

WASHINGTON'S NATIONAL PARK FUND WELCOMES NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

WNPF Board of Directors Names Steve Dubiel Next CEO to Lead Organization

SEATTLE (Sept. 23, 2024) – Washington's National Park Fund (WNPF), the official philanthropic partner to Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks, is pleased to announce the appointment of Steven (Steve) Dubiel as its next CEO.

Dubiel is passionate about environmental stewardship, leadership development, and community engagement, with over two decades of leadership experience in the conservation sector including most recently serving as Community Investments & Engagement Section Manager at King County Parks, and before that leading EarthCorps as its Executive Director for 22 years.

"I am humbled and honored to join this team because I know how special Washington's national parks are, having been inspired by them since I first arrived in Washington State as a high school student to spend a summer with a conservation corps at Thornton Lakes in the North Cascades," explained Dubiel.



Steve Dubiel in Mount Rainier National Park

"That experience ignited a deep passion for conservation of our public lands. I am thrilled to apply my years of experience in fundraising and nonprofit management to advancing WNPF's mission to preserve and enhance the natural beauty, cultural heritage, and recreational opportunities of Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks so that they remain vibrant, thriving ecosystems and cherished destinations for future generations."

Dubiel's appointment comes after an extensive selection process conducted in collaboration with Seattle-based nonprofit executive search firm Clover Search Works. While there were many talented applicants, Dubiel's professional experience, coupled with his commitment to WNPF's mission and enthusiasm for Washington's national parks, made him a natural choice to lead the organization into the next stage of its growth.

"Steve's experience spans fundraising, financial management, government affairs, and program development, providing him with a comprehensive understanding of nonprofit leadership," said Tony Hoskins, WNPF Board Chair. "And, importantly, Steve is committed to expanding diversity, equity, and inclusion within the conservation and environmental movements, with strong relationship-building skills and a natural ability to connect with diverse stakeholders and audiences – a key priority for Washington's National Park Fund. We're excited for Steve, alongside our dedicated staff and Board of Directors, to expand Washington's National Park Fund's impact in Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks through a collaborative and partnership-driven approach."

Dubiel replaces WNPf's previous CEO Laurie Ward, who retired in 2023 after leading the organization for over a decade. Beginning officially on September 30, Dubiel will be tasked with continuing WNPf's strong momentum in annual fundraising while successfully driving WNPf's transformational *Together for the Parks* strategic growth campaign across the finish line.

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About Washington's National Park Fund

Washington's National Park Fund (WNPf) is the official philanthropic partner to Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks. Founded by former governor and senator Dan Evans and legendary mountaineer Lou Whittaker, WNPf is the only philanthropic organization dedicated solely to Washington's three largest national parks and has awarded more than \$7.5 million to the parks in the last decade. Learn more about how you can play a role in supporting these national parks at wnpf.org.

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