



WRRRA Spring 2025 Newsletter

White River Recreation Association

REPRESENTING FEDERAL LAND PERMITTEES IN THE UPPER WHITE RIVER VALLEY, MT BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST SINCE 1929

WRRRA Spring Dinner

Greenwater Community Center (Fire Station)

Saturday, April 26, 2025 starting at 5:30 pm

We are looking forward to seeing WRRRA cabin owners and families Saturday, April 26th, for the Annual Spring Dinner at the Greenwater Community Center. The evening starts at 5:30 pm and includes social hour, dinner, and some brief business updates. The event will be Spring Break themed (bring your sunglasses and best Hawaiian shirt)! – food will again be catered by Greenwater-based Hanny’s Catering. The menu is a PNW inspired Spring Backyard BBQ: Marinated Grilled Tri Tip, Salmon, Spring Salad and Veggies, Rice Pilaf and Roasted Potatoes, and Strawberry Shortcake for dessert!

The evening begins at 5:30pm with a Social Hour and ends at 8:15 after Door Prizes and Costume Prizes are drawn. It promises to be a fun, festive, and informative evening. Please join us!

Please RSVP and Pay in advance.

Admission is only \$45 per person, and includes tax & tip. Reservations are available online or via check. Go to the Membership page on WRRRA.net and select the Online Membership button towards the top of the page, taking you to the square payment site.

Or, pay by check (made out to WRRRA) and mail it to:

WRRRA Treasurer
c/o N. Eric Carlsen

PO Box 3057

Port Angeles, WA 98362-0338

The maximum number of WRRRA members and guests that can be served is 100. You’re most likely to have a space if you pay by the deadline of April 22. Those who miss the deadline but wish to attend will be subject to a \$10.00 surcharge, if space is available. If you pay at the door the night of the dinner, only checks will be accepted. There are no refunds or cancellations after April 22, 2025. We look forward to seeing you in April!



Updates and news items also posted to Facebook Group: WRRRA Cabin Group

President’s Message

Members, I hope you have had a good winter at the mountain and up at the cabin, and are excited about the upcoming spring season. I have a few updates and reminders I would like to share with you, in addition to the articles in the newsletter that provide very important news; I hope you take the time to read all of this newsletter, and thank you for your attention!

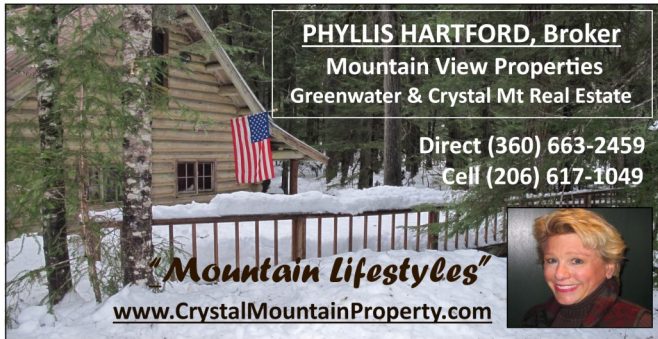


Our annual **Spring Dinner** will be held at the Greenwater Community Center **on Saturday April 26**. The event will largely be social in nature, but will include a few relevant updates for members as well. Please see the announcement for additional details. I hope to see you there! I also want to prompt you to Save The Date – please make sure you have on your calendar our traditional **Summer Picnic and Cabin Tour events**, which will be held on the afternoon and evening of **Saturday, July 26th**. Look for additional details and information coming out as we move into summer.

These social events are a key part of what our organization is all about; they are a great opportunity to get together with fellow cabin owners and others in the

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- *Support NFH, Our Advocates in DC!*
- *NFH Conference May 2 & 3rd*
- *2025 Calendar and Much More!*



community, share camaraderie and stories, and learn about what others are doing with their cabins and more. I strongly encourage you to attend.

In case you were not aware, we have had changes and turnover in the **Forest Service team** that work within our forest and in support of our cabin program. **Brian McNeil** had been in the role of acting District Ranger since the previous District Ranger Heather Wilder had to go out on medical leave, and he has now been officially placed in the role for the foreseeable future. The replacement for Brian Lee has finally been hired and is quickly coming up to speed on special uses administration, **Tyler Willingham**. Please see the related article for updates from our recent meeting with Brian and Tyler.

I really want to encourage everyone to consider attending the upcoming **National Forest Homeowners (NFH) conference on May 2-3, which will be held in Pasadena, CA this year**. These conferences provide a fantastic opportunity to learn from regional and national Forest Service staff, and leaders of various cabin-related associations, and other cabin owners from across the country. Please see the article in this newsletter for additional information.

If renewing WRRRA has slipped your mind this year, I strongly encourage you to **renew now!** Your financial support will help enable our organization to stay strong and continue to keep you informed and to advocate for you and the cabin program with the Forest Service and other organizations.

I also encourage everyone to **join National Forest Homeowners (NFH) at our discounted rate**. The cabin program is under threat nationwide, and NFH is working hard to advocate and lobby for

cabin owner rights with the Forest Service and politicians in Washington, DC.

Please go to the website at www.wrra.net to purchase a membership in WRRRA and/or NFH.

Lastly, our WRRRA board **needs lots of help** as we continue working on key initiatives and projects. If you have any time or interest to dedicate to improving the cabin program, being on the board, or supporting any project work, please contact any board member. There is lots to do!

Please drop me a note if you have any questions, concerns, or input, at president@wrra.net.

I hope to see you up at the cabins or in the mountains soon!

~Kevin Orth, President

Membership Drive Update

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! I am happy to report we have exceeded our membership goal of 220. We appreciate the timely renewals! We have a lot of new members too. We hope to welcome and meet new members during our Spring Dinner held on April 26th at the Greenwater Community Center. If you are on Facebook, please join the WRRRA Cabin Group to receive timely updates. Have no fear though. If the update is important, we will also send an email out to the membership. Another great resource is our www.WRRRA.net website. This site includes links to past newsletters, regulations, USFS requests for project authorization, and roof replacement standards to name a few resources.

In addition to the WRRRA membership drive, we also encouraged people to join the National Forest Homeowners. We had 67 members join NFH which is below our target. At this time last year, we had 73 members. Any chance we can surpass last year's number and reach 75? You still have a chance as you may sign up ANY TIME throughout the year. Membership to NFH is \$55. This organization is instrumental in protecting the rights of cabin owners and the cabin program as a whole. Our very own Kevin Orth sits on the NFH Board.

During the membership drive, we raised \$2,400 for the Cabin Defense Fund. It is comforting to know we have this money in reserve in case we ever need to use it.

If you know someone who still intends to sign up for WRRRA membership, NFH membership, or contribute to the Cabin Defense Fund, please have them visit www.wrra.net. **If you know people who haven't yet joined/renewed, you might want to remind them that this is a directory year.** Only members will have their contact information in the 2025-2027 directory!

Thank you for your support and dedication!

~Martha Hunter, Vice President, Membership

New Board Member

Thanks to Peg Crawford, Silver Springs 140, for agreeing to fill the unexpired term of Silver Springs Representative 2 position through December 2025. Martha Hunter vacated it when elected to Vice President beginning January 2025. We are so pleased Peg joined the Board.



Nominating Committee Update

During the coming months our committee will begin identifying members who may wish to run for a Board position for a 2 year term beginning in January 2026.

The positions that will be up for election Fall 2025 include Secretary, Treasurer, Silver Creek Representative, Silver Springs Representative #2 and The Dalles Representative.

If you are interested in being considered for one of the positions that will be up for election this Fall, contact me at renairwin1@comcast.net or (360) 870-5453.

~Rena Irwin, Nominating Committee Chair

Crime Prevention Committee Report

In January we organized a crime prevention committee and have met via Zoom twice. This committee will be working on exploring ways to deter crime within the cabin community. Individuals

from several tracts volunteered to be on the committee: Wendy Owen (D), Jack Kearney (D), Kathy Reed (SS), Marc Reyhner (DC), Ryan Maloney (DC), and Martha Hunter (Lead). We are still looking for a volunteer from Goat Creek and Silver Creek if you are interested.

We have talked about ways to protect and monitor the cabin area. We feel one of the best ways is to post cameras at each of the tract road entrances. We are still exploring the pros and cons of this; when we have more details, we will put a proposal in front of the Board. If there is approval from the Board and the Forest Service, we may be asking for volunteers to help install these cameras. Currently signs saying "Notice – This Area is Under 24 Hour Video Surveillance" have been posted at the highway entrance of every cabin road. These signs were paid for by the WRRRA and installed by Kevin Orth with Forest Service permission. Even though we don't have cameras installed at the entrances, we felt it was an accurate statement since several cabins have some type of camera. As a longer-term solution, we are looking into the possibility of getting fiber optics throughout the tracts.

Another opportunity is the identification of WRRRA members within the community. The Mowers of Goat Creek 90 have created WRRRA stickers if you would like to put these in the rear window of your car. If you did not grab 1-2 stickers at the Fall Dinner, feel free to visit the small box next to the door on the front porch of their cabin.

As we approach our shoulder season, we wanted to share with you a list of some ideas for reinforcing your own cabins. We know everyone has different strategies on best ways to deter crime.

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We hope you can use the list below to assess your individual situation and possibly make changes:

- Figure out the vulnerable points of entry especially if you have glass on your entry door that if broken would give easy access to the locks to get in. Either change out the door style or remove the glass and install something solid that can withstand a beating.
- If you have a padlock on your entry door(s), look into upgrading them at least with options that expose much less of the 'hook' for cutting with a grinder to gain access. Think about installing deadbolts/ enhancing your door jamb & door to prevent them from breaking in with just shear force.
- Look into removable security devices that you install when you leave the cabin to make it harder for a thief to gain entry, so they go elsewhere.
- Security cameras – it's a challenge given the spotty Wi-Fi coverage we have at the cabins. One option is a game camera, but you have to actually be at the cabin to get the footage so not an ideal solution but is better than nothing.

We will continue to keep you updated on ideas and our progress. If you have any questions, please let Martha Hunter know at becauseshesaid@gmail.com.

~The Crime Prevention Committee

Stolen Property and Burglary Suspect Update

On Thursday, March 6th cabin owners met with the Pierce County Sheriff to recover their stolen items. Many people were reunited with snowboards, skis, shop-vacs, China sets, old cabin mentos, and other items. It was very encouraging

to see so many people recover their items. Unfortunately, many are still missing their things.

Prosecutor Joe Scovel and Deputy Tjossem were at the stolen property viewing. They commented they had never seen so many people show up for a viewing. They were really impressed with our dedication as a cabin community.

Nicole Daniel has pled guilty to residential burglary and trafficking stolen property in the first degree. She has been released from custody. Her sentencing is scheduled for May 1st at 1:30pm. Robert Addison's trial is scheduled for May 20th at 8:30am. He is no longer in custody, but has an ankle monitor. Their associate, Daniel Malmberg, is in custody charged with trafficking stolen property. His trial is scheduled for March 13th.

We will continue to keep you advised as Robert Addison's trial approaches. It would be great if we could have as many people as possible attend.

~Martha Hunter, Infrastructure Committee Chair

NFH Membership: Critical Action Needed to Support Cabin Advocacy

WRRRA membership in National Forest Homeowners (NFH) has declined substantially over the past few years. Perhaps WRRRA cabin owners aren't aware of the tireless work that NFH does behind the scenes, advocating for cabin owners nationwide, and helping ensure the program can remain viable for the future – in addition to the myriad other ways NFH supports cabin owners.

This is a critical time for the cabin program across the country. We have permit renewal coming up in 2028, and are currently being impacted by changes in the support structure provided by our federal government due to staffing cuts. Worst case scenario, the cabin program could be terminated and the land privatized.

NFH has lobbyists and works with the Forest Service and politicians in Washington, DC. Recent examples of how NFH is advocating for cabin owners nationwide, are Permit Language Revisions, and the Cabin Program Restoration Act.

For Permit Language Revisions, NFH objected to several aspects of the proposed new permit language provided by the FS, by identifying two clauses that were inserted into the permit without the required public comment period, making them illegal clauses. After repeated and direct pressure from NFH, the Forest Service removed the clauses. As permit renewal approaches, NFH continues to monitor proposed permit language changes, to ensure our rights are protected.

The Cabin Program Restoration Act is legislation that NFH is proposing in Congress, to stop erosion of Recreational Residence cabins nationwide, and restore numbers to previous levels after losing more than 5000 cabins (25%) from the program. NFH is advocating for easier rebuilding of cabins after natural disaster, for example, plus allowing the use of existing vacant lots in cabin tracts nationwide, and protecting the rights of permit holders in other aspects in this legislation.

To provide this type of support for cabin owners, **NFH needs your support.** Please become an NFH member through the WRRRA website (www.wrra.net), to get their membership at our discounted rate. NFH membership benefits also include newsletters, an extensive library of informational resources, regional and national Forest Service contacts, and a cabin insurance program designed for those who have difficulty obtaining premium quotes elsewhere.

Please join today and support this valuable organization!

~Kevin Orth, President

NFH Conference

The NFH (National Forest Homeowners) national conference will be held on May 2 & 3, in Pasadena, California, at the Westin Pasadena Hotel. All NFH members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The theme of the conference is "Changing Landscapes: Navigating What's Ahead for Forests and the Cabin Program". With changes to how our public lands are managed, revisions to the special use permits, and a changing climate, NFH is

focused on how to navigate the changes ahead while preserving the heritage of this program. The conference will be very educational and provide relevant information to cabin owners. There will also be plenty of time to network with association leaders, other cabin owners, tract leaders, and the Forest Service staff.

There will be sessions focused on Cabin Permits and Reissuance, the NFH-sponsored Cabin Program Restoration Act, Volunteering, Fire Preparedness, Trusts, and Cabin Insurance, as well as presentations from and Q&A with Forest Service personnel.

We hope some of you will choose to attend this valuable and informative program for all cabin owners and permit holders in the Recreation Residence Program, and can help bring back information and messaging to all WRRRA members.

Registration is now open. Please go to the NFH website (www.nationalforesthowners.org) to register and for additional information.

~Kevin Orth, President

Ken Leader Distinguished Service Award Nominations due May 31, 2025

Since White River Recreation Association (WRRRA) was formed in 1929 there have been many cabin owners who have made significant contributions to WRRRA and the future of our cabin program.

Ken Leader was one of those individuals. He left a legacy as an advocate, a cabin program defender and selfless contributor. Following his



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death in 2018, the Board established this award in his name.

This award is intended to recognize WRRRA members who “stand out” among members for their dedication and have significantly contributed to the future of the organization and cabin program. This is not an annual award or based on popularity.

In 2022, Albert Pollmar was the first recipient and in 2024, Shirley Cherberg received the award.

Please consider who you think is that inspirational individual and why you would like to nominate them. Award details including the nomination form and process are on the WRRRA website. Any WRRRA member may nominate another member. Nominations are due May 31st of each year. The committee will review nominations and make recommendations to the Board.

~Rena Irwin, Recognitions Committee Chair

Notice to Cabin Owners - Unauthorized Changes to Cabins and Lots

In the past year, there have been a number of unauthorized improvements and changes made to cabins or the surrounding property, and the Forest Service team has asked us to remind you that their approval is required to do any work that impacts the exterior of your cabin, or the property it sits on. There have been instances of unauthorized removal of trees and bushes, remodels or repairs impacting the exterior of cabins, and even changes to the lot layout including adding driveways or gates, that have not been reviewed and approved by the Forest Service in advance.

Cabin owners who carry out projects or changes without Forest Service approval will be subject to legal action including fines, penalties, orders to remove or remediate unauthorized changes, and possible revocation or non-renewal of your permit.

These rules have always been in place, and are clearly noted in the terms and conditions of the permit agreement.

Failure to adhere to these policies will not only result in the punitive actions noted above, but also reflects poorly on the entire WRRRA cabin community and upsets other cabin owners. Therefore, we ask all cabin owners to please respect and ensure they adhere to these rules, and help to ensure their cabin neighbors comply as well.

Moving forward, please submit your permit/maintenance/work requests to the Forest Service team, for review and approval, **prior to starting the project**, for anything that impacts the exterior of your cabin, or your lot. This includes all requests for any cabin exterior or lot work, including hazard tree removal. Projects that only impact the interior of the cabin do not need approval.

Please go to the [WRRRA website](http://wrra.net/resources) (wrra.net/resources) to review [Guidelines](#), [Instructions and Contact Information](#), and the [application form](#).

~Kevin Orth, President

Snowplay Social Recap

After rescheduling from the planned mid-January date, due to lack of snow, we had a fantastic, fun, and successful Cabin Snowplay Social on Presidents Day Weekend in February.

The hill was snow covered and the sliding track was in great condition. It was a great time of sledding, sliding, socialization, camaraderie and fellowship!

We had music, and a bonfire too. There were several adults there who had no kids sledding, and they were loving the environment and social aspect. We had lots of fun and great conversations and had lots of cabin owners and families that had not previously connected, start to get to know each other.

We look forward to doing it again next year!

Cabin Tour 2025 – Hosts Wanted!

Looking for a fun and easy way to connect with fellow WRRRA members and neighbors? Hosting your cabin for the annual Cabin Tour after the WRRRA Summer Picnic is just the thing!!

Last year’s tour was a huge success, thanks to our wonderful hosts. If you’ve ever considered hosting, now’s your chance!

The cabin tour is on Saturday, July 26th from 6-9pm. You simply keep your cabin open, greet visitors, and share a bit of its history (or your own family’s story). That’s it.

Some hosts like to offer light snacks and drinks, but that’s entirely up to you!

Interested? Just text or call (206-604-6876), or email me at anne@aschopf.com, to sign up.

Or feel free to reach out to your cabin tract rep. Looking forward to another great tour!

~Anne Schopf, Dalles Rep, Cabin Tour Coordinator

Snowplow 410 Report

Thank you for a 90% snowplow participation and a 92% road maintenance participation!

It is too soon to provide an “End Of Season” report as the season’s not over and the machines are still in place for work but there’ll be one in the next newsletter.

So far we’ve avoided significant plowing and tree clearing work as the storms resulted in relatively small snowfalls and the bomb cyclone (thankfully) missed our cabins. We are likely to move surplus funds to next year and lower the fee.

~Robbin Bradburn, Snowplow 410 Coordinator

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WRRRA 2025 Calendar*

Spring Board Meeting

April 14, Zoom Videoconference

Spring Dinner

April 26, Greenwater Community Ctr

Spring Highway Cleanup: Goat Creek

April 27, Highway 410

NFH Conference

May 2-3, Pasadena, CA

Nat’l Trails Day Volunteer Event

June 7, morning, Cabin area

Summer Board Meeting

July 25, evening, Board Member Cabin

Summer Picnic

July 26, Silver Springs Campground

Cabin Tour

July 26, evening, All Tracts

Summer Highway Cleanup: Silver Springs

July 27, morning, Highway 410

Nat’l Public Lands Day Volunteer Event

Sept 27, morning, Cabin area

Fall Board Meeting

Oct 20, Zoom Videoconference

Fall Dinner Meeting

Oct 25, Greenwater Community Ctr

Fall Highway Cleanup: Deep Creek

Oct 26, Highway 410

2026 Planning Meeting

November or December, TBD, Zoom

* All event dates, locations, and activities are subject to change.

Classified:

Incinolet toilet (2004—only used 6 months). \$150.00. For details, please text Richard at 206-571-5670. Item pickup in the Dalles tract or elsewhere, if arranged.

WRRRA

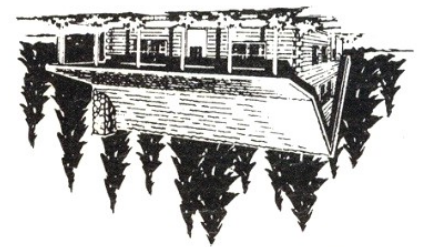
The purpose of White River Recreational Association (WRRRA) is to promote and protect recreational interests along the Mather Memorial Parkway and throughout the Upper White River Valley; to do any and all things lawful, just and necessary to better the interests of the members of the Association; to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



2025 WRRRA Executive Board

<p>President Kevin Orth, SC 26 Cell: 206-669-8455 Cabin: 360-663-0164 orthadventures@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Vice President Martha Hunter, SS 66 Cell: 253-370-2224 becauseshesaid@gmail.com</p>	<p>Immediate Past Pres. Rena Irwin, DC 17 Home: 503-746-6622 Cabin: 360-663-2428 renairwin1@comcast.net</p>
<p>Secretary Chris Masterson, DC 17 Home: 425-228-9410 Cell: 425-691-7035 Cabin: 360-663-2428 themastersonz@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Treasurer Eric Carlsen, DC 7 Home: 360-640-0708 Cabin: 360-374-5126 wrra.t.carlsen54@gmail.com</p>	<p>Dalles Representative Anne Schopf, D 35 Cell: 206-604-6876 anne@aschopf.com</p>
<p>Silver Springs Rep #1 Jennifer Prewitt, SS 61 Cell: 206-818-6883 Cabin: 360-663-2213 prewitts1@comcast.net</p>	<p>Silver Springs Rep #2 Peg Crawford, SS 140 Cell: 425-308-9108 Cabin: 360-663-2350 peg140ssk@gmail.com</p>	<p>Silver Creek Rep Brian Brewer, SC 27 Cell: 425-260-1976 brianjb76@gmail.com</p>
<p>Goat Creek Rep #1 Tom Wood, GC 95 Cell: 206-304-4032 tompapawoody@outlook.com</p>	<p>Goat Creek Rep #2 Shelby White, GC 93 Cell: 206-755-2762 Cabin: 360-663-2499 shelby@westseattlerealty.com</p>	<p>Deep Creek Rep Janet Curran, DC 3 Cell: 206-356-0320 Cabin: 360-663-2631 jmcurran42@comcast.net</p>

WRRRA Spring 2025 Newsletter



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