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Go out with us on Friday, November 25th **Skip the malls on Black Friday – #OptOutside at your national parks**

Seattle, WA – In November 2015, Washington's National Park Fund staff, board members and supporters enthusiastically joined friends at REI, who did something different on Black Friday – they shut the co-op doors and spent the day outside. It's happening again on Friday, November 25th, the day after Thanksgiving.

"At Washington's National Park Fund, we embrace this national campaign to turn a shopping day into an opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors. Last year, we joined the ranks of local groups from MeetUp, GIRO, Outdoor Research, CLIF BARS, and so many others who decided to join up with what our friends at REI started," said Laurie Ward, Executive Director of Washington's National Park Fund. "We're now making plans to bring many of our donors and friends back to Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks again this year. We'll close the office and take it all outside. Will you go out with us?"

Last year, more than a million people chose to opt outside.

"Making our national parks part of your Thanksgiving tradition will create memories far more meaningful than any shopping bargain you may find that day," said Dana Visser, WNPF board president.

Not sure where to go? Check out www.nps.gov for details about visiting Mount Rainier, North Cascades, or Olympic National Park. REI has also launched an Activity Finder, where you can enter your ZIP code to find local destinations. Visit the site at REI.com/opt-outside/activity.

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ABOUT WASHINGTON'S NATIONAL PARK FUND

Over the past seven years, more than \$3 million has been contributed to the parks through Washington's National Park Fund, the official fundraising partner for Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks. Annually, superintendents of the three parks submit a list of priority projects that, except for charitable contributions, could not otherwise happen. 100% of donations to Washington's National Park Fund stay right here in Washington for the benefit of Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks.

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