



WASHINGTON'S
NATIONAL PARK FUND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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206-623-2063

Our Parks, Their Homes

Annual Spring Dinner and Auction funds needs that cannot be met without philanthropic support

This year's focus: Science and research at Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks

Seattle, WA – As the National Park Service celebrates 100 years in 2016, you're invited to support Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks on Saturday, April 23rd. Tickets are on sale now for Washington's National Park Fund's annual Spring Dinner and Auction at the Renton Pavilion Event Center.

- Celebrate and support Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks
- Mix and mingle with Honorary Auction Chair Jim Whittaker, park rangers, staff, superintendents, and people who are passionate about the parks
- Bid on unique auction items chosen with outdoor enthusiasts in mind
- Sustain important science and research at the parks with a Fund-A-Need contribution
- Light appetizers, complimentary beer and wine and dinner will be served

Our Parks, Their Homes

This year's Fund-A-Need appeal is particularly key. Science and research projects such as glacial monitoring and wildlife restoration are woefully underfunded and vitally important. The parks are home to countless wildlife. Guests will be encouraged to give a tax-deductible contribution to help strengthen our parks, which are their homes.

One example is a proposed project in Olympic National Park called "After The Dams Are Gone." The removal of two dams from Washington's Elwha River beginning in 2011 set the stage for the largest dam removal project and one of the largest restoration projects ever undertaken in the United States. Funding will create a program to study wildlife returning to the area of the Glines Canyon lakebed. Scientists will study the impact that animals such as elk and mule deer have on the return of native plants. This high priority research project is vitally needed in the Elwha River area but sadly, isn't funded. As the requesting scientist wrote in the proposal, **"This research needs to be done soon or we will lose the opportunity forever."**

Annually, superintendents of the Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks submit lists of priority park projects that, except for charitable contributions, will not otherwise happen. Over the past seven years, more than \$3 million has been contributed to the parks through Washington's National Park Fund.

100% of the donations given to Washington's National Park Fund stay right here in Washington State for the benefit of Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks.

Washington's National Park Fund is very grateful to these companies for their sponsorship of the Spring Dinner and Auction"

- Premier Sponsors – BES Events and Freeman Productions
- Signature Sponsor – Guest Services, Inc.
- Major Sponsors – Aramark and Ben Bridge Jewelers

Please visit www.wnpf.org or call 206-623-2063. Tickets for the Spring Dinner and Auction are \$125 per person (\$150 after March 15th).

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Washington's National Park Fund, 1904 Third Avenue, Suite 400, Seattle, WA 98101 www.wnpf.org

Washington's National Park Fund is the *only* philanthropic organization dedicated *exclusively* to supporting Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks through charitable contributions, operating under a Partnership Agreement between each national park and the Fund. 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 Park. www.wnpf.org