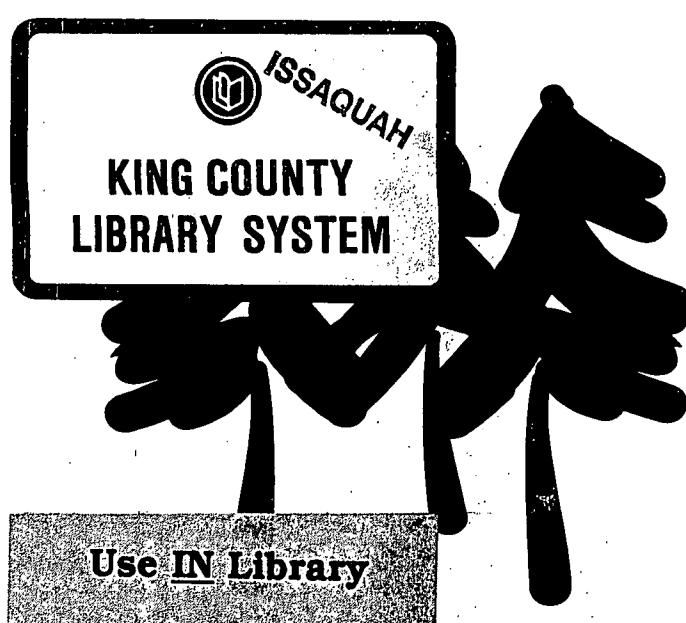


THE ALPINE



July ▲ August ▲ September ▲ 1994

Cougar ▲ Squak ▲ Tiger ▲ Grand Ridge

Grand Ridge—Renewed Threat of Urbanization

George Comstock

In a split 4 to 3 vote, the Issaquah City Council voted recently to include Grand Ridge (and East Cougar and other areas as well) as "potential annexation areas." Designating potential annexation areas is a key element of the city's Comprehensive Plan, which is required to be developed under the Growth Management Act. Issaquah's Comprehensive Plan is to be completed this year, and will define the pattern of growth in the area for the next 20 years, including Grand Ridge.

The most critical, and controversial, aspect of this issue is that areas designated as potential annexation areas are also, by definition, planned as "urban zoned" areas. Grand Ridge is currently zoned "rural", and IATC has strongly advocated the retention of a rural designation for these sensitive lands. Beyond the thousands of new homes that would be built on Grand Ridge under an urban designation, such development would also ensure the construction of a new freeway interchange at Sunset Way and most likely lead to the creation of a desired bypass from I-90 to Issaquah-Hobart Road around the western base of Tiger Mountain. Such actions would forever negatively alter the character of Issaquah, the "Trailhead City."

Beyond Issaquah's action, the King County Council and Executive will soon be deciding on an

alternation of the existing urban-rural growth line to allow urban development on Grand Ridge. This is a critically important issue. If changes to this line are allowed, then it portends an unwillingness by the county to hold the line on growth. Eastward sprawl could thereafter swallow up the green hillsides and valleys we all enjoy and take for granted. Your voice needs to be heard. Let Gary Locke and the County Council know how much you value the preservation of rural lands. Let them know that moving the growth boundary east is unacceptable. Please write them at: 401 King County Courthouse, Seattle WA 98104, or call 296-4040. ▲

Newsflash! Update!

In a major breakthrough, King County Executive Gary Locke and the owners of Grand Ridge property agreed to a compromise which will lead to the donation of 1408 acres of county-owned park land on Grand Ridge and development on 352 acres. This is a major victory for the Issaquah Alps Trails Club and the participants who helped develop this compromise plan. Maryanne Tagney Jones and Roger Delmar especially deserve thanks from the Club and the citizens of King County for their role in influencing this agreement. ▲

Bear Baiting in the Issaquah Alps

IATC members may not be aware that various forms of hunting are still allowed on the public lands of Tiger Mountain. Recently, the IATC took a stand on the most disturbing form of hunting that is allowed, bear baiting. This practice allows hunters to "bait" areas with food for weeks in advance of hunting season to condition bears to keep returning to the same site. When hunting season opens, instead of an easy meal, the bears are lured to within east shooting distance by a waiting hunter. Larry Hanson, the Tiger Mountain Advocate for IATC, forwarded the following letter to Tom Juelson at the Wildlife Department and the local newspaper. We reprint it here so that Club members can review the IATC position on bear baiting.

Mr. Tom Juelson:

The act of enticing a black bear into a particular location by the placement of food on the ground (bear baiting) and then shooting the unaware defenseless animal from a nearby blind, possibly from high in a tree, should not be considered sporting or recreational but disgusting, dangerous and costly.

Disgusting - Have we no respect for the animal kingdom? Annually thousands of people enjoy the outdoor experience of hiking in the Issaquah Alps with the intention of observing,

continued on page 6

Pedestrians, Horse-Riders, Fat-Tire Bikers Rejoice! Multi-Use Non-Motorized Travel Corridors Abound! The Mountains to Sound Greenway Has Hundreds of Miles of Them!

Harvey Manning

In March 1994 the Weyerhaeuser Company, which has incurred more than \$75,000 in damage over the past three years—despite spending an increased \$30,000 on additional gates and increased patrols—has announced a revised gate policy which is bad news to the 4x4 adventurers and dirt-bikers, and great news for the non-motorized traveler.

All company gates, including Proctor Creek and Mainline Spur 10, will be totally and forever closed to public motor vehicles. This means that every Weyerhaeuser gate is now a "trailhead."

Further, the Lake Hancock Spur 10 gate will be open only on weekends, beginning with the opening of the high-lake fishing season (not the low-land lake season, as formerly). Because of garbage dumping, vandalism, theft, and rowdiness, the former "tolerance policy" will be ended. Even when

a gate is "open" (for company use) it will be closed to the public and trespassers will be subject to being detained and transported to police for prosecution.

This means that throughout the year, weekends and weekdays alike, hikers, horses, and fat-tire bikers can travel the enormous network of logging

...every
Weyerhaeuser
gate is now a
"trailhead"

roads west of Spur 10 over the "Tokul Plateau" to the Snoqualmie River breaks and the enormous network of logging roads east of Spur 10 climbing to

Lakes Hancock, Galligan, and Rachor and to the scenic (no trees) high ridges north of the Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation area—and do all these miles free from the noise and fumes of motorcycles and 4x4s.

There's a sufficiency of wide, multi-use travel corridors to comfortably hold in peaceful coexistence all the walkers and all the horses and all the bicycles of the region.

Note to our good fat-tire friends who don't already know the good news: No need to make a fuss about hiker-horse trails on Cougar, Squak, and Tiger Mountains, in the Redmond Watershed and elsewhere. Go east, young families! Go east, happy bombers! Weyerhaeuser welcomes you! (Just be sure to carry out your garbage and always give right of way to company vehicles. Squashing a hiker or biker ruins the whole day for a logging truck driver.) ▲

Trail Conflicts Are Not Just Local!

As readers know, last fall the IATC published a Club "Position Paper on Fat-Tire Bicycle Usage in the Issaquah Alps," which defined the problems and conflicts resulting from increased usage by bikers of historical hiking trails in the Alps. This paper recommended specific solutions to these issues.

This is not a local problem only. Nationwide and worldwide, trail conflicts have increased dramatically with the usage of mountain bikes, as documented in numerous publications and news articles, including the Wall Street Journal. As the birthplace of fat-tire biking, California has been the scene of trail conflicts for years. Recently a trail ally wrote to Harvey Manning, explaining her and her organization's thoughts on this issue. The IATC Board felt it appropriate to share these thoughts with our members to let them know that this is not a local issue only, and that trail users everywhere share our same concerns for protecting the physical condition of our trails and the quality and safety of the hiking experience.

Dear Harvey Manning,

Not all users are created equal on our trails. The multiple use policy of the U.S. Forest Service and other agencies following suit must now be readdressed. When the Forest Service first made this policy, there was no idea that mechanized vehicles would use trails. At the time, users were on foot or on animals all going about the same speed with relatively little damage to the trail tread.

The new users, the mountain biker, is not in the same category. The bicycle is a mechanized vehicle with tires that grip and dig into the trail tread, creating damage at a much faster rate. The bicycle can go four, five, six times faster on downhills than the foot or animals. What about these latter users? The risk of injury to the foot traffic has now increased manyfold. A bicycle, a good-sized piece of metal, can now hurtle down on a hiker, or an equestrian, or a dog, or a child, or a lizard, or a gopher snake at 30 or 40 miles an hour with no stop signs, no signals, no warnings. This is without sense.

Santa Barbara took skate boarders off main streets because of pedestrian traffic. Ojai, California, separated walkers and bicycle use on their long pathways. University of California at Santa Barbara and at Berkeley have had to regulate bicycle use on the campus because of accidents. What are we doing on a single-track, 20-inch wide trail mixing fast downhill bikers with casual hikers and equestrians out to enjoy the beauty and peace of nature, being able to relax and look around, stop to look at an appealing flower, plant, or rock, and look up at the birds and the loveliness of the scenery? With bicycles on the trail, hikers and equestrians can no longer enjoy this luxurious nature walk. Once more they must be on alert, suddenly back on a road with vehicles, but now it's a trail less than two feet wide and they must now maintain a vigilance for unregulated, mechanized vehicles speeding down and too often accompanied by screams of "Move over!" and "Get out of the way!" Where, I ask, do you get of the way on a 20-inch trail with an inclining embankment on one side and a descent into the canyon, sometimes steep and dangerous, on the other?

Not all users are created equal and therefore, I submit, they cannot all be considered equally for single-track trail use. Santa Barbara County outlawed motorcycles and dirt bikes on these same trails on the 60's because their use didn't mix with foot and equestrian traffic. Bicycles are in the same category with motorcycles as mechanized metal bodies with tires capable of speeds dangerous to those on foot or animals. Therefore they do not belong on single-track trails.

In closing, I mention one last point, being that the physical damage is evident. Grievously, the face of our trails has been changed forever. We no longer have money to repair the trails as in past years. How can we allow use that escalates the damage by a factor of 5 or 10! When gullies form from bicycle use, no one can use that part of the trail again, not hikers, not equestrians, not mountain bikers. Just as the wagon trains heading West had to keep moving the roads over and over again because of the deep rutting created by the wheels. But now there is a difference. There is no where to go, except build a new route and is this what we want along our canyons, scar after scar, no money to repair them?

These front country canyons of the Santa Barbara area with hiking trails and other such single-track hiking trails throughout the country are our natural reserve, our heritage and our inheritance to pass on. ~~Keep it for the foot. Let bicycles go to the roads, catways, and jeep roads which are built expressly for tires and speed with enough width to accommodate 2-way traffic.~~

I call you to common sense.

Sincerely yours,

Camille Gilbert
Member of the FHOOT Coalition
(Feet and Hooves Only on Trails) ▲

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News Briefs...

What's New at Cougar Mountain?

King County Park staff

The "Return to Newcastle" event was once again a wonderful spring welcome to the park. A huge "THANK YOU" from us to all our friends who made history and respect for trails and nature come alive once again. At the 12-year mark it seems clear that we have a tradition with soul here; everyone connected with it has a right to be proud, especially IATC.

Out on the trails you may notice some rerouting and improvements as King County Parks takes over Section 30. You may also notice closure of some routes in favor of a larger wildlife protection area, and linkages for the animals to Squak Mountain. Blackwater, Newcastle Queen, and parts of West Tibbett's will be closed. This is part of the Master Plan agreement, but it is also a very clear message to the bicycle and horse communities that hikers are making sacrifices too. Please respect the closures, and please keep your pets, children, horses, etc. on the remaining 35 miles of signed and designated trail within the Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park.

This is the season for newborn animals in the park. Off-trail travel not only endangers the ground-nesting of birds and young animals, it may also put you and your young ones at risk! An irate mother bear is not one to mess with. Make a little noise as you move down the trail to let her know that you are coming. Never leave food around or offer it to animals. And never place yourself between animal babies and their parents.

A recent big change for park staff has been the re-assignment of our urban 'ballfield' parks so that we can now devote all our time to the trails and wildland park needs. The cost for this, however, was the loss of one full-time employee and nearly all our seasonal help. We will therefore be starting an "Adopt-A-Trail" program for volunteers to help with light brushing, inspections, and trail treadwork. Call us at 296-4145 to sign up for training and certification if you are interested and can lend a hand. (Our 'new' district includes King County Park lands at Coal Creek, May Creek, Squak Mountain, Squak-Tiger, and Rattlesnake Ridge as well as Cougar Mountain. More than 5,500 acres and 60 miles of trails in all!)

A word of caution: August and September can be dry months with high fire danger. Please remind all hikers that campfires and overnight camping are not allowed. Users are to stay on designated trails. Even a cigarette butt can be a problem. Please pack out whatever you pack in.

And final "thank-you's": to Tom Mechler for the Long-tailed weasel—a road-kill in good condition which he donated to our teaching collection. And to Bob and Pat Aries for the excellent photographs of spring flowers which they took while hiking Cougar—some of them will show up in a future display board on Spring Flowers. Other donations are welcome, as is word of animal sightings, bird lists, etc. Call us: 296-4145 ▲

Spring Potluck Draws Big Crowd!

Teri Morris-Hansen

The 1994 Annual IATC Potluck was a big hit with all those that attended this year—we must have had 60 folks! We enjoyed a beautiful, warm spring evening in the serene wooded atmosphere of the Issaquah Highlands Camping Club lodge. Thanks go to IATC member Jill Mays and family who hosted us once again at this beautiful location. There were plenty of kitchen and set-up helpers, all arranged by Mary Cadigan before she and husband Jim left for a much deserved vacation—they missed their first IATC potluck in 12 years! Thanks to Tom and Yvonne Mechler, Pat Kaald, Jane Commet, Carey Beeman, Bill McFerren and Mary Lynch who provided the kitchen and decorating crews. Ted Thomsen came with matches in hand and a trunk load of firewood, but we didn't need a fire due to the summer-like evening.

Our President Ken Konigsmark provided the MC work, introduced guest speaker Larry Phillips and later ended the evening with a beautiful Mountains to Sound Greenway slideshow. We all were pleased with this year's selection of Jim Cadigan as Volunteer of the Year—he'll have quite a surprise when he gets home from Arizona!

Tiger Mountain State Forest Update

Jim Matthews, DNR

The weather's been getting nicer and we've been busy trying to keep up with the workload in the Tiger Mountain State Forest. Here's a summary of what's happening on the recreation side of things.

- The Cloud Base Country Club (hang gliding) and the Northwest Paragliding Club have volunteered to maintain the Poo Poo Point launch area and restroom for the summer of 1994. What a big help for the forest staff.
- We've also signed up two volunteers to assist our recreation program. Our volunteers are Peggy Barnes and Calvin Ott. Volunteers are so important to our agency in these times of small staff, budget cuts, and a huge workload. If you meet these folks when you are out and about, tell them thank you.
- The Washington Conservation Corps crew has been busy getting the Northwest Timber Trail completed. We plan to open it up to the public this coming July. The trail is 2.2 miles long and connects the Main Tiger Road to the East Tiger Road. It will be open to hikers, equestrians, and mountain bicyclists seasonally from April 16 to October 14.
- We have received funding to buy materials for repairs and reconstruction of the Preston Railroad Trail. The trail will be closed starting June 15 of this year for one to two months to do this work.
- Beginning in October, we will be implementing a seasonal trail closure program on three of our multi-use trails. From October 15 to April 15, the trails will be closed to all uses. The goal is to protect the construction investment of volunteers and DNR and to prevent damages to the trails and wetlands with winter time use. The three trails for seasonal closure are: Preston Railroad, Iverson Railroad, and Northwest Timber Trails.
- On May 11, we reconvened the Recreation User Group. Representatives from the three main user groups (hikers, equestrians, mountain cyclists) were present. At the first meeting, we set objectives and defined the role of the Recreation User Group. We also walked the new Northwest Timber Trail.

As you can see, a lot is going on. If you have questions or want to help out, feel free to give me a call at our South Puget Region office 1-800-527-3305 or at our workplace in North Bend at 888-5215. ▲

Special thanks to all the clean up crew too! Led by Bill McFerren, who rounded up Mary Lynch, Fred and Ann Weinmann, and Joe Toynbee, and assisted by the Mays, the whole place was once again neat and clean. I also want to thank my husband and son for helping out with the parking and any other task I threw at them that evening!

As this year's chairperson for the Annual Potluck I was very encouraged by the energetic volunteers and all the warm, friendly people I met that evening. I'm always in awe of all the hours of work and love that others before me have put into making the IATC into the club that it is today. I take my hat off to you and hope we can all learn from your efforts. During the potluck planning I was fairly overwhelmed by all that needed to be done, as I had never taken on a job like this before and hardly knew anyone in the Club. But, as soon as folks began to gather and many hands contributed to the job, it was definitely more fun than work! For those of you missed it, I hope you'll come next year. ▲

Nature Dude

Teri Morris-Hansen

This year's recipients of the Volunteer of the Year Award are Jim and Mary Cadigan, active members of the IATC for the past 12 years. These high school sweethearts are 15 years into retirement and enjoying every minute. Among other Club activities, Mary is currently Special Events Coordinator and Jim has been IATC Treasurer for the past four years. He will be handing over the treasurer job to Barbara Halvorson during the next few months, but plans to stay active in the Club. Jim was chosen as this issue's Volunteer Profile.

Jim gives Mary the credit for his love of hiking. Mary joined the IATC first and Jim became interested after hearing about the fun times she was having. On his first hike, Jim was embarrassed because he found he couldn't keep up with Mary. On the second hike Mary took him to Tiger I. "I would take 100 steps, rest, take 100 more and on up to the top swearing and threatening divorce." Hiking then

became a personal challenge. "I found it to be a neat experience—physically, mentally and spiritually," said Jim.

Jim speaks proudly of the successes of the IATC over the past years, identifying Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park as one of the outstanding accomplishments. The creation of the park "seemed the most unlikely thing that would ever happen," said Jim. One of the highlights of Jim's retirement life was spending a summer working as a park ranger. "I was able to give suggestions that later came into being."

Jim is also pleased with both the recreational dedication of Tiger Mountain by the DNR and the Mountains to Sound Greenway which he proclaims a tremendous idea. Pointing eastward Jim said, "You can drive through a lot of nature parks in this country and not see much better than this."

Jim sees the future challenges of the Club as possibly "beyond the scope of what the Club is set

up for. How long do we want to continue introducing people to the Issaquah Alps? They are being 'loved to death' by the volumes of hikers.

But," he adds, "it's so pleasant to be involved in showing people something they've never seen before."

Jim has done trail work, led hikes, and initiated the Club telephone/hot line system. He plans to continue working on trails and leading hikes.

A few years back Jim was leading an energetic group of 5th graders and pointing out the names of plants, trees, and giving other interesting information. The kids dubbed him "Nature Dude". "I want to have that engraved on my headstone," says Jim.

Both Jim and Mary have that unique gift of making those around them feel needed and important in Club duties. Jim has worked closely with many volunteers, patiently training, explaining, and encouraging them along. From all of us in the IATC, Jim: "Thanks, Nature Dude!" ▲

Birding by Ear

Marty Hanson

As days lengthen and spring blends into summer, the Issaquah Alps become alive with delightful, mysterious, and sometimes bizarre bird-sounds. Being an interested birder, I have spent considerable time searching for glimpses of these denizens of the forest, sometimes with success but more often to no avail. Most of the time the elusive sound is all that I get. A recent Birding by Ear class has helped me identify species and understand what it all means. Perhaps some of this can help you too.

Bird sounds consist of calls, songs and nonvocal sounds. Calls are short sounds which birds (males, females, & immatures) use all year to communicate with each other concerning predators, feeding, etc. Some birds have four to five different calls—try listening seriously to a Robin sometime. Adult birds (sometimes subadults too) sing, and in most species only the male sings. In the spring after finding a suitable territory to raise a family, he will sing vigorously to defend it against other males and also to advertise himself as an eligible male to available females. He will sing a great deal until the nest is established, then only sparsely during nesting. After the youngsters have fledged (left the nest) he will again sing to teach his young male offspring. Birds do not sing to us, but to each other!

Some bird species do not sing at all but instead use nonvocal sounds to establish territory and attract females. Crows rattle their lower jaws making clattering sounds. Ruffed Grouse stand on logs, cup their wings and beat them against their bodies creating a deep drumming sound. Woodpeckers and Flickers pound their beaks repeatedly against tree trunks creating loud resonating drumming. Sapsuckers do the same but with uneven drumming resembling Morse Code. Rufous Hummingbirds create unique sounds by allowing the wind to flow through their wings during courtship dives.

Identifying birds by their voices is challenging but made easier by analyzing their songs in different ways. Three "trillers" commonly heard in spring are the Dark-headed Junco with a dry, ringing trill; the Rufous-sided Towhee with a heavier, more metallic trill, and the Orange-crowned Warbler with a trill that ascends in pitch then drops off at the end—a trill that runs out of steam! Chickadees are "name-sayers". Black-capped Chickadees call, "chickadee dee dee" and sing a whistled, "fee-bee, fee-bee-bee," while Chestnut-backed Chickadees call, "chickazee zee zee," and have no distinctive song. Thrushes known for lovely flute-like songs are the familiar American Robin singing "cheerily, cheer-up," the Varied Thrush singing long drawn-out whistles on different pitches, and the Swainson's Thrush singing an upward-spiraling song. Thrushes sing in the evening as well as in the morning, making twilight a delightful time to take a walk. Some birds have distinctive songs making them easier to identify. The Red-breasted Nuthatch says "yank, yank, yank," sounding like a tiny tin trumpet. White-crowned Sparrows sing, "hear me, pretty pretty me," usually in open areas. A loud, whistled "su-wheet" indicates a Pacific Slope Flycatcher may be on a lower branch of a Big Leaf Maple. An Olive sided Flycatcher sings his famous "quick-three-beers" song from a high exposed coniferous limb. At night you may be lucky enough to hear the deep voice of a Great Horned Owl saying, "who's awake? me, too."

All of these birds (and more) are present in the Issaquah Alps this time of year. By listening carefully you may be surprised at how many you will hear and maybe even see! ▲



Come Hike With Us, Too!

The Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club is just like the IATC. Except in a different place, "beyond the Alps", in a neighboring and by no means despicable mountain range, the Cascades. The concept behind the success of the IATC—make defenders of the trails by putting feet on them—needed to be extended. And so it has been.

You don't have to be a member to hike with us! But if you are a member, you get the newsletter listing upcoming hikes. If you love the IATC, you'll go crazy over the SVTC. For further information, call 888-2426. Or send \$10 (check or money order) to Snoqualmie Valley Trails Club, 45053 SE 166th, North Bend, WA 98045. Annual dues are \$10 (family). Memberships are renewable on May 1. Memberships received after January 1 are applied through April of the next year. ▲

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Hikes and Events

July Hikes

Saturday July 2

Wilderness Peak
4 mi. 1100 ft. gain
2B 1:00 p.m.
Bob Gross 392-0539

Monday July 4

Cougar Mtn. loop
Radar Park to
Wilderness Peak
7 mi. 800 ft. gain
2B 10:00 a.m.
Ralph Owen 746-1070

Thursday July 7

Little Si and moss vista
2B 9:00 a.m.
Peggy Owen 746-1070

Saturday July 9

Squak Mtn. Hi-lights
Loop with great view
3B 9:00 a.m.
Joe Toynbee 723-6716

Lewis Creek Canyon
(AN ENDANGERED
WILDLAND!)

2A 9:00 a.m.
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Sunday July 10

DeLeo Wall to Coal Creek Falls
2A 9:00 a.m.
Bert Drui 746-0709

Thursday July 14

Squak Mtn. State Park
2C 9:30 a.m.
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

Sunday July 17

Rattlesnake Mtn. West Peak
from winery, 11 mi. 2300 ft. gain
3C 8:30 a.m.
Ralph Owen 746-1070

West Tiger 3 from Issaquah
3B 1:00 p.m.
Steve Cavit 271-7780

Tuesday July 19

Twin Falls and beyond
to rock vista (boots required)
3C 9:00 a.m.
Peggy Owen. 746-1070

Wednesday July 20

Newcastle/Wayside Trail
Cougar Mtn.
family hike
1A 10:00 a.m.
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

Saturday July 23

East Grand Ridge
Hike in newest King County
wildland park
2B 9:00 a.m.
Roger Delmar 392-9553

Sunday July 24

Issaquah to Poo Poo Pt.
"paraglider watching"
3C 9:00 a.m.
Bill McFerren 718-1102

Lake Tradition family hike
2A 1:00 p.m.
Ted Thomsen 454-8643

Monday July 25

BOARD MEETING
7 p.m. at Clubhouse, 1st & Bush

Saturday July 30

Cougar Precipice
"Wilderness on the Metro 210"
2A 9:00 a.m.
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Sunday July 31

Coal Creek Park
2A 1:00 p.m.
Penny Manning 746-1017

August Hikes

Sunday August 7

Lewis Creek Canyon
(THIS WILD CANYON
ENDANGERED
BY LAKEMONT BLVD
CONSTRUCTION!)

2A 1:00 p.m.
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Harvey Manning has returned to the trails and is leading hikes. As instrumental as he's been in the community and on the Board, we have missed his footsore presence on the trails. Welcome back!!

Saturday August 13

Squak perimeter trail
Search for the rare
TALL BUGBANE
3C 9:00 a.m.
Fred Weinmann 392-9230

Sunday August 14

Caves to West Tiger 3 Loop
2C 9:00 a.m.
Bert Drui 746-0709

Thursday August 18

Twin Falls family hike
1A 10:00 a.m.
Peggy Barchi 432-5446

Saturday August 20

Cougar Mtn. Precipice
"Wilderness on the Metro 210"
2A 9:00 a.m.
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Saturday August 21

Squak Mtn. to Bullitt ruins
3C 9:00 a.m.
Bill McFerren 718-1102

Monday August 22

BOARD MEETING
7 p.m. at Clubhouse, 1st & Bush

Saturday August 27

Tiger Mtn. leader's choice
3C 9:00 a.m.
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

Sunday August 28

Cougar Mtn. fantastic erratic!
2A 1:00 p.m.
Penny Manning 746-1017

September Hikes

Sunday September 4

Longview Peak to
Far Country Lookout
3B 8:30 a.m.
Bert Drui 746-0709

Friday September 9

Issaquah Alps views
and coal mining history
3B 9:00 a.m.
Betty Culbert 432-7387

Saturday September 10

Lewis Creek Canyon
(THIS WILD CANYON IN
JEOPARDY
DUE TO WILD
ROADBUILDERS)
2A 9:00 a.m.
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Sunday September 11

Lake Tradition Plateau
4 Mi. 500 ft. gain
2A 1:00 p.m.
Bob Gross 392-0539

Thursday September 15

Cougar Mtn. Wilderness
2C 9:30 a.m.
Mary Cadigan 641-4046

Saturday September 17

East Grand Ridge
Newest King County
Wildland Park
2B 9:00 a.m.
Roger Delmar 392-9553

Sunday September 18

Cougar Mtn. Precipice
"Wilderness on the Metro 210"
2A 1:00 p.m.
Harvey Manning 746-1017

Saturday September 24

Rattlesnake Mtn. East Peak
7 Mi. 2600 ft. 3D 8:30 a.m.
Warren Jones 888-0262

Sunday September 25

China Mtn. Summit/DeLeo Wall
2C 9:00 a.m.
Bill McFerren 718-1102

Monday September 26

BOARD MEETING
7 p.m. at Clubhouse 1st & Bush

Note the NEW HIKE MEETING PLACE by the old Stationmaster's house at 1st and Bush. This new location is at the other end of the gravel parking lot where we used to meet, only a few hundred yards away. Park beside the Clubhouse in the gravel lot or on the EAST side of the logs opposite the Issaquah Food Bank. Do NOT park on the side of the logs closest to the Food Bank.

24-hour Hikes Hotline: 328-0480

Hike Information

HIKE LEADERS

The hike leaders are volunteers who have donated their time to lead people who want to hike and explore the trails in the Issaquah Alps and other nearby foothills (Cascades) in King County. Hikes are scheduled and led year-round regardless of weather. *Minimum attendance is 3, including the leader.*

Trails in the Issaquah Alps may be good or bad, easy or hard, muddy or dusty, brushy or clear, steep or flat, easy or hard—or all of the above. Some are not much more than animal trails. As *volunteers*, neither the hike leaders, the Trails Club or club directors are in any way responsible or liable for hiker's comfort, transportation, property, safety, or general wellbeing while traveling to and from the trailhead or while hiking or working any trail.

The club's sole purpose is to show hikers where the trails are and to lead the way. The public, other clubs, youth groups, church groups and others are welcome and wholeheartedly invited to join with the hike leader and others who want to hike these trails. Children under 13 should be accompanied by an adult. *Please, no pets on these hikes.*

HIKE CLASSIFICATIONS

Each hike has a number and letter designation after it (e.g., 2C). Numbers indicate the hiking time and letters indicate the degree of difficulty.

Hiking Time

Class 1: 2 hours

Class 2: 4 hours

Class 3: 6 hours

Class 4: 8 hours

These are *approximate* hiking times, not including travel time to and from the trailhead (20 to 70 minutes, depending on the hike) and meal times (lunch will add another 20-70 minutes, depending

on the mood of the group). The times are based on an assumption of a two mile per hour pace, with a half hour added for each 1000 feet in elevation gain. Trail conditions, weather, and unexpected hazards can extend the hiking time.

Degree of Difficulty

A: little or no elevation gain, up to 500 feet, no difficulties for average walker

B: some climbing: up to 1200 feet, or some other difficulty

C: more climbing: up to 2500 feet, or some other difficulty

D: much climbing: over 2500 feet elevation gain

This is an *estimated* degree of difficulty. Most trails in the Issaquah Alps are not up to the high standards of state and national parks. Issaquah Trails can be very steep in parts or muddy and brushy. Hikers may gain 1000 feet in just one mile of a five-mile, 1500-foot elevation gain hike. Sometimes there are trees to climb over or nettles and berry bushes to beat through. *Short* doesn't automatically mean easy and *long* doesn't automatically mean tough.

HIKE DESCRIPTION MODIFIERS

Leader's Choice

The leader had not decided where to hike before publication of the hike schedule.

Trail Party

Trail maintenance work party.

Exploratory

The leader goes cross country off the main trail system to explore animal trails, canyons, old logging roads, or old railroad grades. Expect to go through brush, over logs, tiptoe through wildflowers and/or mud and have a good time hiking where others seldom tread.

Family Hike

For parents and children. Easy pace. Call leader for hike particulars.

MEETING PLACE

Trails Club hikes meet in the parking lot at the corner of 1st and Bush next to the "IATC Clubhouse", the little gray Stationmaster's house. To get there, take Exit 17 (Issaquah Front Street) from Interstate 90 and turn south into downtown Issaquah. Go about one mile through town on Front Street past the light at Sunset and turn left on Bush Street. Go one block and turn into the lot on the left. Park beside the Clubhouse or on the east side of the logs opposite the Issaquah Food Bank. Do NOT park on the side of the logs closest to the Food Bank.

CLOTHING

Dress for the Pacific Northwest outdoors—expect rain, snow, sunshine, fog and everything in between. Bring extra clothing, rain gear, food, drink, matches, flashlight and first aid supplies. Wear comfortable hiking boots or hiking shoes.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Volunteers organize and schedule trail maintenance parties periodically as listed in the hike schedule. These work parties meet at the same place as the regular hikes (see "Meeting Place" above). The Club is well supplied with heavy trail maintenance tools, but workers may also bring their own loppers, weed whackers and other tools. Trail work parties last at least four hours. *Trail maintenance is vital to the Club's work and an integral part of the DNR management plan for Tiger Mountain. Work parties must limit their activity to those trails listed by DNR as scheduled for maintenance—no construction of new trails is allowed.* Work parties are a great way to meet people! Individuals and groups are also encourage to adopt a trail, or section of trail, and be responsible for maintaining it. ▲



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learning about and enjoying the wildland environment. Although the chances of seeing a black bear are small they are occasionally observed. The killing of animals in such a disrespectful manner while considering it a recreational sport is deplorable.

Dangerous - People or other animals may unknowingly enter into harms way where bear hunting or bear baiting is taking place. The actions of a feeding, frightened, cornered or wounded animal is unpredictable. Such conditions increase the potential for the animal to attack any person or other animal in its surroundings. Bear baiting may also indoctrinate or encourage a bear to actively seek similar food in nearby human surroundings. It may soon become a pest or even worse and eventually must be taken away or destroyed. This is particularly important on Tiger Mountain(in the Issaquah Alps) where private residences border on public land.

Costly - Bear baiting is costly for the Department of Wildlife to administer, monitor and enforce. The Department must determine that the so-called hunter is abiding by the regulations including: baiting only within the specified time and location, using only the specified types of food for bait, and cleaning up the baiting area at the close of the season. These incurred expenditures, cost the citizens, tax payer and wildlife.

With more and more people hiking, particularly in populated areas such as the Tiger Mountain, and if bear baiting is allowed to continue, eventually a conflict will occur. For the good of all, the cost to the Department of Wildlife and tax payer, the dignity and welfare of black bear, and the safety and enjoyment of the hiking public, baiting of the black bear should be stopped. The Trails Club strongly recommends **OPTION C ELIMINATE BEAR BAITING** at least on Tiger Mountain. Is hunting of any kind necessary on Tiger Mountain?

Sincerely,

Larry Hanson

Tiger Mountain Advocate.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club

"Waterfall Trail" to Open July '94

Jack Melill

Good news! For hikers, DNR has developed a fine new trail from Tiger Summit to a pretty view spot on East Tiger Road, and it will be ready for this summer.

The trail, originally named "Waterfall Trail" and since renamed the "Northwest Timber Trail" (thanks, DNR, for not using King County type number system only a computer would appreciate) will open great possibilities for looping and connecting the Beaver Valley and Silent Swamp Trails, now vastly underused because of the many closures of the East Tiger Road. But taken on its own, the Waterfall Trail is a joy in its own right, boasting not only a great waterfall but a pleasant cascade and high bridge, six new sturdy log bridges, a Sargasso Sea of moss-covered vine maples, quiet open woods, an easy pass into a silent tranquil valley, numerous creeks and bubblelets (plenty of water year round for Fido) and a magnificent fir that may pre-date the ancient "big tree" of Tradition Lake Plateau. Don't miss any of it!

The Waterfall Trail—2-1/2 miles one way, elevation gain in 400 feet, out 200 feet—would be classified as a 1A Alps Club hike. Estimate an hour walking in and the same for the return, with extra time for stream watching and tree gazing. Great spot for lunch at the vista on the terminus of the trail.

Starting at the large parking lot on Tiger Summit, four miles south of I-90 on SR 18, park and take the right road (to the north, this road is usually gated and is officially Road #4000 or Tiger Mountain Road) a scant five minutes, first looping right then left where the road begins to climb on a straight stretch. Watch on your right for an obvious gated trail, hopefully soon to be signed. Ignore the 'razzer' trails of the first curves near a brown TMT direction sign—they go where most 'razzer' trails go, no place.

Immediately enter deep woods and quickly cross the first of six well built DNR bridges over a year-round creeklet; enjoy peek views of a pretty deer meadow below. The good tread winds up and around a small ridge and drops down to a Sargasso Sea jungle of moss-covered vine-maples, a green verdant canopy. Bring your color camera and film. Enter an ever darker wood with a barely visible clear cut to your right before passing through a miniature version of another moss greenery and third DNR bridge. At about 1-1/2 miles reach another bridge over a seasonal creek, then two more in the next 1/2 mile or so. Bridge six is worth a pause to take in the cool waterfaling cascade and the high bridge itself.

Following the high bridge, start up a long gradual switch back watching to the right for peeks of the huge pre-Columbian tree, possibly 35-40 feet in circumference at the base and now only 100 feet high, its top having been blown off in some primeval storm. Admire better views from the upper switch back and pause to contemplate what the primeval forest was like and why today's loggers covet it.

SILENT VALLEY TURNABOUT: Continue your gradual climb upward on good grade, gaining perhaps 300 feet in 1/2 mile. Begin a long traverse on an old railroad grade to a small gap, and hear the roar of SR 18 fade with each step. Enter the quiet green of Silent Valley—a nice lunch spot and turnabout for a four mile round trip.

Continue on the grade, now a trail, in the blissful silence, emerging another 1/2 mile at East Tiger Mountain Road. The present terminus is amidst the humps and hills of either a coal exploration mine or borrow pit.

Sit on the road's edge, dangling your feet, soaking up sweeping North Cascade and Mt. Baker views. On an overcast day watch the ant-like cars crawl on distant I-90 and the pastoral scenery below of upper Raging River and Fish Hatchery Creek.

SILENT SWAMP AND BEAVER VALLEY: To extend the hike, turn left at the roadway, walking upward a long 1/2 mile and watching for a small parking area and a marked trail to your left. This is the start of the Silent Swamp and Beaver Valley Trails. (See trail description *Guide to Tiger Mountain*, 1989 ed.)

There is no loop possible at this time from these trails, but DNR says it is studying the idea for a future trail extension.

The Waterfall Trail officially opens July 1994. Write letters of thanks to DNR for a job well conceived and carried out.

DNR REQUESTS VOLUNTEERS: DNR is asking for and needs volunteers to help maintain and build this and other future trails. If interested, contact Jim Matthews, DNR Southwest Region, at 1-800-527-3305 for more information.▲

East Tiger Trail

Bill Longwell, IATC Chief Ranger

This meandering trail is the only trail route to Tiger's highest summit. It uses some existing old trail, parallels other minor trails, rambles just under the Fifteen-Mile Creek Divide from West Tiger to East Tiger, and passes beneath some of Tiger's finest stands of old timber. The last steep mile reminds the walker that East Tiger is truly a summit pyramid.

From	From	Description
I-90	Summit	
0.0	4.8	Follow the first mile of the Preston-West Tiger 1 trail along DOT buildings, west under Puget Power lines and up the 1988 trad to the point where it joins an old community-built tread descending from the left. A sign indicates the East Tiger Trail.
1.0	3.8	This junction lies one mile from the trailhead.
1.3	3.0	The trail climbs steeply through a lovely, deep forest and reaches an unmarked trail that descends to private property. Avoid. Note the size of the stumps of the original forest.
1.8	3.0	After a continuing, steep climb the trail passes a short connection to the Preston Trail (note white tape), flattens and joins the first Bootleg Trail that provides an alternate route to West Tiger (1650'). The route to East Tiger follows two segments of the Bootleg Trail for the next mile.
2.0	2.8	Descend slightly along an old railroad grade to a wide crossing (difficult in periods of high water) (1700') of the East Fork of Issaquah Creek. Here the grade steepens (Did a trestle stand here once?), flattens and soon reaches the end of this grade (explore for the connection to the next higher grade).
2.2	2.6	The tread climbs along the western margin of a 1992-19 DNR logging show and reaches the end of another grade, this time the North Side Railroad Grade and a connection west (right) with the Dick Heinz Trail and Preston Trail (0.6 miles west).
2.8	2.0	The route now follows Bootleg Trail #2 and reaches the upper end of an old loop road (2.8, 2315') that reached this location for a 1970's clearcut, one of the first of the second generation logging on Tiger. From this loop a road, now trail, slightly descends toward Fifteen-Mile Pass, one half mile distant. The trail to the right reaches the summit of West Tiger 1 in 0.7 miles. NOTE: Heed the warning signs about at the summit about electrical danger.
2.9	1.9	Continue past a sign indicating the route to East Tiger, past the "knot" of the loop road to a wide trail leaving to the left. A sign may point the direction. This is the continuing route to East Tiger.
3.5	1.3	Our route now follows an almost level route that connects West to East Tiger. It leaves the end of our present grade and descends slightly through deciduous growth and into a dark forest to reach a crossing of the Tiger Fork tributary of the Raging River (3.5, 2150'), the fastest rising river in King County. The next mile and one half climbs 854 feet!
3.9	0.9	Our small path climbs steeply through dark forest and reaches a skid road (old-time loggers dragged logs up-grade to the above railroad grade along this track and created a ditch that time is slowly flattening out). (3.9, 2470')
4.0	0.8	An even steeper tread climbs along a vertical swath of devil's club to reach the grade (4.0, 2540'), a switch backing route that carries bicycles from the Main Tiger Road down towards the East Side Road. Riders seem to enjoy plowing through the mud they've created here rather than avoiding it. Note the elevation still to gain in the next 0.8 mile.
4.6	0.2	After an extremely steep climb the tread eases considerably and passes through a stately silver fir forest to reach the summit road (4.6, 2975'). 0.7 miles left lies the East Side/Main Tiger Road junction. Left from that junction lies the East Side Road (2.9 miles from the junction). 0.6 miles right from the junction is a road right that joins the Main Tiger Road. Both are down hill routes.
		Above you in the trees you can find another logging railroad grade, the highest on Tiger. It climbed virtually to the summit

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4.8 0.0 Walk right on a well-graded road (much less steep than the last 1.3 miles of tread) and shortly reach the summit of East Tiger Mountain (4,8, 3004'). This summit is virtually as high as the Snoqualmie Pass Summit about 29 miles east.

Our hard-earned summit once proudly held one of the Cascades western-most fire lookouts (1945-1967). Now on the exact site of the former lookout a radio tower of almost the same configuration rises in its place (circa 1994).

Two picnic tables, one intact and one damaged, provide seating for tired hikers. Old and new buildings dot the summit, along with graffiti.

To return to the trailhead, try a loop hike. Descend via the road to the Main Tiger Road (1.5), turn right and walk to Fifteen-Mile Pass (another 1.9). Find the route to the upper Bootleg Trail (0.6) and descend to the cars via the trail you ascended or via the North Side (Dick Heinz Trail) Railroad Grade and the Preston Trail. ▲

Focus on Volunteers

Art Wallenstein

Thank you, IATC members—six new volunteers have come forward for important Club projects. Four volunteers are needed to complete the HOT-LINE. You can do this at home while going about normal activities. Volunteer to answer the phone at home one night per week to answer questions about IATC. This involves minimal effort and provides superior member and potential member service from IATC. Please give it a try—we need your help. Call Art Wallenstein, Volunteer Coordinator at 392-7813 any day after 7 p.m. ▲

A Big Thanks!

Fred and Ann Weinmann presented a slide talk on *Blooming of the Issaquah Alps* to the Mountaineers. They kindly donated their honorarium to the Alps Club. Thank you! ▲

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Membership Application

P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

☐ New ☐ Renewal

☐ Annual Regular Dues \$12

☐ Annual Contributing Dues \$22

☐ Lifetime Membership \$120

☐ Limited Income \$6

▲ All memberships cover the entire family.

▲ A regular annual family membership is \$12. This covers the cost of printing and mailing the Alpiner and a part of the club's overhead expenses.

▲ Contributing memberships at \$22 or more

cover the rest of the club's overhead expenses and allow us some financial leeway in planning special events, publishing trail guides and keeping our trail maintenance tool supply fit and ample.

▲ Lifetime memberships at \$120 give us room to be creative and visionary, to venture forth on projects otherwise beyond our means and dreams.

☐ I would like to get involved with the club's activities. Please send me a volunteer questionnaire.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Mail Order Service

P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

▲ *Guide to Trails of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, Coal Creek Park, May Creek Park*

By Harvey Manning and Ralph Owen. 1990 updated edition. This new edition brings you all the old favorites plus new favorites—new trails on the west side connecting to Renton and May Creek plus *all new maps!* \$10.00 (includes map, tax and shipping)

▲ *Guide to Trails of Tiger Mountain*

By Bill Longwell. 1989 updated edition. New trails: Tradition Plateau Trail (adding Swamp and Wetlands Trails), the *new* Bootleg Trail, the *new* Preston Trail. Plus encounters with animals. \$10.00 (includes map, tax and shipping)

▲ *The Coals of Newcastle: A Hundred Years of Hidden History*

By Richard K. McDonald and Lucille McDonald. A complete history of the once-thriving coal mining area on Cougar Mountain, now hidden from all but hikers. More than 100 photos, four maps and Tim O'Brian's account of the incredible Seattle and Walla Walla Railroad. \$12.00 (includes tax and shipping)

▲ *Tiger Mt. map* \$2.00 (includes tax and shipping)

▲ *Cougar Mt. map* \$2.00 (includes tax and shipping)

▲ *Tradition Lake map* Free with self-addressed stamped envelope.

▲ *T-Shirt: "Issaquah Alps Trails Club"* Specify size (S,M,L,XL) color (blue or white) and sleeve length. Short sleeve: \$11, long sleeve: \$15.00.

▲ *T-Shirt: "Mountains to Sound March"* Specify size (S, M, L, XL). \$11.00. All shirts are blue and short-sleeved.

Issaquah Alps Trails Club
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Issaquah, WA 98027

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