

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Laurie Ward, Executive Director, WNPF <u>laurie@wnpf.org</u> (206) 623-2063

Raise your paddle to support Washington's three largest National Parks on April 11th!

Seattle, WA – Are you a hiker, a camper, a birder? Did your holiday wishes include anything made of Gore-Tex? Does your winter reading include trail-running guidebooks? If you answered yes to any of these questions, mark your calendar for Saturday, April 11th and join enthusiasts like yourself for a great cause.

Tickets are on sale now for Washington's National Park Fund's annual Spring Dinner and Auction at the Seattle Design Center, benefitting Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks.

- Mix and mingle with Honorary Auction Chair Lou Whittaker, park rangers, volunteers, staff, community leaders and members of the Fund's Board of Directors
- Support a foundational fundraiser for Washington State's three largest National Parks
- Bid on unique auction items especially for outdoor enthusiasts
- Sustain volunteer programs at the parks with your Fund-A-Need contribution

This year's Fund-A-Need appeal is particularly vital. With budgets stretched, volunteers are a significant and growing part of the parks' team. Volunteers take on many roles you might expect – such as working in the visitor's centers – and some that might surprise you. At Olympic National Park, volunteers help monitor the marmot population. At Mount Rainier National Park, volunteers provide roadside assistance to park visitors. With funding for staff supervision and to cover program costs, all three parks will be able to sustain and strategically expand volunteer programs.

"Support from individual donors throughout the state and across the country through Washington's National Park Fund is what makes this important work of caring for our National Parks possible," said Randy King, Superintendent of Mount Rainier National Park. "We couldn't do it without the thousands of people who give so generously every year."

Tickets are on sale now! Please visit <u>www.wnpf.org</u> or call 206.623.2063. Tickets are \$150 per person as they last.



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CALENDAR LISTING

WHAT: Washington's National Park Fund's Annual Spring Dinner and Auction

WHEN: 5:00 p.m., Saturday, April 11, 2015

WHERE: Seattle Design Center, 5701 6th Ave S. Suite 115, Seattle, WA 98108

WHY: Support Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks at our signature spring event. Mix and mingle with Honorary Auction Chair Lou Whittaker; park rangers, staff, and volunteers from the three parks; community leaders and members of the Fund's Board of Directors. Bid on unique items especially for outdoor enthusiasts. Sustain volunteer programs at the parks with your Fund-A-Need contribution. Partake in local Northwest cuisine and a lively dessert dash. Enjoy live music featuring Deems Tsutakawa.

HOW: Learn more and purchase tickets at <u>www.wnpf.org</u>. Tickets are \$125 per person until March 16th, then \$150 per person as they last. Call 206-623-2063 with any questions.

ABOUT WASHINGTON'S NATIONAL PARK FUND: Washington National Park Fund started back in 1993. As the official fundraising partner for Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks, it has donated more than \$2 million back to the parks over the past six years.

Washington's National Park Fund, 1904 Third Avenue, Suite 400, Seattle, WA 98101 206-623-2063 <u>www.wnpf.org</u>