

Cascade Volcanoes Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 21, 2024

6:30pm Community Room

McMenamins (5736 NE 33rd Ave Portland)

1. Welcome Everyone Bondi

Attendees: Bondi Nary, Roxie Frezza, Darlene Chirman, Nancy Siegel, Barbara Mickey, Rosanne Hudson, Kate Evans, Maureen Wheeler, June Yamrick, Michele Deltart, Steve Haeseker, Carolyn Draeger Mastin, Linda Buckley, Micky Ryan, Lynn Fox

II. ADVOCACY
A. Dabbler Sale update Micky

 Micky visited the site of the proposed Dabbler timber sale with the Center for Responsible Forestry. The Forest Service has issued a notice of final determination, but there are still opportunities to testify and comment.

The Washington Department of Natural Resources will vote on the Dabbler Timber sale at their meeting on Tuesday, December 3, starting at 9am. Comment online by noon, December 2 or attend in person, by phone or online: <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em_bc_bnr_webinar_12032024.pdf> . Register ahead of time to give live testimony either online or in person (although not by telephone). Instructions in the link above.

B. DRAX updates Micky

 Micky reported the proposed biomass project in Longview has not yet been permitted. She will continue to monitor its status and will update us.

C. Columbia River NEXT proposal Micky

 This project proposes expansion of a diesel refinery in Port Westward on the Columbia River. The project would expand the refinery and additional rail line construction. Micky suggested comments be sent to Governor Kotek. Additional details regarding the project are in this OPB link: <https://www.opb.org/article/2024/07/25/port-westford-renewable-diesel-nxtclean-oregon-environment-clatskanie/>

D. Spirit Lake comments update (Laurie/Micky)

 This proposed project will address the need to assure drainage from Spirit Lake on Mt. St Helens. Cascade Forest Conservancy is coordinating comments on possible alternatives.

E. NW Forest Plan Amendment Darlene

 The Northwest Forest Plan (1994), is currently under review for amendment. An environmental impact report will be coming out soon. Darlene reported that the coming change in U.S. administration may mean a delay in passage of an amendment. It is important for us to comment now so we have standing in the future. The Forest service provides details and links for commenting: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r6/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fsbdev2_026990>

Natural Resources Building

1111 Washington St SE

Natural Resources Building, Room 172

Olympia, WA 98501

Micky will send out more information by email to the Broadactivists google group. If you aren’t on that group, email Micky at mickyryan@aol.com for more information.

F. Donation to Climate Alliance Darlene

Cascade Volcano Broads have donated $100.00

G. Snake River Dam removal Darlene

 Micky will send out information. Postcards are available so we can comment.

H. Owyhee Canyonlands protection Darlene

 Legislation for wilderness protection has not passed. and is unlikely . We should send messages to Senator Wyden asking President Biden to designate Owyhee Canyonlands as a national monument. This is the only viable way to obtain protection. Congressman Bentz is proposing an alternative that will not provide sufficient protection. If you are on the activists list, you will get updates.

 Micky: To learn more about issues of concern, the public can attend the Public interest Environmental Law conference February in Eugene.

 Grazing: The Forest Service will host a meeting focused on grazing allotments. Information should be readily available.

 I. Forest Park/PGE proposal Darlene, Lynn

 Lynn & Darlene attended a Zoom presentation coordinated by Bird Alliance of Oregon. This November, a PGE proposal to expand their infrastructure is putting a parcel of Forest Park at risk for development. If approved, it will involve clear cutting a section of the north unit of the park that is home to many species not typically seen in the metro area. Naturalist and photographer, Scott Carpenter documented Pygmy and Saw whet owl nests there. Submit comments to:

 morgan.Steele@portlandoregon.gov, Subject: Re:LU 24-041109 CU EN GW. Deadline for comments: December 4, 2024.

1. National Office Staff Changes Micky

The national office coordinator assigned to our Broads chapter will change. Executive director and advocacy director positions are open. Volunteers are stepping up until replacements are in place.

1. STEWARDSHIP
A. Solitude Monitoring Rosanne We monitor solitude in national forest wilderness areas. Our data guides the Forest Service in making decisions about permits, etc. We are close to completing solitude monitoring in Indian Heaven wilderness. In 2025, we will complete 2 trips in Indian Heaven & 10 trips Trapper Creek wilderness. We will fund travel and a meal for each volunteer monitor without applying for a Forest Service grant since the number of visits is small.
B. WTA half-day Broads Work Party Bondi reported we may continue work at Columbia Creek or Whipple Creek. Bondi suggested Earth Day on April, 22, 2025 from 9:00am - 1:00 pm.
2. EDUCATION
A. Washington Trails Conference Carolyn and Laurie attended the biannual WTA Trails Conference in Wenatchee, WA in October 2024 with 150+ participants. They presented on “Finding Solitude in Indian Heaven Wilderness”, as one example of stewardship. During the presentation they introduced the Great Old Broads for Wilderness organization, our mission, vision, activities, and partnerships. They were Inspired by meeting so many people who are working to promote all types of trails. All sessions are online: <https://watrails.org/sharing-knowledge/>
B. Book Group - first week of February Rosanne Rosanne proposes reading Rise of Wolf 8 by Rick McIntosh for a January 29 book club hosted by Ann Kremmer (Rosanne will provide an address. Book club reads about 4 books/year. Anyone can host an afternoon meeting if you have a book idea. Rosanne will provide address.
3. FUN
A. **Fort Vancouver Hike, December 5th** Ann/Rosanne

Meet at Ft. Vancouver Visitor Center for a hike/walk around the historic fort site.

B. Campout 2025 updates Bondi 2025 dates will be Sept. 4-7 (Thurs - Sunday) or the following week. First choice: The committee will reserve a group site at the Ohanapecosh campground in Mt. Rainier NP; 2nd choice: Cape Lookout SP; 3rd choice: Champoeg Oregon State Park.

C. Holiday Party, December 18.  Bring an OUTDOOR wrapped book for book exchange.

We will share a potluck lunch starting at 11:30 – 2pm. Address: 11102 NE 196th St. Battle Ground.

D. Return of the ELWA Broadwalk Micky

We signed a contract for a national broad walk on the Olympic Peninsula. We had a national Broadwalk there in 2013, the year the dam was removed. Lodging in cabins on Lake Crescent. Camping will be optional. August 18-20.

Next meeting will be Jan 15