

PARK PASSION

THE DIFFERENCE YOU'RE MAKING IN YOUR NATIONAL PARKS • JULY 2019



Lake Crescent Sunrise by Mitch Pittman

THOREAU HAD A WAY WITH WORDS: "SIMPLIFY, SIMPLIFY, SIMPLIFY."

One of our practices that donors appreciate most about WNPF is the simplicity of how we function. We get each park's priorities at the beginning of the year, post images/descriptions of each park's top eight to our website (along with brief write-ups on priorities nine and beyond), then set out to raise funds throughout the year. We track as we go and note those that are fully funded in our 2019 Park Projects booklet (posted at the bottom of our home page). From donors' hands to specific park projects. It's really, well, that simple.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

LAURIE WARD
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



SOME GOOD NEWS COMING OUT OF D.C.

BY LAURIE WARD

As of today (July 2), the "Restore our Parks and Public Lands Act" (H.R. 1225) is gaining solid momentum. The bill has bipartisan support. In partnership with Rob Bishop of Utah, Washington's own Derek Kilmer – one of Washington's National Park Fund's honorary board members – is leading the charge in the House. If passed, \$6.5 billion will be infused over a five-year period into the backlog of repairs identified. This will have a huge impact on the estimated \$12 billion in deferred maintenance projects – leaking pipelines, leaching septic tanks, and broken down roads to name just a few.

Polls show that 75% of Americans are in favor. That comes as no surprise. Our parks belong to everyone. Thank Mr. Kilmer for his leadership. This could be a VERY positive outcome for our national parks!

OUR MISSION is to raise private support to deepen the public's love for, understanding of, and experiences in Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks. **OUR VISION** is for our three parks to be strong and vibrant, youthful and everlasting.

The diversity demands dedication, love of the outdoors, perseverance and patience.



PARK PERSON OF INTEREST:
JORDAN ANDERSON
Wilderness Park Ranger

Jordan Anderson, Wilderness Ranger, shares her hopscotch life of tasks that pile-up like rocks of a cairn. To name a few: Search and Rescue, assisting backcountry campers with permits, redirecting people with dogs in the national park, servicing pit and composting toilets, assisting hikers in trip planning, handing out "blue bags" (plastic human waste bags). The diversity demands dedication, love of the outdoors, perseverance and patience. In Jordan's persona life, Park Service has also meant ten years living apart from her Wildland Fire Fighting husband, Aaron, until 2015 when both landed at North Cascades National Park.

Read her story at: wnpf.org/to-the-parks-our-blog/

FOUNDATION FOCUS:

CRUISE INDUSTRY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

A big THANK YOU to the Cruise Industry Charitable Foundation for recently providing support for a 10-person trail crew made up of local Latina youth ages 13-16 this summer. WNPf is partnering with Washington Trails Association and Latino Outdoors to coordinate the volunteer work in Mount Rainier National Park. Crew members will gain meaningful work experience and direct exposure to the outdoors, as well as a stipend to acknowledge their service. We are thrilled about the support!



TRAILBLAZERS

BY KELLY SANDERBECK

Board member, Jim Gilchrist, likes to search out adventure at the Fund's Spring Dinner & Auction. Last year he grabbed the winning bid to "Take a Private Flight over Mount Rainier." "This is one of the best bargains at the auction, and the fourth time I purchased a flight. All of the pilots are friends of the parks and donate their flying time and expense to raise money for our parks." With varying schedules — and the need for good weather — it was hard to coordinate a group, but they eventually found a date and flew out from Paine Field.

"Approaching from the North, we flew 2000* feet above the ground clockwise around Mount Rainier. Our pilot knew every hiking trail and promontory, and could point them out before we could recognize them from the air. As we flew over Grand Park, we realized it had an up-close, unobstructed view of the entire North face, and we vowed to hike to it in the near future. Next, we saw the trail from Paradise to Camp Muir beaten in the snow by many climbers. Muir seemed very, very small."

Read more at: wnpf.org/to-the-parks-our-blog

*The print version of this newsletter states that the plane was flying at an altitude of 1000 feet. We have checked and confirmed our error; the pilot was flying well above 2000 feet.

When I first saw the Badlands, it looked other-worldly; I was speechless. When I saw the Milky Way from Yellowstone, the same. When I listened to my first ranger, I knew I was hooked and I've never looked back.

— Annie Kilby, Ranger, Mount Rainier National Park



NATIONAL PARK PLATES

This flat hat salute goes out to all who have our National Park plates! Thanks to you, more than \$200,000 is contributed to our national parks each year and the amount continues to grow!

Thank you!!



get in touch

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AUGUST 25

NATIONAL PARKS AT THE MARINERS

Join the National Park Service and the Seattle Mariners in kicking off the celebration for National Park Service Founder's Day. Enjoy discounted seating to watch the Mariners take on the Toronto Blue Jays with \$5 from every ticket sold through this special offer benefiting our parks.

Enter Promo Code: PARKS

EVENTS

FOR A FULL LIST OF
EVENTS, VISIT WNPf.org

Photo: Mitch Pittman

THURSDAY, JULY 25

RAMROD

Ride Around Mount Rainier in One Day is the Pacific Northwest's premier one-day endurance cycling event benefiting Mount Rainier. Riders enjoy views of Mount Rainier while climbing 10,000 ft.

FRIDAY, JULY 26 - SUNDAY, JULY 28

WOMEN'S ONLY WEEKEND (WOW), MOUNT RAINIER

Come together with park-focused women for three days of stewardship at Mount Rainier. Camp, volunteer, hike and more!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4

RIDE THE HURRICANE

Ride Hurricane Ridge Road in Olympic National Park and take in the gorgeous vista before enjoying the ride back down.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

NEIGHBORHOOD FIRESIDE CIRCLE: WEDGWOOD

Join friends and community members for a ranger talk in a generous park supporter's "mini-Olympic" inspired home.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

PACIFIC RUNDERLAND 5K & KIDS RUN

Run or walk along the White River, through Roegner Park in Auburn to support Washington's National Parks on this USATF Certified Course.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

NATIONAL PARKS AT BENAROYA HALL

Washington's National Park Fund, Anthony Spain and the Northwest Symphony Orchestra, and The Musical Mountaineers will return to Benaroya Hall to celebrate Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks through musical performances and big screen visuals.