

Park Passion

THE DIFFERENCE YOU'RE MAKING IN YOUR NATIONAL PARKS · APRIL 2022



Mount Rainier National Park by Nate Brown

It's time.

It's time for all of us to begin coming together again. April 30 is our Auction for the Parks; please consider attending. We'll be hosting a few of our enjoyable Fireside Circles (leave your wallets at home) as well as some hikes in the parks. Interested? Reach out.

Together, we join up for the sake of Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks. We fund trail maintenance and meadow restoration, science and research, and youth activities to name a few.

Year after year, our beautiful national parks rely on all of us for the growing support that we give.

They're there for us as we are for them. As we come out of quarantine, let's continue coming together and showing support. In my opinion, they deserve it.

Laurie Ward
Chief Executive
Officer



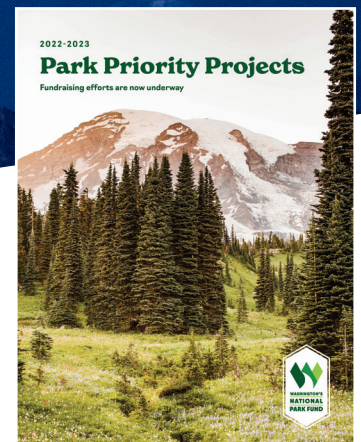
Announcing the 2022 Park Priority Projects

By Alex Day

Each year, park superintendents and their staff at Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks identify priority projects in need of support. With your help, we then raise the funds to make these projects a reality. Thanks to our thousands of generous donors, we sustain between 30 and 40 projects and programs each year, for a total of nearly \$6 million in support over the last decade.

Each year, more park lovers step up to support Washington's national treasures, coming together to keep our parks thriving. We are grateful to all of our supporters - and hope that you will join us in this important work.

Visit our newly updated Project Portfolio to learn about each park's top eight projects for fiscal year 2022, as well as other needs if more funds are available, at wnpf.org/projects.



GO PAPER-FREE! Did you know we make Park Passion available to download online? If you'd prefer we send you an email notification when a new issue of our quarterly newsletter is available to view online instead of a print copy in the mail, email marketing@wnpf.org.

MEET THE WNPf TEAM

Heather Danforth, Donor Engagement Manager

Alex Day, Marketing/Communications and Database Manager

Elizabeth Gonzalez, Administrative Manager

Susan Nebel, Director of Philanthropy

Kristen Oliphant, Events and Partnerships Coordinator

Kacee Saturday, Donor Stewardship Coordinator

Laurie Ward, Chief Executive Officer

WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Marjorie Walter

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Get in touch with us at fund@wnpf.org or (206) 623-2063

PROJECT UPDATE

Restoring Aquatic Ecosystems in Mount Rainier National Park

"It's always challenging to describe the significance of the contributions from Washington's National Park Fund. The staff that you see working on this project, the supplies, and the ability to coordinate the outreach to get the work done is supported through these funds."

- Rebecca Lofgren

Aquatic ecosystems restoration is just one of the many areas of work that aquatic ecologist Rebecca Lofgren and her team manage. With less than 10 park staff on the team, their work relies heavily on volunteers for monitoring and data collection throughout the alpine zone all the way to the lower wetland areas.

The funds WNPf supporters contribute to this project support the staff, volunteer training, acquiring equipment, and so much more. As we approach the spring



and summer months, Rebecca is in search of volunteers to assist with the various data collection methods. Learn more about what this important project is accomplishing in Mount Rainier – and how your support helps – at wnpf.org/blog.



OUR FLAT HAT SALUTE THIS QUARTER GOES OUT TO GREG DUDGEON AT MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK, DON STRIKER AT NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK, AND LEE TAYLOR AT OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK.

These superintendents (in Lee's case, acting) have bridged the gap as others have moved on down the trail. Quickly, all three are HIGHLY engaged. We continue coming together for our national parks; thanks, Greg, Don, and Lee!!

Raise the Paddle to Restore Your Parks

On Saturday, April 30, 2022, park-lovers, volunteers, and park rangers will gather in-person at the Seattle Design Center for a night to give back to the parks that give so much to us. Our annual Auction for the Parks will be raising funds to support the restoration of our cherished parks, and we can't wait to see you there. Register at wnpf.org/rsvp – and get excited. This year, we'll raise the paddle for:



Meadow Restoration at Mount Rainier: The alpine and subalpine wildflower meadows of Paradise are some of Washington's most iconic and breathtaking wonders. Funding for planting efforts and volunteer support is needed to restore these sites back into healthy meadow ecosystems.



Restoring Big Beaver Valley Wetlands in North Cascades: The Big Beaver Valley is home to the pristine Big Beaver wetlands, a habitat of rich biodiversity. Teams will survey and treat reed canarygrass, an aggressive non-native, in efforts to protect stream complexity, juvenile salmon habitat, and native plants.



Native Plant Nursery at Olympic: The Matt Albright Native Plant Nursery is a vital operation to Olympic National Park. Your support enables volunteers to plant seedlings in the nursery that are then transported into the front and backcountry for revegetation and restoration efforts.

UNABLE TO JOIN US ON APRIL 30?

You'll still have the chance to bid on gear, unique experiences, and one-a-kind adventures in the parks! The celebration will continue with an **online auction** – bidding opens at 5:00 pm PT on Monday, May 2 and closes on Friday, May 6.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MAJOR GIFTS GURU

By Heather Danforth

Over the years, Susan and her family frequented Washington's national parks. From Deer Lake to the meadows of Paradise, she has experienced the tranquility and wonder of Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks. Her lifelong dream? This new position. Susan Nebel joins Washington's National Park Fund after several years as a principal gift officer for Boston University.

"The absolute favorite part of my role is meeting people, listening to their stories about the parks, and connecting their passion for the parks to the philanthropic support that most resonates with them."

As Director of Philanthropy for WNPf, Susan manages major giving for the organization and growing and cultivating relationships with passionate park lovers who give back through charitable gifts. She will play a key role in WNPf's upcoming strategic growth campaign kicking off this year.



Susan is eager to hear your stories and share a laugh on the trails and at this season's WNPf events. Meet Susan at wnpf.org/blog.



1904 Third Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, Washington 98101

Climb for a Cause with Washington's National Park Fund

Ready for a once in a lifetime opportunity? Climb for a Cause offers you the opportunity to raise funds for Washington's national parks by climbing Mount Rainier, Mount Shuksan, or Mount Olympus. Our qualified partner guide companies, IMG and AAI, have resources available on their websites to help you figure out what's required to complete a climb. Learn all about this one-of-a-kind opportunity at wnpf.org/climb.

There are just a few open spots left for this summer! Reach out to Kristen at kristen@wnpf.org if you're interested in participating.

EVENTS

FOR A FULL LIST OF EVENTS,
VISIT WPNPF.ORG

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 6
VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP: TALES OF THE TRAILS IN NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK
Trails & Preservation
Supervisor Bill Zimmer shared how 400+ miles of trails within North Cascades National Park Complex are maintained. View the recording at wnpf.org/virtual.

MONDAY
MAY 2-6
FRIDAY
MAY 6
AUCTION FOR THE PARKS GOES VIRTUAL
Missed the in-person Auction? You can still bid on gear, unique experiences, and one-a-kind adventures in the parks in our online auction - bidding opens at 5:00 pm PT on Monday.

SATURDAY
APRIL 16-24
SUNDAY
APRIL 24
NATIONAL PARK WEEK
Saturday, April 16th marks the beginning of National Park Week with free entrance to your favorite parks for the day!

TUESDAY
MAY 3-4
WEDNESDAY
MAY 4
GIVEBIG
On this annually observed Washington day of giving, consider giving back to your favorite national parks at rb.gy/qbu490.

SATURDAY
APRIL 30
2022 AUCTION FOR THE PARKS
Join us at the Seattle Design Center on Saturday, April 30 for our in-person celebration of our parks! Raise your paddle to provide for priority projects and bid on great gear for a good cause.

WEDNESDAY
JUNE 29
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK'S BIRTHDAY
On June 29, 1938, Olympic National Park was officially designated as a National Park by President Franklin Roosevelt.

OUR MISSION is to raise private support to deepen everyone'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.