



WRRRA Winter 2015 Newsletter

White River Recreation Association

REPRESENTING FEDERAL LAND PERMITTEES IN THE WHITE RIVER DISTRICT, SNOQUALAMIE NATIONAL FOREST SINCE 1929

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2015 Marks the
100th Anniversary
of the Recreational
Residence
Program

2015 Annual Membership Renewal

Happy New Year! It is the White River Recreation Association's 86th year! It is time for our annual membership renewal and we are asking you, your families and your cabin associates to join WRRRA. We have 225 members but we know there are many cabin owners, family member and cabin users who have yet to join.

Why join WRRRA?

We need your membership to be an **effective representative of all our interests** as cabin owners. Your membership supports a strong collective voice in dealing with the Forest Service locally and nationally, and in dealings with local and state governments.

WRRRA works with and supports financially both the National Forest Homeowners and WA State Forest Homeowners who are working to revise current law to accomplish a fair permit fee structure which will improve the long term viability of the Recreational Residence program.

WRRRA actively **supports stewardship of the forests** and acts to promote and protect all the recreational features of the Upper White River Valley. We need your membership to be effective.

Be involved with your cabin community. Meet and greet your fellow cabin owners at WRRRA sponsored events while having a good time. (See the calendar on page 11 of this newsletter.) WRRRA events include Spring and Fall dinners, nature walks, sledding socials and our annual Sumer Picnic which is free of charge to WRRRA members and their families.

WRRRA is a resource to access useful current and historical information about our White River tracts.

Stay informed and be in the loop. As a member you will receive:

- Four WRRRA newsletters per year covering news you need to

know as an owner/user of a cabin in the White River tracts. In addition, you will receive regular news updates and calls to action via email between newsletters.

- Two copies of the WRRRA Phone Directory to be published in 2015, listing addresses and phone numbers of all WRRRA members.
- Members are protected by a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone unlawfully entering or causing damage to a member's cabin property. Plus, members receive two "Reward" signs for posting at their cabin.
- Members receive free classified advertising in the WRRRA newsletters.

All this for \$35 per year! Complete and return the enclosed dues statement. Also, please copy and share with your cabin partners and adult family members. *(There can be as many as four WRRRA memberships per cabin.)*

2015–100th Anniversary of Recreational Residence Program

The **Occupancy Permits Act** was passed on March 4, 1915 by the 63rd United States Congress. It allowed the U.S. Forest Service to issue cabin permits at "reasonable rates" to individuals. Prior to this time, people had lived on National Forests by arrangement of the local ranger or by building unapproved structures. Some were forcibly removed which proved traumatic and controversial. Congress created permits so the undocumented could continue to live on the land for a fee, and to facilitate more users in the national forests.

By the 1920s surveyors created many tracts like White River. A big part of a ranger's job was to market the lots and find eager takers to build rustic homes. It was felt America's National Forests would only be successful with the participation and enjoyment of large numbers of the public. Cabins and ski areas were the cornerstone of this strategy.

New lots were available in White River through the 1950s when a national decision was made to stop selling new lots. Since then for various reasons lots have been withdrawn, that is the permit is returned to the forest service, the land is devoted to other uses or it is simply returned to its natural state. Nationwide the number of cabins has dwindled. At its peak, the program authorized nearly 20,000 cabins. Today, fewer than 15,000 cabins are administered by the agency, nearly 5,000 having been taken out of public land ownership through land exchanges or lost to natural disasters. Currently there are about 1,100 Recreational Residences in WA state.

WRRRA stands committed to keep the Occupancy Permit Act in the spirit it was written, and our cabins a sustainable presence on the national forest.

WRRRA Cabin History

Given that we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Forest Service Recreational Residence Program, we want to take a page from our cabin history and recognize the first cabin/lot—Silver Creek #8—owned by Jeff & Kathi Taylor and Cynthia Dickenson.

Cabin building started with the first Gold Hill (Silver Creek) Summer Home permit, issued in 1912 by the Forest Service to Dr. J.L. Reese from Tacoma on what is



Silver Creek #8 (Photo from 1936)

now Lot 8, once called Lot A of the Silver Creek Summer Residences. Dr. Reese's original cabin burned to the ground around 1920. He then lived in a large tent next to the road until all of the other cabin owners got together and built him a two room cabin around

1922. Those original two rooms are the center portion of our current cabin. We think Dr. Reese chose this site as it overlooks Silver Creek where the two channels remerge after forming a half mile island.

My parents, Dean and Tommie Taylor, purchased our cabin in 1944 from Mark Gary of Sumner for \$1,200. Mr. Gary had purchased the cabin from Dr. Reese some years earlier and enclosed the screened sleeping porch on the east end and expanded the kitchen area. Mr. Gary loved the cabin but his wife was a city girl and didn't like roughing it in the woods. He invited my parents up for a day and "out of the blue" asked them if they would like to purchase it.

My sister, Cynthia Dickinson and I have the cabin since our parents passing. My earliest recollections are from the 1950s when everyone hiked in from 410 during the winters. Our parents made great friendships and did a lot of socializing with our immediate neighbors, The Johnsons, Kellys and Rademakers. ~ Jeff Taylor

President's Message

Happy New Year Everyone! As has been the tradition for many years, many of you may have welcomed in the New Year at your cabin with friends, family and neighbors.

What a wonderful way to begin 2015. And what a wonderful gift of just *being* in our cabin and in the forest whether in the best and worst of weather. The gift of



Save the Date

NFH 2015
CONFERENCE:
Celebrating 100 Years of
the Cabin Program

May 1-2, 2015
Vancouver, Washington

The 2015 NFH National Conference will be in Vancouver, Washington.

The formal program will be highlighted in the NFH Conference Newsletter published in February. We have arranged with NFH to forward that newsletter electronically to all WRRRA members whether NFH member or not.

This is a great opportunity to meet many other cabin owners and forest service personnel and others with related and interesting expertise from across the country.

Come and meet the leadership of NFH and share your thoughts, ideas and concerns.

It is an easy drive to Vancouver, WA.

The Heathman Lodge
7801 NE Greenwood Drive
Vancouver, WA 98662

We hope you will join others from WRRRA who will be attending. Details will follow soon.

others we meet and get to know through the matchlessness of our cabin environment results in warm feelings in our hearts and "forever memories." I am grateful for this experience.

And 2015 gives us reason to pause as it is a special year for cabin owners and one to be celebrated in many ways as it marks 100 years since the National Forest Service established the oldest public recreation program on our national forests. National Forest Homeowners describes this as "a unique public-private partnership, where permittees own these little cabins in the woods for seasonal use, but the ground beneath is public land and still part of the national forests. Throughout its long and colorful history, it has provided generations of working class Americans with inspirational outdoor experiences and instilled a deep connection to the land."

We will highlight this 100 year milestone of bringing generations of Americans to the outdoors through articles in WRRR newsletters and activities this year. We hope you will enjoy taking part in our 2015 events and we also invite you to work on any of our committees and most of all, we enjoy hearing from you. I look forward to this opportunity to work with and serve all of you. Here's to a wonderful year! ~ **Rena**

New WRRR Secretary

Anne Turner (SC #2) is taking over the WRRR Secretary responsibilities from Becky McAuley. We want to thank Becky for all the work she contributed to make our communication program and newsletters a success. Anne is the daughter-in-law of Charles and Mary Turner. Mary is a past Secretary of the WRRR and Charles served as board member at

Crystal Mountain and President of the WRRR in 1983-84. Her husband Perry is a volunteer ski patroller at Crystal Mountain, and her daughter Lucy is a high school freshman. Please reach out to Anne with any questions on email and newsletter communications through WRRR. She can be reached at: secretary@wrra.net.

WRRR Fall Dinner and Business Meeting

Just over 100 cabin owners and families attended our dinner and business meeting November 1st at the Greenwater Community Center—our best attended fall dinner in the past 10 years! Everyone took the opportunity to become better acquainted with their cabin neighbors during the social hour. We changed the dinner format, with New York Catering from Enumclaw providing the dinner which was served buffet style. Those attending got updates from Tiana Anderson of Crystal Mountain on the new lifts and terrain for the upcoming season. Mike Smith, representing the Greenwater Fire Department, updated us on the department's equipment capabilities. Steve Johnson of the Forest Service spoke briefly covering concerns about law enforcement on FS lands and the intention to draft a procedure for applying for modifications to cabins under the auspices of the Programmatic Agreement.

At the business meeting prior to the dinner Rena Irwin (DC-17) was elected president, Floyd Rogers (DC-8) was re-elected Vice President, Mark Curran (DC-3) was elected to represent the Deep Creek tract, Jody Nyquist and Paul Meyer (SS-112) were re-elected as representatives for Silver Springs tract and Ginny Cahill-Thorson (GC-94) was re-elected as

one of two representatives of the Goat Creek tract. Special thanks to our WRRRA Nominating committee of John Campbell, Mark Watterson and Curtis Pepin for presenting us with these candidates.

We want to thank our Social Committee, especially Kevin Orth and Ginny Cahill, for all their work in organizing this successful event. To date we have received positive feedback on the dinner and program. If you have suggestions for improving the experience or venue or would like to volunteer to help organize next year's dinner, please contact secretary@wrra.net.

WRRRA Budget and Finances

Operating Fund: We finished 2014 in the black and added to our operating fund reserves which are now approximately \$29,000. Dinners were well attended and self supporting, although this has not always been the case. WRRRA does subsidize the picnic and other social activities from the operating fund. Our single largest expense is the newsletter publication and mailing which amounts to about \$10 per member (based on 220 members). If you would like to opt out of receiving a mailed paper copy of the newsletter and instead be emailed a link by which you can read or download the newsletter, please indicate so on your dues statement. We did add a new operating fund expense item in the last year which is liability insurance for WRRRA-sponsored activities. Our website and email servers have been donated by Ryan Maloney's (DC-21) firm Atlas Networks. As noted elsewhere in this newsletter we plan to upgrade our website in the upcoming year and have budgeted \$500 for this purpose.

Cabin Defense Fund: The Cabin Defense Fund (CDF) ends the year with a balance of \$27,500. Contributions to the

CDF, \$1,840, were lower than prior years and we used \$2,500 of CDF funds to support the passage of the Cabin Fee Act. So, net decrease in the CDF was -\$950. Plans for the upcoming year include encouraging donations and upgrading our silent auction, proceeds from which go to the CDF.

Other WRRRA News

WRRRA Road Clean-Up: After the fall dinner, 16 hearty WRRRA members met on Sunday morning and did an amazing job of picking up litter along our 3 mile stretch of SR 410. Actually, the highway's shoulders were reasonably free of trash so maybe our efforts are producing results. Following the road clean-up we met for lunch, refreshments and good cheer at Curtis and Megan Pepin's cabin in the Dalles. Plan to attend next Spring's road clean-up on Sunday, May 17 hosted by Goat Creek.



WRRRA Phone Directory: The directory will be published this spring. Please make sure the contact information on your dues statement is correct and keep us advised on any changes. If you do not want your contact information published in the directory, indicate so on the dues statement.

WRRRA Website Committee: A website committee has been established to determine what website features and capabilities we need as an association to meet the needs of our membership. We will be actively working on this in the upcoming year. If you have expertise and would like to contribute to this committee, please contact Anne Turner at secretary@wrra.net.

In Memorium for Bruce Kingland

Bruce Kingland passed peacefully September 1, 2014 on San Juan Island of congestive heart failure. He was born March 15, 1932 in Forest City, Iowa. He and his brother LeRoy Kingland grew up skiing the ditches outside their family farm. Joining the Army, Bruce was stationed in Seattle at Fort Lawton where he was given a taste of real mountains. Following a tour of duty in Korea during the war and college at Waldorf and Drake University, he and LeRoy moved to Tacoma. From there they began their exploration of the foothills of Mt. Rainier.



Bruce and LeRoy bought Silver Springs cabin #61 together in 1958. At that time Cayuse Pass was open year round and

they skied at White Pass before Crystal made its debut. Bruce was a beautiful deep powder skier and spent much of his time in the backcountry of Crystal Mountain. He popped into every opening he could find; so notorious in his efforts, they named a run after him, Bruce's Bowl.

Though skiing was his passion he was not just a winter warrior to the White River area. Bruce worked in finance and later real estate appraisal during the week but returned to the mountains each weekend enjoying the cabin and the miles of trails all around Mt. Rainier. Bruce was a past president of WRRRA and organized the kid's games at the summer picnic year after year. Each weekend he could be seen hiking, horseback riding, and throwing horseshoes. He played hard and he worked hard cutting wood, removing stumps, replacing roofs and fixing plumbing.

Bruce is remembered well for his eagerness to get things done, readiness to socialize, his ever-present cigar and his notorious lutefisk parties. He is survived by his wife Mary, brother LeRoy, son Scott, daughter Jennifer and son-in-law Lee Prewitt, and his granddaughters Audrey and Evelyn.

In Memorium for Mabel Curran

Mabel Johnson Curran passed away peacefully in her sleep on June 28, 2014 at 89 years old. She was born to Swedish immigrants and Alaska pioneers, Emma and Helmer Johnson, on November 11, 1924, in Fairbanks, Alaska. Her parents were gold miners and would move out to their mining camps in the bush every summer with their three children.

Mabel's first home was a tiny log cabin on Fairbanks Creek. With winter coming on at the time, she was wrapped in furs and kept inside those first months of her life. We have a photo of her mother, Emma, pushing Mabel in a sled that first winter. Both are bundled in furs from head to toe. Eventually, the family had their own dog team for transportation from hillside to hillside in the bush.

Being the youngest in her family, Mabel had lots of alone time as her brother and sister were much older with other interests. She really had no playmates in the mining camps, so most of her time was spent alone or visiting with the old timers living in the hills. She developed a vivid imagination and would spend her days traversing the hillsides, picking blueberries, riding the mining dredges, and making her own fun. She developed a great love for the outdoors, ingenuity and creativity, and a certain shyness with people her own age.



Eventually, Mabel finished school in Fairbanks, met her husband, Jim, and they moved out of Alaska and settled in Kent, WA. After about 15 years in Kent setting up their future and having their family, they were offered the

opportunity to buy a log cabin in the White River area from some friends. It was 1959, Jim was new in the law business, they had a mortgage, three little kids...Jim was just not too sure they could afford this old log cabin. Mabel was insistent, though, as Deep Creek # 3 took her back to her Alaska roots and her childhood.

Mabel, with Jim's help, used her imagination and creativity to take Green Timbers from an electricity-less, dark burrow to a magical retreat for her family. She sewed curtains, recovered furniture and used all of her skills to make the cabin a place all of her family wanted to be whenever they could.

Crystal Mountain opened shortly after this purchase. Mabel returned to skiing, Jim took up the sport and they provided lessons and opportunities for the kids to be on the mountain each weekend. After Mabel and Jim's youngest son, Mark, was born, he got to spend summers at the cabin with Mabel during the week and both Mabel and Jim on the weekend. They hiked, fished, picked berries, worked on improving the cabin, got in wood for winter, and Mark got the opportunity to develop his imagination and creativity just like his Mother when she was a little girl.



With Mabel's persuasion and Jim's agreement, we still have this wonderful place as a refuge from the urban lives we all lead. Now, Mark's children, and all of the grand children before them are just as committed to this beautiful space. Seventeen humans and 3 dogs call this "our cabin" today.



We thank Mabel (and Jim) for this 55 year legacy they have left us. We promise to cherish it as much as they always did. ~ *Maureen Curran*

In Memorium for Josh Rudnick

Josh Rudnick, owner of Rudnick Construction, associate member of WRRRA, and advertiser in this newsletter tragically passed away December 20th. Josh had a significant positive impact on our Upper White River Valley community, not only as a contractor, but also as an active, involved contributor as exemplified by his service as a volunteer firefighter/EMT and Greenwater community volunteer.

A memorial service was held December 27th at the Greenwater Community Center attended by an overflow crowd of more than 300 friends, acquaintances and local fire department and law enforcement personnel. We will miss his friendship and service to our community. Our thoughts, prayers and support go to his wife Jen and young daughter.

Cabin Fee Act Passed by Congress!

The National Forest Homeowners and Cabin Coalition 2 are proud to announce on December 12th, 2014 the U.S. Senate passed the Cabin Fee Act along with dozens of other lands bills as part of the National Defense Authorization Act. (HR3979-Section 3024) This success brings permanent and very welcome permit fee relief to cabin owners all across the country.

This milestone achievement coincides with the 100th anniversary of the Recrea-

tion Residence Program on National Forest lands. Passage of the Cabin Fee Act ensures the continuation of the Cabin Program for generations to come with stable permit fees, increased only by inflation, while also protecting the value of cabin-owner improvements. Read this as no more lot appraisals every ten years and thus a permit fee which is predictable into the future.

Please take a moment and send a thank you message for supporting the act to our senators Maria Cantwell and Patti Murray and also to your congressional representative.

What Happens Now?

For most cabin owners and all of us in the White River tracts, we will receive and pay our permit fee invoices for 2015 based on current law (CUFFA). These invoices should be received by the end of December and will be based on 5% of the 2009 appraised lot value plus the cumulative IDP inflation factor. It will take the Forest Service time to develop and issue administrative directions in accordance with the new Act. Future permit fees will be based on the appraised value of the lot in the last appraisal cycle (2009). For White River tracts, whose appraised lot values varied between \$20,000 and \$27,000, permit fees will likely be in either tier two (\$1,150 basis) or tier three (\$1,650 basis) depending on the final construction of the tier table vs lot appraised value when all appraisals are complete. Beginning and future annual permit fees will be adjusted annually by an inflation factor (GDP-IDP). Also added as part of the new legislation is a \$1,200 Transfer Fee when the permit is trans-

WEB:	www.wrra.net
FACEBOOK:	www.facebook.com/groups/116924811846669
EMAIL:	wrra-moderator@wrra.net

ferred to another individual.

Although the Cabin Fee Act is a relatively short and simple piece of legislation, there will be questions about process, implementation, and timing. To facilitate receiving and responding to questions, a CFA Frequently Asked Questions page is available on the National Forest Homeowners website along with a [CFA Questions](#) form for submitting questions.

www.nationalforesthowners.org

NFH has also posted an easy to read CFA Summary document, summarizing the key provisions of the bill. Please check the NFH website periodically for updated information.

We want to thank all who made this happen. We succeeded due to the efforts of many including the generous financial support of tract associations including WRRRA and individual cabin owners who contributed repeatedly in support of the cause. Passage of the Cabin Fee Act completes more than 7 years of work by the leadership of National Forest Homeowners and its partner organizations in the Cabin Coalition 2: Oregon Forest Homeowners, Washington State Forest Homeowners, Lake Wenatchee Summerhome Assoc., Priest Lake Permittees Assoc., Sawtooth Forest Cabin Owners, and Mt. Hood Forest Homeowners Assoc. Special thanks to our leadership of WRRRA and the Washington State Forest Homeowners (WSFHA) including Doug Gann, Pete and Barb Bailey, Ted and Fran Filer, Dick Almy and Albert Pollmar to mention a few.

Our efforts as cabin owners, thankfully received early support from Chairman Doc Hastings (R-WA), our sponsor in the House and Senator Jon Tester (D-MT),

our sponsor in the Senate. Both gentlemen and their staffs have been extremely helpful and unwavering in their support and dedication throughout this multi-year effort. Additionally, the Cabin Fee Act was co-sponsored in both House and Senate by many key legislators of both parties, as a result of the overwhelming number of emails and telephone calls from their constituent cabin owners. We strongly encourage cabin owners to express a personal *thank you* to their Representatives and Senators for acting to secure the future of the Recreation Residence Program. Contact information is provided for this purpose on the NFH website.

Finally, crucial to the drafting and passage of the Cabin Fee Act has been the cooperation and assistance of senior management of the U.S. Forest Service. Early on, the Forest Service recognized the incon-

WA State Forest Homeowners Association (WSFHA)

Washington State Forest Homeowners Association has been organized to represent the interests of approximately 1,100 cabin owners on Forest Service lands in WA state. Active tracts so far represented include WRRRA, Teanaway, Lake Wenatchee, Rimrock, Chinook Pass and Lake Quinault. The president of WSFHA is Albert Pollmar.

All WRRRA members are members of WSFHA by default and are invited to attend and participate in the semi-annual meetings. The next meeting will be a luncheon meeting April 25th at Mitzel's restaurant in Kent. You are invited to attend and participate. If you wish to be on the mailing list for WSFHA news updates and discussions, contact Bill Goodman

sistencies and administrative problems in the existing permit fee process (CUFFA) and the opportunity that the Cabin Fee Act presented to eliminate the cumbersome and expensive appraisal-based fee system. The end result, with the passage of CFA, is a more equitable and efficient system. We are indebted to Chief Tom Tidwell and his senior staff for their unwavering support of the legislation on behalf of the cabin community and the American public.

We are excited and significantly relieved by passage of the Cabin Fee Act and completion of this seven-year-long effort. Our efforts will continue, working in cooperation with the Forest Service to ensure that the CFA is implemented as intended. Thank you all for your persistence, support and commitment to this effort. We could not have completed this journey without you. ~ Jay Tripathi, NFH President, for the Cabin Coalition 2

C2 Steering Committee:

Geoff Anderson, Brad Aspell, Barbara Bailey, Pete Bailey, Dave Damron, Doug Gann, Roy Glauthier, Jay Tripathi, Ernie Atencio, Exec Director

C2 Committee Members (past and present):

Mike Hoover, Glen Hildreth, Dick Almy, Al Molineux, Bernie Kosola, Ron Yandt, David Mead, Lynn Watkins, Albert Pollmar, Dick Burrows, Sarah Dahl, George Cardinet, Sally Goodin, Fran Filer, Ted Filer, Nancy Chapman, Barry Davis, Mary Clarke Ver Hoef, Sharon Karr, Bill Kennedy & Bill Johnson

C2 Washington Representatives:

Aubrey King, Aubrey King & Associates; Michelle Giguere, Ball Janik LLP; Heath Heikkila, Ball Janik LLP

Consider Joining the NFH

As you are submitting your membership dues statement for WRRRA this month, consider joining National Forest Homeowners (NFH.) Your membership counts! Become a part of the community that keeps the cabin program alive and ensures that cabin owners remain important stewards of National Forests and Forest Ecosystems. An example of NFH's focused collaboration and influence on a very important issue for all cabin owners has been the Cabin Fee Act (CFA) where our NFH volunteer leaders have worked tirelessly over the past years to a successful conclusion.



What is NFH?

National Forest Homeowners is the only national organization working solely to protect and sustain the national forest cabin program. NFH's professional staff, hardworking volunteer board of directors, knowledgeable ambassadors and state tract associations work together to keep the cabin program alive well in to the future and keep cabin owners and supporters informed on the issues they care about. With over 50 years of history and more than 6,200 members in every state where cabins exist on national forest

lands, NFH is a respected voice that can influence the Forest Service and work with Congress to protect the cabin program and the forests that our members love and care for.

To provide the most current information and resources for members and other cabin owners, NFH publishes print and electronic newsletters, maintains an extensive interactive website and holds an annual convention and regular forums in different regions of the country. They are eager to hear from cabin owners and assist however they can, and they value the stories, experience and expertise that cabin owners have to share with one another.



Why Join NFH?

- Support the only national organization that knows and solely advocates for recreation residence cabin owners nationwide.
- Maximize the strength of your voice with the Forest Service and with Congress through the collective power of our membership.
- Direct access to local, regional and national Forest Service personnel through our well-established networks.
- Opportunities for information, education and spending time with other cabin owners through NFH conventions and forums.
- Printed and online newsletters with the latest information about the Forest Service and Congress, NFH activities and issues that affect forest and cabin owners.
- Access to the online Centers of Exper-

tise and other member-only resources on our interactive website.

- Regular email updates and action alerts to keep you engaged.
- Become part of a like-minded community of others who enjoy their cabins in the woods.

How do I join the NFH?

WRRR makes it simple for members to join NFH. Just indicate on your WRRR dues statement and include in your total check the (reduced) membership fee of \$40. We will forward the information and your payment to NFH.

National Forest cabins have connected generations of Americans to the outdoors, help keep that connection strong for the future.

WRRR 2015 Calendar

- Sunday, January 18: Sledding Social at sled hill across from SC-26
- Monday, January 26: Board meeting at Galliano's
- Monday, April 20: Board meeting – potluck at member's home
- Saturday April 25: WA State Forest Homeowners Assoc. Mtg. in Kent
- Friday/Saturday, May 1/2: NFH Convention in Vancouver, WA
- April/May, Day TBD: half day board planning meeting
- Saturday, May 16: WRRR Spring Dinner (Mother's Day is May 10)
- Sunday, May 17: Road Clean Up hosted by Goat Creek
- Friday, July 17: Board meeting potluck at member's cabin
- Saturday, July 18: Summer Picnic
- Saturday, July 18: Cabin Tour following picnic
- Sunday, July 19: Road Clean Up hosted by Silver Springs
- Sunday, August 8: Wildflower Walk in



MRNP

- Saturday Sept. 26: WA State Forest Homeowners Mtg. at Rimrock Cabins
- Saturday, October 10: Mushroom walk in the forest
- Monday, October 5: Board Meeting potluck at member's home
- Saturday, October 24: Fall Dinner & Business Meeting
- Sunday, October 25: Road Clean Up hosted by Silver Creek

News Briefs from the Forest Service

Jim Sauser, manager of Special Uses for FS Region 6 at Portland Headquarters, has retired. Jim was an involved participant in working with Recreational Residence permittees in WA and OR and we want to thank him for his service. Noel Glines-Bovio from Region 5 (CA) has been detailed by the FS to fill Jim's position in Portland until it is permanently filled. Meet Noel at the NFH convention in May.

Law Enforcement

Jeff McIntosh is the Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer covering both Snoqualmie Pass and the White River corridor from his office in North Bend. The position vacated by Ian Canaan has yet to be filled. Jeff reminds us that we can always reach out to him with questions at any time. Jeff's contact information is:

phone 425-888-8752, cell 360-789-8834, email jeffreymcintosh@fs.fed.us.

Cell phone and email are always best. In an emergency call 911.

This is obviously a very large area of National Forest to cover, since Ian Canaan left and has not been replaced. We'd like to pressure the Forest Service to fill the position for law enforcement officer in the White River area. Best contact your congressional representative to apply pressure.

Similarly, the Pierce County Sheriff does not patrol the area. If this concerns you, contact Dan Roach of the Pierce County Council: phone 253-798-3635, email droach@co.pierce.wa.us.

Programmatic Agreement

The **Programmatic Agreement** addresses the need to maintain the historical designation of our cabins in WA and sets boundaries on cabin modifications with the intent of maintaining their historical character. We met with Forest Service Region 6 archeology personnel and the WA State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation in January 2012 to review the existing PA and seek changes in regards to the acceptability of metal roofs (see past newsletters). We are still awaiting an updated or renewed PA resulting from that meeting

Cabin modification Procedure and Process

The Snoqualmie Ranger District has completed draft documents detailing the process to be followed when a cabin owner wishes to apply for approval to make a change to the exterior appearance of a cabin or outbuilding and/or install a water or septic system. These documents are too lengthy to be published in this newsletter as they contain the written process and the project request submittal forms. The documents will be made available by other means in the near future, either

posting on our WRRR website and/or the Mt Baker-Snoqualmie Forest Service website and/or by a separate mailing from the Forest Service.

Dropping directly to the bottom line: if you are considering a change to your cabin or outbuilding exterior or a water or septic system, contact Denny Coughlin directly to discuss and start the process. Due to the historic nature of the White River cabin tracts, we are operating under the guidelines established by the "Programmatic Agreement" (P.A.) signed in 2006. Under the P.A. changes which affect the historic

nature of your cabin must be reviewed and approved by the Forest Service before implementing (this was the case before the P.A.; however, the P.A. imposes more stringent historical standards). Depending on the modification desired this could be an extensive process involving other agencies such as the Washington State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation.

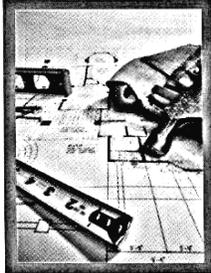
The Programmatic Agreement is available for viewing and downloading at the WRRR website under the heading "Documents" in the left pane. Likewise the "Gassaway" study of the historic significance of cabins in the White River tracts. The Programmatic Agreement does reference historically acceptable alternative materials which can be used, such as acceptable alternative roofing materials.

Classifieds




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Local news and concerns

Concerns about Recreational Gunfire

We all hear it often and are concerned about where these bullets are headed. The folks in Greenwater have experienced several incidents of close calls and are actively seeking a moratorium on Recreational Gunfire within the SR 410 corridor. For more information on past incidents in the Greenwater area and their efforts to limit gunfire go to: www.crystalriverranch.org and scroll to <illegal recreational shooting>:

Jeff McIntosh, our USFS law enforcement officer says current guidelines are as follows: in general, the public may discharge a firearm anywhere in the National Forest so long as the area is not specifically closed to target shooting (like along Interstate 90). When engaged in target shooting where legal, the public, per 36CFR261.10(d), may not discharge a firearm:

- (1) In or within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site or occupied area, or
- (2) Across or on a National Forest System road or a body of water adjacent thereto, or in any manner or place whereby any person or property is exposed to injury or damage as a result in such discharge.
- (3) Into or within any cave.

Cell phone coverage update

Wendy Scholl of Greenwater has been an organizer of the campaign to improve cell phone coverage in the SR 410 corridor. She reports the AT&T tower off 323rd St (proximity of Mud Mountain Dam Hwy 410 turn off) is close to being operational. It is

ready to go live, but there is a legal problem regarding right of way easement and PSE electrical power.

A Verizon tower is targeted for completion by the end of 2014 at the WSDOT maintenance yard across from Hwy 410 fire station/community center. WSDOT Pierce County parcel 0919104008 permits 783565 / 783564 / 782597 is in neighbor comment stage. No public hearing is required for this 3 signal provider capable 150-foot tower. Geo Technical Assessment was approved 8/16. The understanding is there is nothing significant remaining in the permit process before construction approval is obtained.

Another communication tower is in very early planning stages at Fire District 26 Station #2. It is unlikely Verizon will install this one, as it is too close to WSDOT maintenance yard. Which signal provider (s) will reach lease agreement and install on this one is undetermined.

Update on WRRRA Facebook Page

The WRRRA page on Facebook was created in May of 2013. Currently, there are 149 Members of the Facebook page.

The Facebook page is a great place to look for current information, including Crystal Mountain and Mt Rainier National Park updates and links, updates to cabin related legislation, conditions updates (power out, snow levels, etc.), WRRRA events, and many other topics and discussions.

Official and timely communications about association business related issues or events will continue to be sent to WRRRA member email addresses.

This Facebook site may also be a place for cabin related updates, as the WRRRA

website undergoes revisions. But, to make it an active and viable forum, we need people to post things – so please provide any relevant updates, questions, or links!

If you have a Facebook account but are not yet a “member” of the WRRRA page or community on Facebook, do a search in Facebook (the Search bar on top) for White River Recreation Association. You then Ask To Join, and your request is reviewed by the administrator; you are usually added to the group the same day. The review of requests by an administrator helps to keep out spammers and unauthorized members, to avoid solicitations or other inappropriate posts. So far, it is working very well.

If you have any questions, comments, or input, please contact the page administrator (Kevin Orth, SC26) at orthadventures@hotmail.com.

1st Annual Winter Family Sledding / Sliding Social

Sunday January 18th
from 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Cabin Area Sledding Hill
(across from Silver Creek cabin 26)

Please come join others from the cabin community at this event and hopefully we can all partake in some fun sledding or sliding! (Last year the snow didn't cooperate, but we are going to try again and hope for better luck this time!)

Make sure you dress appropriately, bring your own sleds or tubes, and any refreshments you may want. Parking may be tight, so please carpool or walk if possible. A bathroom will be available across

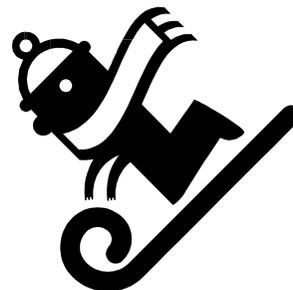
the street at Cabin #26.

In order to minimize liability for the WRRRA and cabin owners, we have a few requests to help make this a safe event:

- Participants and parents should sign a liability release (will be provided).
- Parents are strongly urged to provide safety equipment such as helmets and eye protection for all participants.
- The sliding zone will be inspected prior to the event for hazards such as rocks, branches, sharp sticks or logs; we will need help clearing any hazards before sliding.
- Sleds and tubes should be examined before coming, to make sure there are no sharp edges or pointy things that could break skin or tear clothing.
- No standing on or sliding on the road.
- Safe and sane sliding speeds; do not build large jumps.
- Loose articles that can catch and tangle like long scarfs are kept tucked in.
- Parents should remain on site for supervision of their children.

We hope to see a good turnout and make this an annual event!

Questions? Contact Kevin Orth, SC26 at orthadventures@hotmail.com.



WRRRA

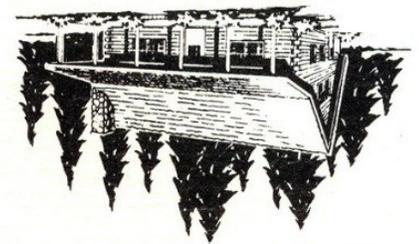
The purpose of White River Recreational Association (WRRRA) is to promote and protect recreational interests along the Mather Memorial Parkway and throughout the Upper White River Valley; to do any and all things lawful, just and necessary to better the interests of the members of the Association; to secure equitable legislation; and to cooperate with the Forest Service in the protection and administration of all recreational feature.



WRRRA Board for 2015

President Rena Irwin, DC #17 Home: 360-866-2570 Cabin: 360-663-2428 president@wrra.net	Vice President Floyd Rogers, DC #8 Home: 425-271-8678 Cabin: 360-663-7762 vp@wrra.net	Immediate Past Pres. Bill Goodman, SC #28 Home: 253-564-8337 Cabin: 360-663-2338 bbgoodman@harbornet.com
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WRRRA Winter 2015 Newsletter



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