



WRRRA Spring 2022 Newsletter

White River Recreation Association

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

WRRRA Spring Dinner – Revised Date – May 14

Spring is here and the WRRRA Spring Dinner is coming up soon! This year's dinner has been rescheduled to Saturday, May 14, since the earlier date conflicted with the NFH Conference. The evening begins at 5pm.

We are excited to be able to hold an in-person dinner event again! The event will be held at the Greenwater Community Center. Join your fellow cabin owners and families at this fun annual event. Get your taste buds ready for summer with this delicious menu of Barbecued Chicken, Pork Ribs, and all the trimmings! Plan to start arriving at 4:30pm, since the Social hour kicks off at 5pm (with various libations), and dinner is served at 6pm. And as always there will be WRRRA updates and door prizes. The evening ends at approximately 7:30pm. Don't miss out!

Please take a moment to make your reservation in advance to help reduce the onsite check in efforts for our volunteers.

Admission is only \$35 per person. Reservations are available for purchase [online](#) or via check. Go to the Events page on WRRRA.net to find the payment link.

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 \$35 price includes tax and tip.

The maximum number of WRRRA members and guests that can be served is 100. Reserve your spot as soon as possible. You're most likely to have a space if you pay by the deadline of May 9th. Those who miss the deadline but wish to attend will be subject to a \$10.00 surcharge if space is available. Only checks will be accepted, the night of the dinner, if you pay at the door. There are no refunds or cancellations after May 9, 2022.



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

Membership Update

I am pleased to report we have 10 new members who have joined for the first time this year. Welcome to each of you! Thankfully, in total I'm happy to say that we currently have 193 members who have joined for the first time or renewed their membership for 2022. Thanks to each of you who continue to support our cabin association. Your commitment to WRRRA is critical. I'm also pleased to report that 68 of our members have also joined National Forest Homeowners. In addition, 67 of our cabin neighbors have donated a total of \$1,440 to the Cabin Defense Fund. Donations ranged from \$10-\$100. Your generosity and support of WRRRA, NFH and the Cabin Defense Fund is to be commended and is truly appreciated.

Unfortunately, we are only at 88% of our membership goal which was to match the 220 WRRRA mem-

Inside this issue:

- *Message from the President*
- *Fall Elections—submit Nominations!*
- *Power Outages on the Rise*
- *NFH Conference Coming up!*
- *Urgent Need for Snowplow Coordinator*
- *Crystal Mountain Updates*
- *Distinguished Service Award Nominations Deadline*
- *Forest Service Updates*
- *History and Heritage Project, Phase One Completed*
- *Cabin Tour Volunteers Needed*
- *Cabin Break-In Season Coming Up!*
- *Forest Service Updates*
- *Family Snowplay Social Recap*

bers from last year. I would like to strongly encourage each of you, who have not yet renewed your membership, to do so as soon as possible. Granted, these past two years have certainly impacted our lives and ability to socialize at our annual meetings, but it appears that those restrictions are being lifted. I'm sure we all share in the desire for life to return to "normal" and look forward to gathering with our cabin neighbors and friends in the near future.

There's still time to join. Send your \$40 payment with checks made payable to White River Recreation Association and mailed to:

WRRRA Treasurer
c/o N. Eric Carlsen
PO Box 3057
Port Angeles, WA 98362-0338

If it's easier, feel free to go online and register via our website — www.wrrra.net.

Thank you for your continued support of WRRRA!

~Fred Orton, Vice President, Membership

President's Message

Members, as the Coronavirus pandemic ebbs, we are excited to announce that we will finally have a chance to get together in person for another social event, the annual **Spring Dinner, on Saturday May 14**. We hope many of you will



feel sufficiently comfortable with health and safety protocols and your personal status, to be able to join us in person at the Greenwater Community Center. The event will largely be social in nature, but will include a few important updates for members as well. Please see the announcement for additional details, and 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 event**, which will be held on the afternoon and evening of **Saturday, July 30th**. Last year we had a wel-

come respite from Covid and were able to hold the events, and this year we look forward to another wonderful weekend. 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 community, share camaraderie and stories, and learn about what others are doing with their cabins and more. I strongly encourage you all to attend.

I also want to invite everyone to consider attending the upcoming **National Forest Homeowners (NFH) conference in Vancouver, Washington, on April 29 and 30**. These conferences provide a fantastic opportunity to interact with other cabin owners from across the country, plus regional and national US Forest Service staff, and leaders of various cabin-related associations. And they also provide educational sessions which help us all learn more about the cabin program. Please see the article in this newsletter for additional information.

As always, I want to remind you that your WRRRA board continues to advocate for you by working on key strategic plan initiatives, as shared with you in the last newsletter. This includes developing crime prevention and fire preparation plans, working with the Forest Service and other government organizations, and working with National Forest Homeowners on key initiatives that impact us and other cabin owners. As always, we need lots of help, so if you have any time or interest to dedicate to helping improve 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@wrrra.net.

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

~Kevin Orth, President

It's not too soon to think about our Fall, 2022 officer elections!

The backbone of our organization really is all of you, our members, who contribute in so many ways. WRRRA has a rich history since 1929 of members stepping up and coming together to work to better the organization and the community.

We do, however, rely heavily on our elected leaders to contribute their time and talent planning and implementing our activities, and to our relationships with the USFS, the National Forest Homeowners (NFH), the Washington State Homeowners Association (WSFHA), and the community. We want to welcome all of you who may be interested to begin thinking if you might like to become part of the Board of Directors in 2023. There are a number of positions that will become available. The term of office for each of the positions is two years. Board members are oriented to the board roles and are involved in the planning and accomplishing of our goals. It is a lot of fun to work together, so think about it.

The positions that will be open include, President, Vice President, Deep Creek Representative, Goat Creek Representative, and Silver Springs Representative.

Our Nominating Committee will begin our work in the Spring and hope to hear from some of you about how to get involved. If interested in knowing more about the upcoming openings as well as what is involved in the commitment to being on the board, contact Rena Irwin, Chair, Nominating Committee, or any of the current board members.

~Rena Irwin, Nominating Committee Chair

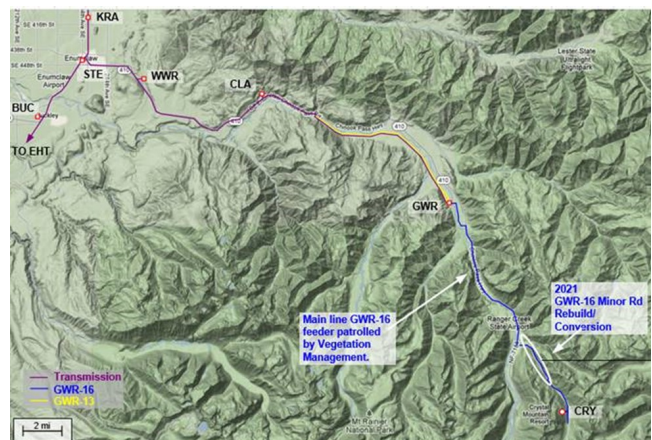
Power Outages on the Rise

Does it seem like the power has been out at the cabins a lot more this year, than in prior years? You are not alone in feeling that. There have

been many outages this winter, and correspondingly many comments on the WRRRA Facebook page, and emails about this topic too.

What has changed that could be causing this? Puget Sound Energy (PSE) completed burying the power lines underground through the Goat Creek cabins and up the old Mine To Market Road to Crystal Mountain in the late Fall, and this should have actually resulted in fewer power outages. Shortly thereafter, there was a rumor that there were problems with the buried line, that was causing the power outages; this was ultimately proven to be false.

PSE conducted extensive root cause analysis on the outages during the holiday period, at my request, and reported back that of 26 power outages in November and December, the vast majority were due to "vegetation / trees". In other words, trees and branches taking down the power lines, somewhere along the above-ground portion or down the highway from our cabin tracts. I don't think any of us are surprised by this result. Over the past few years, it seems there are more and more trees coming down in our area. Personally, we have had more than 20 trees down on our cabin lot over the last dozen years.



For additional context, the Map above shows the power lines which feed our cabin tracts. The GWR TAP (Transmission) line runs from Krains Corner through Enumclaw and up highway 410 to the Greenwater Substation, located in the SW part of Crystal River Ranch. The GWR-13 line

feeds Greenwater, Crystal River Ranch, Crystal Village and the other developments in that area. The GWR-16 line feeds all the WRRRA Cabin tracts, Alta Cystal, Crystal Mountain, and all other developments up the highway from those served by GWR-13. The GWR-16 line crosses the White River just out of the Greenwater Substation, and proceeds overhead adjacent to the White River, transferring from overhead to underground along FS-73 adjacent to SR-410. GWR-16 leaves SR-410 at White River Recreation Association (“Mine to Market Road”), travels through the WRRRA community (with laterals to serve customers), and continues up the PSE’s Crystal Mountain Generator/substation (adjacent to Crystal Mountain Boulevard) across USFS land. Note any outages along any part of the feed shown from Krains Corner up into our cabin tracts may impact us.

Why are trees coming down more frequently? While there has been no expert analysis done on the increase in treefall, it seems there are a few likely reasons. First, many trees in our area are sick. There is mistletoe disease in the treetops (clumplike growths) and the root systems are also impacted. The roots of many of the trees are not very deep, but rather spread out just under the surface. And climate changes over the years has resulted in more frequent and heavier winds in the cabin area. Couple that with a big snow load in the trees, followed by some warming weather which causes the snow to become very heavy, and its all a recipe for trees falling over.

So what can be done to mitigate this issue? There are two primary thoughts about how the issue could be better managed – bury the power lines, or cut down more trees around the lines.

Burying the power lines is not very feasible – anyone that has buried lines to their house knows how expensive it is; imagine the costs of burying lines all the way from Enumclaw! The section of line located on the Mine to Market Road between WRRRA and Crystal Mountain Boulevard was buried as maintenance had been especially challenging, as this portion of the forest is identified as “Secondary Successional,” just one step below “Old Growth.” PSE has very limited easement rights in this area, and removal of vegetation be-

yond the easement limits is not permitted. Burying the line through this section made sense; however, there would be little to no chance PSE and the Forest Service would be willing to bear the costs of additional burying down the highway.

Cutting down more trees to prevent them from falling into the power lines is also not a great solution. PSE already trims back branches to a standard of 6 feet from the power lines, which is the maximum allowable. This is currently done on a 6-year cycle in our corridor; in 2018, 830 trees were trimmed in the section between Greenwater and our cabins, and 1551 trees were trimmed between Krains Corner and Greenwater. The next trimming for all these sections is set for 2024. Note that sometimes they are unable to get access from private property owners for the section between Enumclaw and Greenwater, which could impact us as well.

If PSE were to cut down any tree which had the potential to fall into the power lines, there would be a swath of barren ground for hundreds of feet on either side of the lines. I don’t think anyone wants that. Furthermore, PSE has a Special Use Permit that the Forest Service manages, so it would be very unlikely that this would be allowed. Remember, the power lines are on FS land, just like our cabins, and PSE only has a limited easement to maintain the lines.

So, what is the solution to minimize these issues? Honestly, I am not sure. PSE will certainly continue to upgrade and “harden” equipment and lines to minimize chance of outages from minor treefall or branches. Their crews and contractors will continue to trim back branches as permissible in the corridor to help mitigate potential outages from falling vegetation. Cabin owners should report any sick or dead “danger trees” near power lines, for follow up by the Forest Service and PSE and their contractor Asplundh. What other ideas do you have?

If anyone has any thoughts on this topic, please contact me at president@wrra.net.

Thanks!

~Kevin Orth, President

National Forest Home-owners Conference – April 29 and 30

The NFH (National Forest Homeowners) national conference will be held on April 29 and 30, in Vancouver, Washington, at the fabulous Heathman Lodge. Several members of the WRRRA board plan to attend and represent our association; anyone interested is welcome to attend; we would love to see some more of our WRRRA members there with us.

The theme of the conference is "The Outdoor Recreation Economy". The Recreation Residence Program contributes significantly to the local and regional economies, as was borne out by the Economic Benefit Survey recently conducted by NFH. NFH plans to share the results with members, and to promote the positive impact of the Recreation Residence Program to decision-makers in Washington, DC.

The conference will be a fantastic opportunity to interact with other cabin owners from across the country, plus regional and national US Forest Service staff, and leaders of various cabin-related associations. The educational sessions include updates from regional Forest Service personnel, plus programs on the impacts of NEPA in the program, an introduction to the iNaturalist app, Cabin History programs, a deeper dive into Cabin Permits, and more.

We hope some of you will choose to attend, and can help bring back information and messaging to all WRRRA members.

Registration is now open. Please go to the NFH website to register and for additional infor-

mation: www.nationalforesthowners.org

~Kevin Orth, President

Snowplow Program to be Discontinued (unless volunteers are identified)

Members, we have been fortunate to have Perry and Anne Turner as volunteers to manage the Snowplow Program for WRRRA for the last few years. They have done a fantastic job in a difficult and thankless (and unpaid) role. Thank you Perry and Anne!

As previously communicated, this will be the last winter they manage the snowplow efforts for Silver Creek, Goat Creek, Silver Springs and Deep Creek (DC). It is critical we secure one or more volunteers to manage this program for next winter. Without getting confirmed volunteer support in place soon, *the snowplow program will cease to exist for next winter.*

The snowplow program is not managed directly by WRRRA, in order to mitigate legal liability concerns. It has always been managed by a cabin owner / member volunteer. It is an unpaid position and requires in the range of 100 hours of time per year to do this work.

Primary responsibilities include communicating and planning with vendors to perform snowplow services. Currently, two vendors are used: One vendor is responsible for SS, SC, and GC, and a different vendor is used for DC, which requires different equipment due to access and other unique issues. The DC vendor also has other plowing commitments in the valley and is not always able to prioritize the Deep Creek Cabin tract.

The vendors all must have business licenses, maintain liability insurance, rent equipment needed every year, and invoice the program manager. They must adhere to and abide by strict policies from the Forest Service in terms of how the actual plowing is done, where the snow can be dumped and more.

Key program manager tasks include program communications with WRRRA members

“Equipment Rentals for the Contractor,
Home Builder or Cabin Owner”

C.a.L.
RENTS, INC
Full Service Equipment Rental Store.

340 Roosevelt Ave East (Hwy 410)
Enumclaw, Wa 98022
(360)825-1140 *Just 1 block east of McDonald's*



(customers), launching and managing all snowplow and road fund collection efforts, receiving and tracking customer payments, receiving invoices and remitting payment to the operators. It is a lot to do the invoicing, the banking, the tracking and then all the plowing-specific planning and communication.

WRRRA members have also become more and more demanding over the years, including contacting the program manager with custom requests for timing of plowing and for notifications of work completed. Managing expectations and communicating with members will be key to success in the role.

If members were interesting in exploring an on-call concierge type service, it would require purchasing equipment for a minimum of \$50,000-\$75,000 and then hiring a person full time for at least the winter for probably another \$40,000-\$50,000. Net costs would be more like \$1000+ per cabin per year, versus the ~\$200 per cabin per year currently paid.

Long story short, we need to find a replacement plowing program manager to work through some of these issues and get a program lined up for next winter, or we will have no plowing. Please contact your WRRRA board if you would like to help, or have suggestions or questions.

~Kevin Orth

Crystal Mountain Updates

This past winter, Crystal Mountain initiated multiple program updates, including paid parking, encouraging carpooling, requiring parking reservations, and a bus shuttle service from Enumclaw. After discussions with Crystal, they also launched shuttle pickups in Greenwater for local residents, but we were never able to find a viable option for WRRRA cabin owners, before the parking reservations requirement was discontinued for the remainder of this ski season.

Earlier this spring, Crystal then announced many additional changes coming for the 2022/2023 ski season and beyond. Over the next five years, the ownership group Alterra plans to invest \$100 million in infrastructure and service advancements, starting this summer with a redevelopment of the



base area. This groundbreaking will kick off the biggest capital investment ever made at Crystal Mountain, with a focus on more access and more space for everyone. The Mountain Commons lodge will open for the 2023/2024 season.

To prepare, there are some changes in the base area planned for this spring, including temporary structures for retail and ticketing. Up the stairs, they have launched new pop-up food concept containers providing a wider variety of food options in the base area during construction. This summer they will be adding several hundred more parking spaces and constructing an aerial adventure course. They are also developing plans to upgrade lifts and expand terrain in time for the 2023-2024 season.

Soon thereafter, the plan is to replace the Summit House with a new 14,000-square-foot lodge with two floors of elevated dining and retail space. This new building will seat 350 indoor guests, and up to 560 guests when the clouds lift and Mt. Rainier is out. The second phase of the base area redevelopment (timeline to be determined) will also host a new 100-room hotel with upscale comforts including meeting and conference space, along with commercial space for dining and retail.

The other key change for next season will be with the Ikon Pass. Access to Crystal Mountain will be limited to seven days on the Ikon Pass (with no blackout dates) – in addition to access to 50 destinations. The Ikon Base Pass will offer five days at Crystal with holiday blackouts, just like this year. There will also be a new anytime-access Crystal Legend Pass, and a midweek Crystal Roots Pass. All season passes will also include summer access on the Mt. Rainier Gondola during the summer months of operation.

Like this year, there will no additional fee for pass holders to park at Crystal next winter, however reservations will be required to manage capacity and ensure there's a spot for you upon arrival. They will continue to offer free shuttles from Enumclaw and parking in a dedicated lot on the mountain for carpools with 4 or more, further reducing both highway congestion and the mountain's carbon footprint over the long term.

Stay tuned for more updates and changes by checking the Crystal Mountain website.

.~Kevin Orth

History and Heritage Project Phase One Completed

In January, 2022, Phase One of the History and Heritage Project wrapped up. Phase one began with informal talks at the 2018 picnic. Soon after the board voted to approve the proposed project: to find, collect, organize, and preserve in perpetuity the records of WRRRA. Diane DeWitt volunteered to serve as project lead for this Herculean effort and a budget line item for archive materials was approved by the board.

By May 2019 many records had been found and donated. In the summers of 2019 and 2020, using an ionizer in a closed room and exposure to natural sunlight and heat, the mold, mildew and an unpleasant "earwig" smell was removed from the older records. Donations continued to arrive until the end of 2021.

Care was taken to prepare the materials for archiving, such as the use of acid free Hollinger library-quality record boxes, acid free files, and acid free paper. Most of the donated records were already on paper. More recent board minutes were transferred from digital form to acid-free paper. Effort was focused on finding missing items in part by posting notices in the newsletter. Eventually, all directories and newsletters were found.

As organizing continued over many months, the inventory was updated. Our thanks go to University of Washington curators, Anne Jenner and Ann Lally, who were consulted on broad and narrow issues. They provided explicit instructions regarding the correct way to organize the records. Four

members of WRRRA with multigenerational knowledge of WRRRA examined the files and signed an attestation of content. Finally, eight boxes of records were accepted by the Allen Annex staff of the University of Washington to be curated and catalogued in the Northwest Special Collection. The total time on Phase One was 280 hours. The following abstract will be edited before being employed to identify the collection and released by them to Google, Wikipedia, etc.

"The White River Recreational Association is a non-profit organization that has represented federal land permit holders in the upper White River Valley of Washington State since 1929. It is affiliated with the National Forest Homeowners, the organization dedicated to preservation of the recreational residence program. WRRRA has five tracts: Silver Springs; Silver, Deep and Goat Creeks; and the Dalles, all located in the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest. WRRRA has around 250 members, so it is one of the oldest and largest organizations of its kind. WRRRA works collaboratively with the United States Forest Service and other government entities including local, state, and county law enforcement and fire prevention, and local communities, businesses, and civic groups to preserve and provide broad access to recreational activities in the upper White River Valley. WRRRA website at www.wrrra.net and contact at wrrra-moderator@wrrra.net"

~Diane DeWitt, History and Heritage Project Chair

(Editors Note: The WRRRA Board wishes to thank Diane for all the incredible work accomplished from collecting to preserving, and from organizing to safeguarding, all of WRRRA's historical records at the U of W's world class NW Special Collection. Next, the WRRRA Board will determine what to do in Phase Two of the project. There have been many ideas to consider and choose from, including the creation of a WRRRA Tract History book with images and single cabin story books. The History and Heritage (H and H) Project Committee is requesting input from all members and soliciting volunteers to help with the effort. If you would like to volunteer during Phase Two, please tell us by contacting Diane DeWitt, H and H Project Chair, at 425-822-2000 or diane@dwdewitt.me; or contact your tract rep, or a board member, so your ideas can be brought to a board meeting.)



Greenwater Servicing LLC
General Contractor

"WE STAND BEHIND EVERYTHING WE DO!"

James Henry
Owner

License # GREENSL820DO — greenwaterservicing@gmail.com

1995 Kibler Ave. Enumclaw, WA 98022
Shop space in Greenwater

253-279-3847

Ken Leader Distinguished Service Award Nominations Due May 31

In the Fall of 2021, this special Board Award was announced as a tribute to remember a significant member and contributor, within WRRRA, **Ken Leader**. He dedicated so many years of his time and focus on the organization and the future of the cabin program. While for many years he was the heart and soul of WRRRA, its chief defender and leading advocate, there are many others of our members who contribute significantly and in different ways. He passed away in December of 2018.

The Award is intended to recognize individuals who really **stand out** among the members of our organization. It is not an annual award and is not a popularity award, rather it seeks those who have contributed in various ways to the betterment of the organization. Take a moment to consider who you think might be that inspiring individual and why you wish to recognize them.

The full award details including the nomination form and process are on the WRRRA website. Any WRRRA member may nominate another member. Nominations are due by **May 31** of each year. The committee will review the nominations and make recommendations to the Board.

~Rena Irwin, Recognition Committee Chair

Cabin Tour—2022

The Cabin Tour will be back! I am saying that with much more confidence than I did in 2021. Covid did change many events in our lives, one of them being the cancellation of the WRRRA picnic and Cabin Tour in 2020. But in 2021 our Summer Picnic and Cabin Tour were back. Both events were well attended, and a great way to connect with other cabin members and meet some new cabin owners.

The hosts of the Cabin Tour generously open their cabins to share their stories and history of their cabins. Everyone's cabin is so different, and it is very interesting and informative to learn how the cabin owners have made their cabin work for them. We are always looking for new hosts to share their cabins with other WRRRA members for this very fun event.

If you would like to be a host please contact me at kenlynnr@msn.com or ss-rep@wrra.net All of our tracts have a representative, so you can also contact your tract representative for information and let him or her know of your interest.

We will have more information about the Cabin Picnic and Cabin Tour in the Summer Newsletter.

~Ken Ring, Silver Springs Rep #2

Cabin Break-in Season Coming Up!

There are two times of the year when our cabins are more exposed to burglaries. These are the shoulder periods right after ski season and right after summer before ski season starts in the fall. As you likely know many cabins were burglarized in September, 2021. The cabins were broken into through back windows and doors. The stolen items included clothes, food, dishes, cooking utensils, tools, wheelbarrows, BBQs, ski equipment and various collectibles. Some of the items were recovered thanks to

the combined efforts of the Pierce County Sheriff's Office, the Forest Service (FS) Law Enforcement Officers, the National Park Service Officer, WRRRA members, and the use of the Greenwater Community Center.

Your WRRRA board has been in conversations with all the offices involved in community safety. The Pierce County Sheriff's and the FS Law Enforcement Officer have said they will try to patrol the area as often as they can. The challenge is the closest Sheriff is in Bonney Lake and there is only one FS Law Enforcement Officer for a very large area. The Fire Chief in Greenwater is another source to keep informed of needed enforcement.

Also, in response to the break-ins, one of our WRRRA members, Curtis Thompson, hosted a Zoom meeting in October 2021, with a law enforcement officer from Enumclaw. The main topics were safety and what we can do as cabin owners for crime prevention. Curtis encourages anyone who would like more information on prevention to reach out to him at curtis@cthompson.me.

One of the most effective ways of preventing crime in our area is communication with each other and immediate reporting to the authorities. We need to try to know our cabin neighbors and how to get in touch with them. Our 2021-2023 Members' Directory has names and phone numbers of WRRRA members. Please use it and play a big part in our communication and the safety of our community. Please help us all out by joining and being a member of our community.

Here are some other helpful names and numbers:

*Brian Lee, special use administrator Forest Service brian.lee@usda.gov

*Sherriff Mark Rickerson, Bonney Lake 253-798-4944

*Tyler Smith, Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer, Enumclaw office 360-825-6585

*Incident report, www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=1944

*Kevin Orth, WRRRA President, president@wrra.net

Ken Ring, Silver Springs Rep #2

Forest Service Updates

On March 24, 2022, Kevin Orth (President), and Ken Ring (SS Rep) of WRRRA met with Martie Schramm (District Ranger), and Brian Lee (Special Uses Administrator) of the Forest Service, via Zoom videoconference, to discuss issues and share updates. We discussed many different topics over the course of the meeting, and wanted to share with members some notes and updates on some of the key topics:

Permit Renewal and Payment

There are several cabin permit owners who have not paid their 2022 fee yet. Third dunning notices are going out shortly, and will be turned over to collections soon thereafter. The Forest Service has the authorization to revoke your permit if not paid. We hope no one loses their permit! If you are unsure if you have paid, or haven't gotten your notice, please check the website at <https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/77242188> or contact Brian Lee at brian.lee@usda.gov.

Culvert and Replacement

The project to replace the culvert over Goat Creek is in the work plan for this summer! This means that NEPA assessment and other pre-work will be done, and if all goes well, the project will be approved to proceed. Depending on forest fires and other project work, it is pretty unlikely that the actual replacement will be completed this fall. More likely, it will be next spring unless there are other impacts to FS resources.




Diane Gebenini
 Direct: 360-620-7271 • Fax: 360-825-2498
 Email: diane@tx3.com
www.johnlscott.com/DianeGeb

John L. Scott
 REAL ESTATE
 Enumclaw
 2355 Griffin Avenue
 Enumclaw, WA 98022



ALL IN ONE "BUILDING AND SUPPLY"
Serving the White River Valley's construction needs SINCE 1988

Consulting - Restoration - Remodeling - Design - New
Construction - Building Materials - Cabinets - Trim
Packages - Reclaimed Wood - Beams - Live Edge Slabs
And more . . .



Office 253-839-0176 Cell 253-670-9485
giletsnrm@aol.com Chuck Gillett

Crime/Break-Ins and Dispersed Campsites

See related article regarding Crime, and the upcoming shoulder season when we tend to see more break-ins. The FS is going to put in a request to have law enforcement drive through our tracts more frequently this spring to hopefully help discourage criminal activity. They will also let us know if and when there will be an opportunity to apply for a grant to get additional law enforcement coverage.

Regarding the issue of dispersed campsites along the river and in the woods, the FS is looking to try to develop a program to enforce the maximum 14 days stay allowed. The intent is to develop a process where tickets and fines can be implemented, or abusers being barred from use of FS lands. As always, enforcement of anything like this will be difficult with the low staffing levels.

Plowing and Roads Maintenance

See related article regarding the change in program management for plowing. When a new volunteer is identified, they will need to work with the Forest Service on getting the special uses permit issued in their name. And then they will need to be the liaison between the FS and the vendors that actually do the plowing, to ensure insurance, guidelines, and all regulations are properly followed.

The assumption is that more road maintenance and repair work will be executed this summer by WRRRA (via Randy Iddings). The program manager and vendor just need to make sure to coordinate with the FS prior to starting the work. If cabin owners have any road concerns or requests please contact Barb Mead at mead5104@comcast.net.

Cabin Trusts

Cabin Trust questions continue to come up.

Anyone interested in pursuing a Trust, please make sure to start the process with Brian Lee; he has info to share and a template to use. Use the template for best response; a different document will result in longer review time. Make sure to submit the Trust (not the Permit) to the FS for review. Try to avoid submitting the last four months of the year as the national billing is in process.

Power Outages / Hazard Tree Removal

See related article. The FS does not execute on power corridor maintenance, that is PSE's responsibility. As noted in the article, please bring any instances of branches or danger trees in close proximity to the attention of PSE and Brian Lee at brian.lee@usda.gov.

Stewardship

We will continue to focus on our partnership with the FS around National Trails Day and National Public Lands Day, plus our three times annual highway cleanup effort. With Covid on the decline, we are hopeful to be able to work together with the FS in person, on some projects in our area this summer. We will also continue to look for new and different opportunities with the Forest Service, Muckleshoot tribe, and other agencies.

Summary

We had a great discussion with our key contacts within the Forest Service. We will continue to meet with them approximately three times per year for these general discussions. Please let your board know if you have any issues or concerns that we may not be aware of, that you would like raised in future meetings.

~Kevin Orth

Family Snowplay Social Recap

The Sledding hill was in perfect form for this year’s Family Snowplay Social. The group was smaller than years past, likely due to worries about COVID, Power, Accessibility, etc., but those who took their chances (around 15 folks) were rewarded with power restored, roads accessible, and weather perfect. A GREAT time was had by all!



Above—WRRRA Member, Rose Walker, perfecting her form.

Below— WRRRA Member, Daniel Walker, in one of his earlier (milder) rides. Rose Walker, Bill and Chris Masterson look on.



~Chris Masterson, Secretary

WRRRA 2022 Calendar*

NFH Conference

April 29-30, Vancouver, WA

Spring Board Meeting

May 9, Location TBD

Spring Dinner

May 14, Greenwater Community Ctr

Spring Highway Cleanup: Silver Springs

May 15, Highway 410

Nat’l Trails Day Volunteer Event

June 4, Cabin area

Summer Board Meeting

July 29, Board Member Cabin

Summer Picnic

July 30, Silver Springs Campground (tent.)

Cabin Tour

July 30, All Tracts

Summer Highway Cleanup: Dalles

July 31, Highway 410

Nat’l Public Lands Day Volunteer Event

Sept 24, Cabin area

Fall Board Meeting

Oct 17, Location TBD

Fall Dinner Meeting

Oct 22, Greenwater Community Ctr

Fall Highway Cleanup: Goat Creek

Oct 23, Highway 410

2022 Planning Meeting

November or December, TBD, Seattle Area

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

WRRRA

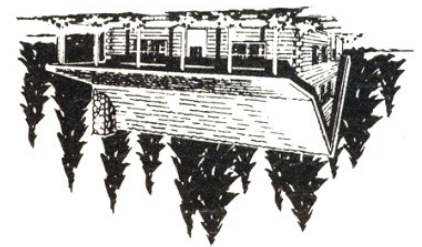
The purpose of White River Recreational Association (WRRRA) is to promote and protect recreational interests along the Mather Memorial Parkway and throughout the Upper White River Valley; to do any and all things lawful, just and necessary to better the interests of the members of the Association; to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



2022 WRRRA Executive Board

President Kevin Orth, SC 26 Cell: 206-669-8455 Cabin: 360-663-0164 president@wrra.net	Vice President Fred Orton, DC 13 Home: 360-825-9867 Cabin: 360-663-2409 vp@wrra.net	Immediate Past Pres. Rena Irwin, DC 17 Home: 503-746-6622 Cabin: 360-663-2428 renairwin1@comcast.net
Secretary Chris Masterson, DC 17 Home: 425-228-9410 Cabin: 360-663-2428 wrra-moderator@wrra.net	Treasurer Eric Carlsen, DC 7 Home: 360-640-0708 Cabin: 360-663-2488 treasurer@wrra.net	Dalles Representative David & Molly Ebel, D 31 Home: 206-285-2178 Cabin: 360-663-2493 dalles-rep@wrra.net
Silver Springs Rep #1 Bill Vlases, SS 80 Home: 206-878-2541 Cabin: 360-663-7752 ss-rep@wrra.net	Silver Springs Rep #2 Ken Ring, SS 156 Home: 253-582-5461 Cell: 253-312-0118 ss-rep@wrra.net	Silver Creek Rep Dennette Wood, SC 24 Cell: 253-740-5340 Cabin: 360-663-2347 sc-rep@wrra.net
Goat Creek Rep #1 Tom Wood, GC 95 Cell: 206-304-4032 gc-rep@wrra.net	Goat Creek Rep #2 David Dittmar, GC 32 Home: 425-444-2674 gc-rep@wrra.net	Deep Creek Rep Josh & Brittany Gaydeski, DC 7 Home: 360-640-0995 dc-rep@wrra.net

WRRRA Spring 2022 Newsletter



CHRIS MASTERSON
 15632 158th Ave SE
 Renton, WA 98058

PRRSRT STD
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Yakima, WA
 Permit No. 1