recovery areas” that will provide jobs undoing damage caused by past destructive logging and roadbuilding; 4) Designates 1,800 miles of rivers and streams as Wild and Scenic; 5) Saves taxpayers \$245 million over a 10-year period by eliminating subsidized logging and road-building in roadless areas that would be designated as Wilderness. This legislation is of utmost importance to preserving and protecting some of the last best places in America. Please ask your Senators and Representatives to co-sponsor and support the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (**S. 827** and **H.R. 1321**).

Oregon Wild

Oregon Wild is working to maintain the environmental protections of the Northwest Forest Plan and other laws, and fighting efforts in Congress to increase logging on millions of acres of our backyard Bureau of Land Management forests in Western Oregon. However, acres of those forest are now burning in the worst wildfire season ever experienced.

Olympic Park Associates

The **Olympic Park Associates** have worked for passage of the Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act for more than a decade and its passage was a

CLUBS IN ACTION

FWOC Resolution way back in 2011. In February 2020, it passed in the U.S. House with bipartisan support as a part of **H.R. 2546**, the Protecting America's Wilderness Act as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act NDAA. Congratulations to OPA and President Donna Osseward. There is more work to do in the Senate where Senator Murray has championed this legislation for years.

Together, with your help, OPA is also working to protect the Olympic Coast Marine Sanctuary which is in danger. The Sanctuary is one of the richest and most diverse marine reserves on the planet. The ocean we see when we go to the Park's ocean strip or climb an Olympic mountain needs our help. It's the ocean where Marbled Murrelets and countless other seabirds feed. It's 3,000 square miles where salmon, halibut, cod and other fish feed in its rich upwellings. It's where endangered sea turtles and 29 species of marine mammals, some endangered or threatened, spend part of their lives. Its waves wash the coastal wildlife refuges created by Theodore Roosevelt in 1907. The sanctuary is now being used by the Navy for destructive warfare training with the blessing of the federal government.

Klamath Siskiyou Wild

Klamath Siskiyou Wild in southwest Oregon found itself in the midst of Oregon's wildfire areas and ended up joining the relief effort, phone banking and raising funds for vulnerable communities from the Slater Fire in the Illinois Valley. The town of Happy Camp lost 150 homes, half of the town! Afterwards KS Wild began to consider the importance of protecting the Bear Creek watershed from fire pollution.

Winter Wildlands Alliance

Winter Wildlands Alliance in Boise, Idaho has joined a lawsuit with 20 other groups to sue the Administration to stop its evisceration of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA has been a foundational environmental law since its passage in 1970 ensuring Federal agencies subject their projects to transparent, scientifically

informed review of their environmental, cultural, economic and health impacts, as well as offering alternatives before coming to a decision.

The Administration on July 15, 2020 announced major policy changes severely weakening the Act that sideline the public and prioritize corporate over environmental protection. It also stops federal agencies from considering how their decisions will affect the climate. The suit will force the government to consider climate impacts before approving development projects. The new regulations for NEPA will go into effect on September 14, 2020. Go to www.winterwildlands.org to read their policy director Hillary Eisen's excellent discussion of what they foresee and possible outcomes for the issue.

Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Great Old Broads for Wilderness has many local chapters and one is sponsoring a four part webinar on Chehalis: From the Headwaters to the Sea. The Chehalis River is Washington state's second longest and still free flowing river in the western part of the state flowing west into Grey's Harbor on the Pacific coast. It is also still a very productive salmon and steelhead river. The glacier formed low lying Chehalis Valley is historically very prone to flooding, which in 2007 inundated the state's major freeway and caused considerable home and farm destruction. Currently a retractable dam is being proposed. The Chehalis Alliance of environmental groups and the two impacted tribes oppose the dam and propose a flood plain restoration plan. It was the topic of the keynote address at last Fall's FWOC meeting by Mark Glyde from the Quinault Nation, so if you would like another viewpoint and to know how things have proceeded the webinar may provide what is helpful. The webinar will review the value of rivers, wetlands and watersheds in southwest Washington in a changing climate, the threats and opportunities for restoration in the watershed and the perspectives of the Quinault Nation and Chehalis Tribe.

There are still two parts left in the webinar, so go to: www.greatoldbroads.org or contact Laurie Kerr at lauriekerr@pacifier.com.

CONSERVATION NEWS

Environmental Bill that Passed out of Congress

S.10. Land and Water Conservation Fund Permanent Funding Act passed as included in the Great American Outdoor Act.

An Environmental Bill That Passed Out of the House

H.R. 2652. Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act sponsored by Representative Derek Kilmer (D-WA-06) with strong support from Representatives Pramila Jayapal (D-WA-01) and Adam Smith (D-WA-09), passed with a number of other public land bills as **H.R. 2546** the Protecting America's Wilderness Act as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act. There remains much work to be done to get the bill passed in the Senate. **S. 1382** is the Senate companion bill.

Environmental Bills Awaiting Action in Congress Supported by Member Organizations

Please ask your Senator or Representative to be a Co-Sponsor to these bills.

H.R. 4547. Safe and Quiet Skies Act. The bill, introduced by Rep. Ed Case (D-HI), will help protect Wildernesses, National Parks, and National Wildlife Refuges from the disturbing noise and intrusion that comes from low-flying aircraft on commercial air tours. It will prohibit air tours above National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges.

H.R. 5737. Voluntary Grazing Permit Retirement Act sponsored by Adam Smith (D-WA). Provides federal public lands commercial grazing permit holders the option to relinquish their commercial grazing permits, with private compensation, so federal agency could retire the commercial grazing allotment.

S. 3075 and H.R. 5474. American Red Rock Wilderness Act reintroduced. It would designate more than 5 million acres of wilderness and 9 million total acres in southern Utah.

H.R. 2579. Hardrock and Reclamation Act introduced by Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ). Reforms and replaces the antiquated 1872 Mining Act, that allows America's public lands to be polluted by toxic mining wastes. Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM) has introduced **S. 1386** another Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act.

H.R. 1146. Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act introduced by Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA). The bill amends the amendment that opens the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil leasing and development, which was included in the 2018 GOP Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

S. 2461 and H.R. 5999. Adds all 12.28 million acres of recommended lands in the Arctic Refuge to the National Wilderness Preservation System, which would establish a 19.4 million-acre Arctic Refuge Wilderness!

In the Courts

Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson is leading a coalition of 15 states filing a federal lawsuit against the Trump Administration to protect America's pristine and undeveloped **Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge** from oil and gas development.

SUWA, Native American tribes and other conservation groups are party to a lawsuit by Earthjustice to restore the Grand Staircase Escalante and Bears National Monuments to their original size before the 85% downsizing by the Trump administration.

Trump Administration

The Administration is pushing one hundred actions to weaken environmental rules and regulations. These actions target mainly air pollution regulations, help for oil drilling and affect the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Environmental Protection Agency.

RESOLUTIONS

2019 FWOC Resolutions passed on September 28th at the Annual Meeting at McMenamins Olympic Club in Centralia, WA.

1. The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs opposes the plans of the Forest Service to log in the forest strips along the Lostine River road that serves as the prime scenic entryway into Oregon's Eagle Cap Wilderness.
2. The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs deplores what the Trump Administration has been doing to weaken the nation's environmental programs and calls upon the Trump Administration to abandon its efforts to weaken the Endangered Species (ESA) program, and Congress to avoid doing this, because a strong program to save species is needed more than ever and an un-weakened ESA has been incredibly effective.

[Past FWOC resolutions have recognized the importance of the ESA and have sought to protect it; see pp. 39–40 of the summary of past resolutions. However, they do not directly deal with the latest aspect.]

Member clubs and organizations in good standing and individual members may submit resolutions representing the regional, state and national concerns of their member clubs and organizations. Please see the FWOC website to see past policy positions and resolutions to avoid duplication at www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org.

The format is simple: The name of the submitting club or member, the date, a section called BACKGROUND which details the nature of the problem and possible solutions; the resolution which recommends action.

If you wish to have your concerns considered as resolutions, fill out the Resolution Form below and send it by email to FWOC Conservation Policy Advisor, J. Michael McCloskey at jmmccloskey@aol.com.

FWOC 2020 RESOLUTION FORM

Member Organizations or Individual Members may submit Resolutions to be considered at upcoming FWOC ExCom meetings or Annual Meeting (all virtual).

Submitted by: _____

(Member organization or Individual member only)

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Website: _____

Contact person: _____

Title: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Resolution Title or Topic: _____

Background of Issue (explain the issue, its history, current status...):

Proposed Resolution (use an action verb, such as: FWOC supports, opposes, etc...):

Suggested Actions (who to write, where to testify etc...):

Please email completed Resolution Form to: J. Michael McCloskey at jmmccloskey@aol.com

BOOK REVIEW

FIRST BOOK ON OUTDOOR CLUBS (or Hiking Clubs)

On the Trail: A History of Hiking, by Silas Chamberlain,
Yale Univ. Press, 2016 (208 pgs.)

Reviewed by J. Michael McCloskey

This book will interest many hikers and members of the FWOC. However, it is more a history of hiking clubs than of hiking in this country. It tells of their emergence, achievements and the changes affecting them.

The earliest clubs emerged in the Northeast, the Alpine Club in 1863 at Williams College and the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) in 1876 in Boston; then the Dartmouth Outing Club at Dartmouth College and the Bates Club at the Univ. of Maine. At outset, university students often took the lead in organizing hiking clubs.

The book also tells stories of the first clubs in the Far West. It not only tells the story of how members of the Mazamas in Portland in 1894 spun off The Mountaineers in Seattle, and how its predecessor, the Oregon Alpine Club played a role in the formation of the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club was organized in 1892 on the pattern of the AMC. Some of its founders had been AMC members.

The first clubs played a big role in building trails through nearby forests and mountains. Then, they got interested in building longer trails, such as the Long Trail in Vermont built by the Green Mtn. Club. And over time, they got interested in building very long trails along mountain ranges, such as the Appalachian Trail, the John Muir Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail. Only after a few decades of hiking clubs doing the work did government agencies began to assume roles and provide funding.

But this brought new issues to the fore. Should these trails be heavily graded, as the National Park Service wanted to do during the CCC days? Or, should they be simpler and more natural? And, were these trails just meant to be used in short sections by local hikers or by solo hikers who were hiking “all the way through” in a season? This issue rocked many clubs, as it suggested that hiking did not have to be a social experience as many club members had felt they ought to be. And, these hiking clubs began to form conferences so that they could pool their resources in pursuing government aid in building these longer trails and in connecting them. These were groups such as the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference

and the Appalachian Trail Conference, and what became the Pacific Crest Trail Association.

While Chamberlain tells the story of how cooperative organizations were formed among hiking clubs to build trails, he fails to tell the story of how they formed such groups to promote conservation. This is more of what the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs does. He also fails to tell the story of how the Boy Scouts introduced many boys to hiking and climbing. They fed many boys into hiking clubs as they got older. He briefly tells the story of their contributions to scouting the route of the Pacific Crest Trail in the 1930s. While he briefly tells of the Sierra Club’s contributions to the Tenth Mountain Division in WW II, he fails to tell the story of how outdoor clubs, such as climbing and ski clubs, provided lots of the young men to expand that division as the war began.

In the aftermath of WW II, hiking took off as a national pass-time. But many hikers did this by themselves on trails that others had built and that they took for granted. Chamberlain says “new hikers found little of value in hiking as a club.” Moreover, he says, “many thought communal walks undermined their attempts to get back to nature.” The passage of the National Trail Systems Act in 1968 (I was there for its signing) even led to the perception that trail construction and maintenance was now a government responsibility. Hikers began to see access to trails as a kind of entitlement. However, for twenty years most hiking clubs had flourished—sometimes growing fourfold. But, this growth began to ebb by the late 1960s. Hiking clubs that had long fashioned their identity about charting and building trails found themselves deprived of that function. They were no longer a net producer of trails, maps and information, they were now a consumer of those things. Provision of maps and information now became a mass-marketed commodity.

Chamberlain declares that hikers “detachment from the act of trail building would only contribute to the decline in American hiking club culture in the coming decades.” But, many other types of organizations had begun to decline after 1970. Prof. Robert Putnam of Harvard points that out in his book, *Bowling Alone*.

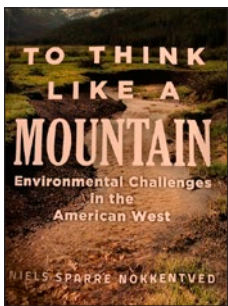
Chamberlain may not give enough attention to the differences between groups in the East and the West. While those in the East began by building trails, those in the West did **not** define themselves in this way. They focused

BOOK REVIEW

their attention on snow and glacier clad mountains on public lands. Climbing these peaks has defined much more of their culture and trail building less, though they often helped maintain trails. Because they wanted to pursue their hiking and climbing largely on public lands, they had to be concerned with what other things were allowed there. They had to be concerned with their conservation. That is why many banded together in the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs. But Chamberlain is not of one mind about how progressive a force hiking groups were in the environmental debate.

Concern over the fate of public lands does explain what propelled the Sierra Club into moving all the way in this direction. As it made that transition in the late 1960s, it found members joining less to take advantage of its trips, and more to support its conservation work.

Chamberlain's book gives us a valuable overview of the evolution of hiking clubs and their impact, but it does not give enough insight into the different nature of such groups in the Far West.



To Think Like a Mountain; Environmental Challenges in the American West, by Niels Sparre Nokkentved, Washington State University Press, Pullman, WA, 2019. WSU provided us with a complementary review copy of the book.
Review by Raelene Gold

Environmental and natural resources reporter, Nokkentved has borrowed his title from Aldo Leopold's famous essay "To Think Like a Mountain," which is included in *A Sand County Almanac*. That is from the perspective of the mountain, there is no benefit in the killing of the wolves, who keep down the deer population who nibble away the vegetation, which leads to the erosion of the mountain, resulting in its soil eroding into and silting the rivers. So from the perspective of the mountain the call of the wolf is heartening not fearful. It is an ecological way of thinking of long term continuity and sustainability.

The Idaho newspaper reporter and author takes a deeper look in this book into some of the major environmental issues in the West that he previously reported on,

now from a longer term, in depth and wider historical perspective.

He begins with the chapter Selling Arctic Wilderness, the long fight over the northern plain in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge leading up to Trump's including language to open it up for oil leasing in the 2018 tax cut package. This chapter I found most interesting since I had gone on a memorable, beyond challenging, rafting trip in the refuge. He begins with the 1906 expedition led by the American explorer Lefflingwell that discovered the oil potential of Alaska's north coast. He reviews the historic US efforts to exploit the area through whaling, trading, cold war defense and oil exploration in a complex and fascinating manner. However, when applying his theme of thinking like a mountain, his one sentence is a letdown in considering this complex marine and terrestrial habitat. Simply put, Arctic tundra must think Prudoe Bay oil development is a short-sighted disaster, depleting it of its rich tundra grasses the caribou come to feast on, and in the Inupiac and Gwitch'in hunters of their subsistence way of life.

I thought the most fascinating chapter was Lurching Towards Wolf Recovery. Beginning with the first Colonists and their European view of wolves as evil, he traces our long history of wolf extirpation, listing and then delisting on the Endangered Species List and finally the grey wolf recovery projects in the Northern Rockies, around Yellowstone NP and in central Idaho. And finally the great ecological consequences seen in the Northern Rockies. Wolves cause the elk and deer to disperse their foraging, allowing willow and aspen to grow along stream-banks, which results in more fish and brings back beavers and other wildlife and birds. The reweaving of the components of a healthy ecosystem.

Other chapters deal with indigenous cultural rock art being destroyed by energy extraction, abandoned mines and polluted water, livestock grazing on public lands, forest fire policy on public lands, the role of the beaver, the false promise of hatcheries and the fate of ancient forests.

In Idaho 570 wolves were killed during the last year, so changing Westerners attitudes about the value of wolves still remains a challenge. Hopefully getting out to experience the benefits of wolf reintroduction to the landscape and Nokkentved's excellent book will help spur more "thinking like a mountain" and consideration of the long-term consequences on environmental policy decisions.

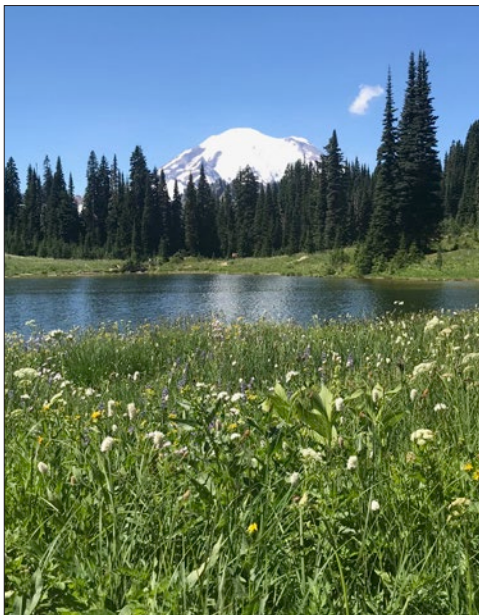


FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR



Tipsoe Lake and Mount Rainier

Saturday, September 26, 2020

National Public Lands Day

Friday, October 9, 2020

Oregon Wild's *Call of the Wild* all virtual celebration. Info at oregonwild.org

Thursday, October 15, 2020
6 pm (MST)

Great Old Broads for Wilderness
Benefit for their Climate Education and Stewardship Program. Virtual screening of: *The Beaver Believers*, a group effort to restore the North American Beaver to the watersheds of the American Northwest. Go to www.greatoldbroads.org for tickets

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

NATIONAL ELECTION—VOTE!

Saturday, November 14, 2020
10 am–12 noon

FWOC Virtual ExCom and Annual Business Meeting (zoom link will be sent to Member Clubs and Individual Members)