

THE ALPINE



January ♦ February ♦ March 2011

Cougar ♦ Squak ♦ Tiger ♦ Grand Ridge ♦ Taylor ♦ Rattlesnake

SQUAK MOUNTAIN FACES CLOSURE

By Doug Simpson

Squak Mountain State Park will likely be shut down in 2011, due to the state's massive budgetary crisis. Mothballing a park, however, does not mean that it is inaccessible. Hikers can still gain access to the park and its trails, but it will be lacking in supervision and maintenance.

"We will not have a regular presence there," said Rich Benson, manager of the Lake Sammamish State Park (overseer of the Squak Mountain park). "But we still have to protect the property," he said. "We'll check parking areas periodically and respond to problems that we become aware of."

The May Valley parking area and restrooms will be shut down. And, unfortunately, Squak ranger Heather Hansen will likely be laid off. "She is a valuable member of our staff," Benson said. "We'll hate to lose her."

With the state facing a shortfall exceeding \$3 billion, Washington State Parks, already having cut ten per cent of its budget, now must cut nearly \$7 million more, resulting in the closure of at least six parks and 10.5 jobs.

Other parks likely to be closed are Federation Forest, Fort Ward, Flaming Geyser, Peshastin Pinnacles and Tolmie.

Squak Mountain holds 1,545 acres of wildland in the center of the Issaquah Alps. Reportedly, it cost \$61,844 to maintain the Squak State Park in 2009, while it generated only \$423 in revenue.

"People are going to go into the closed parks," Virginia Porter of the Washington State Parks and Recreation stated. "But we don't fully recommend it, because they're not going to have any services there. There's no one that's going to be able to help them if they have problems."

Though services at Squak Mountain State Park will be reduced, "we're not going to go up there and boot people out who are walking the trails," Benson said.



EXPLORE DNR WITH A PASS?

Seeking cash to maintain programs in cash-strapped Washington State, the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Washington Department of Fisheries and Wildlife (WDFD) may impose a pass system next year if the state legislature approves the "Explore Washington Pass."

Under the plan, the state would sell an annual vehicle use permit for \$40 and \$5 for fishing and hunting licenses or watchable wildlife packages. Shorter passes of \$10 for one day, \$15 for two days or \$20 for three days might be available.

It is estimated that this pass system would generate \$5.5 million annually to be split between DNR and WDFW to be used for land management, operations, maintenance and enforcement.

"With this funding, both agencies would be able to maintain existing programs and add additional recreational trails and facilities," according to Mark Mauren, DNR's assistant district manager.

The Explore Washington passes would be affixed to the vehicles for access to the lands.

The Apparatus

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Whenever possible, please use e-mail to contact any member listed below.

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IATC subsists on member donations only. Please send your tax-deductible contributions to the address above to help sustain our efforts to preserve, protect, and promote the Issaquah Alps and local environment.

Articles are welcome, preferably via e-mail to: d.simpson@msn.com
Send diskette or hard copy to post office box number above.

Issue deadlines: November 21 for January; February 21 for April; May 21 for July; August 21 for October.

(Note: All telephone numbers are area code 425 unless otherwise noted.)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Steve Williams

The Mountains to Sound Greenway recently asked local hikers and recreation groups to dream big and give them a vision of how the Greenway should look 10, 20, 30, even 50 years from now. This is part of the Greenway's study for recognition as a National Heritage Area.

For our Trails Working Group, the list was also called "Trail Opportunities." What a great challenge and what a great opportunity for all of us to say, "This is what we'd like our trail system to be twenty years from now." If we can find common dreams, then we can identify common goals to work towards. My personal list follows. What would your list be like?

- 1) **Bus service from city centers, light rail stations** and park 'n ride lots to all trailheads (electric or hydrogen fuel vehicles on two-hour loops similar to what is done in Zion National Park—no need to use a personal car, clog up roads, or sacrifice park lands for ever bigger parking lots).
- 2) **Virtual trail guides: park tours and trail** descriptions downloaded from the web to your i-pod or cell-phone, or wrist-TV. Remember, this is twenty years in the future. You can decide where to go, find out what the trail is like, or get environmental and historical background while you are riding on the bus!
- 3) **Park staff, docents or volunteer hosts at all** major trailheads. This would provide security, a human connection, maps, interpretation and could meter use and direct people to trails that match their fitness, experience and available time. If our population doubles by 2030, we will also need more park rangers to deal with accidents, poaching, drug labs, fires, illegal dumping, illegal uses, etc.
- 4) **Interpretive signs and web-links and trailheads** and waypoints to explain history, geology, wildlife, ecology, life cycles, etc. This could be as simple as a post with a barcode that you scan to bring up info on your phone or i-pod. Also needed for those of us who don't want to carry electronic gadgets: good name and directional signage at all trail junctions.
- 5) **Nature connection, eco-stewardship and** environmental ethics taught at all schools and all grade levels. Our children today spend 35 to 65 hours each week in front of TVs, computers, and digital phones. We need to reinstate connections to the natural world outdoors and instill respect and caring for it. Students should get service credit (and exercise!) on work parties clearing ivy and blackberry vines, digging drain ditches, or carting gravel to muddy trails and fir-bark to cobbly ones.
- 6) **Convert Cougar Mountain's Clay Pit to a real** upland lake with cattail shallows, nesting islands and open water (not another party beach for people, but a protected refuge for both local and migratory ducks, geese and other aquatic wildlife).
- 7) **Viewpoint and wildlife observation blinds** (weather protection for people, disturbance protection for critters). The structure can be open on two sides, but should have benches, photo displays and comment logs. The clay pit could have an underwater tunnel to an island view bunker!
- 8) **Mid-mountain warming huts with resident** hosts: light meals, maps, books, fireplace, etc. This is a trail standard in many European countries and can make longer full-day hikes more possible.
- 9) **Mandatory obedience/social interaction** training for all pets and their owners. (Off leash is possible for well-behaved animals, but a test should be required to get a permit, and owners still have to bag the poop and get it to a trash can.)
- 10) **Better biology and understanding of wildlife** needs and protections for their habitat. Leave enough wild acreage between trails so that wild

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SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDES LINK

Preparations are underway for the second annual college scholarship to be awarded by the Issaquah Alps Trails Club. Miles Burns, last year's \$1000 recipient from Skyline High School, is now a freshman at Davidson College in North Carolina.

The Bill Longwell Memorial Scholarship will be awarded next spring to a graduating senior from Issaquah, Skyline, Liberty or Tiger Mountain high school or Hazen High, where Longwell taught, in the Renton School District.

IATC is asking its membership to make tax deductible contributions to the scholarship fund, to help make it a sustaining program to provide aid for at least one worthy senior who demonstrates an interest in the Issaquah Alps. If you'd like to help, send a check to the IATC Scholarship Program at PO Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027.

In addition to Burns, three other students were given \$100 grants as runners up for their essays on "The Significance of the Issaquah Alps." They were Jenna Lambdin of Issaquah High and Rachel Grasso and Jeron Kent-Tobias from Skyline.

"The scholarship program has provided a wonderful connection between the hiking club and young people in our community," stated Steve Williams, IATC president. "By doing research, the kids gain a deeper understanding of what it takes to create our parks and trails; and, in turn, the teens by their writings have shown us just how much they enjoy and value our Issaquah Alps trails system."

Besides Williams, the IATC Scholarship Committee consists of Jackie Hughes, Karen Tom and Doug Simpson. They will determine the topic for this year's contest.

DNR TO DEAL WITH BIKE PROBLEM

By Doug Simpson

A "stacked loop" bike trail system in East Tiger Mountain is hoped to provide a solution to the ongoing biker problems, according to DNR leaders Doug McClelland and Sam Jarrett. This winter, construction will begin on the three-level bike-track courses, according to McClelland, long-time DNR manager, with the first phase to be in use by next summer.

The bike trails would progress from easier to very challenging, depending on the skill level of bikers. The stacked loops would not only provide varied opportunities for bikers, but also establish clear separation from Tiger's hiking trails.

Bikers' ongoing search for longer more varied trails has created problems for hikers and equestrians where they come in contact with bikers. "This plan would make the trail systems easier to understand and enforce," said McClelland, "and be much safer for all."

The cycling community, according to McClelland, is expected to accept the plan and help with education and enforcement within the biking community. However, Larry Hanson of the Issaquah Alps Trails club, remains skeptical. Hanson, a Tiger resident and long-time "watcher" of Tiger Mountain, maintains that the offending bikers are ungovernable.

DNR staff have their hands full maintaining Tiger's 55 miles of authorized, user-built hiking trails, ten miles of combined hiker/horse trails and 7.6 miles of biker trails (to be expanded by the stacked loops). With limited funding for enforcement, the extensive trail system has become a safety problem and has created conflicts between hikers, bikers and equestrians.

The "stacked loop" program would improve safety at a manageable cost and create better experiences for all three types of users, according to Jarrett, Tiger's DNR recreational coordinator.

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HIKER'S CORNER

By Joe Toynbee

Hikers sometimes ask IATC leaders, "Don't you get tired of going to the same old places all the time?" Because we deal mainly with only four peaks (including Rattlesnake), this is a legitimate question.



It is true that our destinations are the same in a physical sense, but when you think about it many aspects differ. For one thing, different leaders have different perspectives on our peaks. The weather will differ. The time of the year will differ and hence the foliage. The members of the hike group will differ. What other people are in the area will differ. And, finally, the mood of the hiker will vary.

So when someone asks me, "Aren't you tired of the same old places?" my answer is "I never go to the same place twice!"

... ..

Recently I did an analysis of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club hike signup sheets for the period May 1 through October 31, 2010. Here are some results:

Number of hikes: 63

Number of hikers: 565

Average per hike: 9

Number of men: 180, or 32 per cent.

It is impossible to tell how many hikers were on their first hike with the club, but judging from the number of unfamiliar names, the number must be significant. We feel this fits well with our goal of introducing new people to the Alps. The reason for this two to one ration of women hikers to men hikers is unknown—perhaps the men are out fishing or golfing.

... ..

On a final note, if something happens on a hike that you don't think is proper, please email or phone a member of the Hikes Coordination Committee (page 2 of the Alpiner.) We appreciate input.

GREENWAY STUDY DONE

After nearly 20 years of collaborative efforts to connect a green corridor of forests, farms, rivers, lakes and communities, the dedicated group of people that helped shape the Greenway--the Greenway community--is looking at new strategies for sustaining the landscape. The Greenway Heritage Study, guided by active participation from a broad cross section of Greenway stakeholders, spent the past two years inventorying the multitude of Greenway assets, documenting their associated threats and needs, and devising a cooperative framework for efficiently managing these resources in the future.

The culmination of the Heritage Study is a recommendation to the Greenway board to seek federal designation of the Greenway corridor, including the Issaquah Alps, as a "National Heritage Area." A Heritage Area designation denotes "an area of unique scenic, natural, and cultural resources that together represent distinctive aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition, conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and are best managed as such as assemblage through partnerships among public and private entities." (<http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas>)

HERITAGE STUDY GOALS

- 1) Inspire the Greenway Community: Continue empowering and growing the community to carry out the Greenway vision.
- 2) Develop a Plan for Future Stewardship: Work with stakeholders to create a Cooperative Stewardship Framework for maintaining and enhancing the Greenway for the next 20 years.
- 3) Make the Greenway Official: Define the best way to officially recognize the Greenway, most likely as a National Heritage Area, formalizing the Greenway vision for future generations.

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President's Report *continued from page 3*

critters can survive and thrive. We will also need to understand and explain climate change and its effects on our plants, animals and parks.

- 11) **Wildlife corridors under or over high-speed roadways.** Raise sections of Highway 900, Highway 18, and the Issaquah-Hobart Road so that streams, floods, fish and wild animals can pass under. With enough separation, hikers, bikers and equestrians might also pass under.
- 12) **Agree on a uniform standard for trails and trail maintenance.** Close-in trails should be well-maintained and accommodate young families or folks with less experience or ability. Trails four to eight miles out can have more obstacles and challenges. They can have all natural surface and less maintenance. Trails beyond this are considered wilderness and provide solitude and special experiences for those willing to meet the extra challenges of navigation, way-finding and limited maintenance.
- 13) **Wildland trails should always have minimum disturbance by man and maximum contact with real nature.** They should be single-track, natural surface weaving among trees and boulders; you want to keep the sense that only a few pioneers or native people were there before you. Strollers and bicycles do not belong on wildland trails. Suburban and rural greenbelt trails can be two abreast on gravel or bark surface.
- 14) **Trail respect should be taught in schools and reinforced with regular media campaigns to adults.** Most people today don't know what to do when they meet horses on the trail (stand aside and talk calmly to riders). Bikers and roller-bladers need to understand that they scare the heck out of others. They need to slow down and let people know that they would like to pass. Warning bells seem to work well and be known by Europeans. Geo-cache people need to locate their boxes close to the trail where searchers won't destroy the woods with their hunting. Everybody needs to tread lightly and pack out their trash. Many of

our best viewpoints and picnic spots are starting to show signs of being loved to death.

Note that neither I nor the IATC Board requested very many new trails. We feel blessed with a pretty good trail system. What's important now is to educate the public and take better care of what we have.

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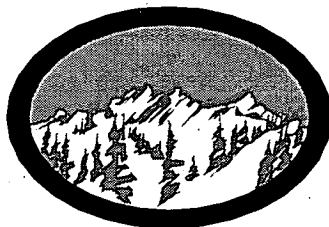
Trails have always been Everyman's low-cost recreation. When Harvey Manning chose the term "Alps" for our local hills, he meant to inspire us with the beauty that was there, and the challenge and effort it took to get to the top. However, he was also thinking of the European Alps, where villagers simply walk up into the hills to enjoy an entire day in nature without ever spending a dollar or starting the family motorcar. It would be wonderful if our trail systems were that accessible and that cherished by all. The beautiful nature is already there; it is our job now to teach respect and to connect the trails to the people.

Greenway Study *continued from page 5*

The two-year long study effort engaged a broad cross-section of stakeholders in efforts to explore priorities, needs, and methods for extending the Greenway's past successes for the next twenty years. A Heritage Area designation would provide tools to enable a flexible framework for formalizing cross-agency partnerships, for seeking additional grant funding, for promoting heightened recognition and tourism, and more. Several Working Groups focused on areas such as Regional Trails, Wildland Trails, Outdoor Recreation, Ecology, Forestry, History, Culture, and more to devise a framework for cooperatively managing these resources into the future, particularly in an era of shrinking government funding.

"National Heritage Area" designation requires Congressional approval. With board approval, the Greenway Trust will be working to gain political support in hopes of securing such a designation in an upcoming Congressional session.

More details on the Heritage Area Study and designation can be found on the Greenway's website at: <http://mtsgreenway.org/heritagestudy/heritagestudy>.



JANUARY 2011

Saturday, January 8 – 9:30am
Lake Sammamish State Park. A level walk through Issaquah to the State Park with a circumnavigation of the park. Return from the boat launch via the East Lake Sammamish Trail.
2A, 8 miles, 100' gain
Ralph Owen 425-746-1070

Saturday, January 8 – 10am
Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600'-1000' gain
Thomas Pohl, 425-481-2341

Monday, January 10 – 12:00 noon
Continue inventory of invasive plant problems on Tradition Plateau. A certain amount of off trail scouting will be involved. Primary objective will be mapping locations of ivy and holly.
Difficulty 2B
Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Friday, January 14 – 10am
Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600'-1000' gain
Thomas Pohl, 425-481-2341

Saturday, January 15 – 9:30am
Cedar River Trail. Scenic trail along river.
2B, 6 miles, no gain
Joe Toynbee 425-228-6118

Sunday, January 16 – 9:30
North Bend's Little Si
2C, 5 miles, 1300' gain
Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

Monday, January 17 – 10am
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Lake Tradition Plateau: Swamp Trail-Big Tree Trail-Adventure Trail-Bus Trail
2B, 3+ miles, 600' gain
Jean Lanz, 206-322-0990

Thursday, January 20 – 7:00-9:00pm
Coal Mining at Coal Creek - An indoor, evening presentation. Lewis Creek Park, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. on Cougar Mtn. Hands-on materials and a PowerPoint presentation of photos from the IATC book "100 Years of Hidden History." Come and find out what is under a 'Newcastle Hill' that is older than Mt. Rainier. Free.
Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Saturday, January 22 – 9:30am
Weowna Park in Bellevue
2B, 4 miles, 600' gain
Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Sunday, January 23 – 9:30am
Cougar Mountain. Easy hike out to Far Country Lookout with stop at new Far Country Falls viewpoint.
2B, 4.0 miles, 600' gain, Slow Pace.
Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Thursday, January 27 – 7:00pm
IATC BOARD MEETING
Trails Center, 1st and Bush

Friday, January 28 – 10am
Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-4 miles, 500-800' gain
Jean Lanz, 206-322-0990

Saturday, January 29 – 9:00am
Squak Mountain. Loop hike over Central Peak and West Peak with Rainier view for lunch.
3C, 6 miles, 1700' gain, Strenuous
Scott Prueter 425-269-3079

Sunday, January 30 – 9:30am
Tiger Loop Trail to Talus Caves.
2C, 6 miles, 1300' gain
Richard Man 425-281-8465



FEBRUARY 2011

Saturday, February 5 – 9:30
Cougar Mountain. Hike Coal Creek Trail from Coal Creek Parkway to North Fork Falls
2B, 5.5 miles, 650' gain, Slow Pace
Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Sunday, February 6 – 9:30am
Stan's Overlook – West Rattlesnake Mountain
2C, 5 miles, 1400' gain
Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

Sunday, February 6 – 10am
Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600'-1000' gain
Thomas Pohl, 425-481-2341

Friday, February 11 – 10am
Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600'-1000' gain
Thomas Pohl, 425-481-2341

Saturday, February 12 – 10:00am
Invasive removal on Tradition Plateau.
Removing holly and ivy. Tools provided, bring good work gloves.
Difficulty 2B
Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Sunday, February 13 – 12:00noon
Tradition Plateau Loop. Two lakes, wetlands and diverse forest types. Human and natural history emphasis.
2B, 5 miles, 600' gain
Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

FEBRUARY 2011 cont.

Thursday, February 17 – 7:00-9:00pm

*Ethno-botany - An indoor, evening presentation. Lewis Creek Park, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. on Cougar Mtn. Barb Williams explores native peoples' uses of plants for food, medicine, tools, clothing and shelter. They were our first scientists, and learned to survive by using what the woods around them provided. Free.
Steve Williams 425-453-8997

Saturday, February 19 – 9:30am

Tradition Plateau Loop. An easy walk on the wooded trails of Tiger Mountain's Tradition Lake Plateau.
2A, 7 mi, 700' gain.
Ralph Owen, 425-746-1070

Sunday, February 20 – 9:30am

Cougar Mountain Water Falls from Red Town.
3C, 7 mi, 1500' gain.
Richard Mann, 425-281-8465

Monday, February 21 – 10am

PRESIDENT'S DAY

Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600'-1000' gain
Thomas Pohl, 425-481-2341

Thursday, February 24 – 7:00pm

Hike Leaders Meeting
Trails Center, 1st and Bush

Friday, February 25 – 10am

Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-4 miles, 500-800' gain
Jean Lanz, 206-322-0990

Saturday, February 26 – 9:00am

Cougar Mountain. Double Loop - around Wilderness Peak and on to Longview Peak.
3C, 7 miles, 1700' gain, Strenuous
Scott Prueter 425-269-3079

**IATC ENCOURAGES CARPOOLING +
RECOMMENDS \$1 MINIMUM OR
15¢/MILE GAS CONTRIB TO DRIVER**

Sunday, February 27 – 9:30am

Preston Trail. Lake Alice Trailhead to two overlooks.
2A, 4-5 miles, 500' gain
Mary Nolan 425-837-1535

MARCH 2011

Friday, March 4 – 10am

Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600'-1000' gain
Thomas Pohl, 425-481-2341

Saturday, March 5 – 9:00am

Squak Mountain. From the Mountainside trailhead to the Central Peak summit. Loop over West Peak and down Chibiynski Trail.
2B, 6 miles, 2000' gain, Leisurely pace
Richard Mann 425-281-8465

Sunday, March 6 – 12noon

Tradition Plateau Loop. Lakes, wetlands and diverse plant and forest types. We will be looking for the first signs of spring.
2B, 5 miles, 600' gain
Dave Kappler 425-392-3571

Saturday, March 12 – 9:00am

Tiger Mountain Loop hike to West Tiger 1 via High Point Trail, Dwight's Way, Tiger #1 Trail. Return via Tiger #1, Rail Road Grade, Tiger Mountain Trail and High Point Trail.

3C, 8 miles, 2,600 ft. gain, Very Strenuous
Scott Prueter 425-269-3079

Saturday, March 12 – 10am

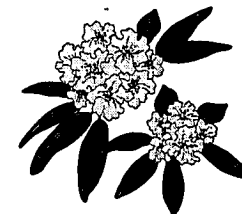
Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-5 miles, 600'-1000' gain
Thomas Pohl, 425-481-2341

Sunday, March 13 – 9:30am (NOTE: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS)

Little Si & Boulder Garden Trail. Visit a toadstool peak near the base of Mt Si and then on to a loop on the lower slopes of Si. Nice views, weather permitting.
2C, 7 mi., 2000' gain.
Ralph Owen, 425-746-1070

Sunday, March 19 – 9:00am

Taylor Mountain. Holder Ridge. Whisky Still Loop.
2C, 6 miles, 1500' gain
Steve Williams 425-453-8997



Sunday, March 20 – 9:30am

Cougar Mountain Loop hike to AntiAircraft Peak via mine shaft.
2B, 4.5 miles, 650' gain, Slow Pace.
Fred Zeitler 425-882-3435

Friday, March 25 – 10am

Dogs Welcome Hike - bring leash/baggies/water
Leader's Choice in Issaquah Alps
2B, 3-4 miles, 500-800' gain
Jean Lanz, 206-322-0990

Saturday, March 26 – 9am
Cougar Mountain.

3C, Up to 8 miles, 2000'
Denis Harney 206-545-2829

Sunday, March 27 – 9:30am

Squak Mountain Loop.
3C, 8 mi., 2300' gain.
Richard Mann, 425-281-8465

★ ★ ★

**GEAR CHECKLIST = WATER, FOOD,
DAYPACK, RAINGEAR, WARM CLOTHES,
HIKING SHOES/BOOTS**

★ ★ ★

**PLEASE CHECK
NUMBER / LETTER CLASSIFICATION
FOR HIKE DIFFICULTY**

★ ★ ★

**ALL HIKES MEET AT THE TRAILS
CENTER – 1ST AND BUSH IN ISSAQUAH.
HIKES LEAVE AT THE TIME STATED
SO PLAN TO ARRIVE A BIT EARLIER**

★ ★ ★

CENTRAL AREA PLAN HAS NEW TRAIL LINKS

By Ken Konigsmark

After over a year of extensive effort, 12 local citizens, supported by Issaquah City staff and consultants recently unveiled a forward-looking 30-year plan for the 900+ acre "Central Area" of Issaquah, essentially the flatlands of the valley floor. The plan envisions redevelopment of this area from a hodge-podge of strip malls, office buildings and parking lots (75% of the valley floor is covered in parking lots and 90% is impervious surfaces). At present, there are islands of disconnected parks and trail links and minimal housing and transit options.

The defining element of the new vision for the Central Area is based on the concept of a "green necklace" of connected parks, trails, and open spaces that would create a circular network stretching along Issaquah and Tilletts creeks, Lake Sammamish State Park, Tilletts Park, the new Cybil-Madelline Park, and other public lands. This "inner necklace" is intended to provide ready access to new urban residents of the Central Area so that they will have nature at their doorstep and easy opportunities to move throughout Issaquah by bike or foot on dedicated trails. The inner green necklace will be connected via additional trail links to the much larger "outer green necklace" of the Issaquah Alps that surround the city (Cougar, Squak, and Tiger Mountains) so that, again, new residents will have ready access to the wildland trails and forests.

The new plan creates a long term strategy and vision for how the Central Area should redevelop in order to foster:

- * A livable, thriving, high quality of life community.
- * An enhanced natural environment with easy connections to nature.
- * Increased variety and affordability in housing.
- * Enhanced mobility options for pedestrians, bikes, and transit.
- * A greater connectedness of community, even as Issaquah grows.

Within the Central Area the vision calls for a much denser, vibrant, livable mixed use community that will

foster future job growth, housing options, improved quality of life, and an enhanced environment through innovative design and restoration.

The plan will now go through a public review process before final adoption by the City Council. If interested in more details about the plan, you can learn much more on the City's website at: <http://www.ci.issaquah.wa.us/page.asp?navid=1597>.

20th ANNIVERSARY MARCH PLANNED

Back in 1990, an ambitious, dedicated, and seemingly crazy group of IATC leaders launched the idea to host a 5-day, 80-mile hike from Snoqualmie Pass to the Puget Sound waterfront as an effort to stimulate the conservation of forestlands and trails along the I-90 corridor before they were swallowed up by the booming development that was coming.

IATC's Jack Hornung, Ted Thomsen, Ralph Owen, Dave Kappler, Bill Longwell, and many others all contributed to that successful event which, in turn, spurred the creation of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. Since it's founding in 1991, the Greenway Trust coalition has achieved amazing successes, most notably in conserving 200,000 acres of additional public lands in the Greenway corridor.

The success of the Greenway was celebrated with a 10th Anniversary March and now, from July 2-9, 2011, an even bigger and better 20th Anniversary March is being planned. The March will start in Ellensburg, now the eastern end of the Greenway, and will include a 2-day bike ride on the John Wayne Trail to reach Rattlesnake Lake. A 5-day hike will follow, crossing Rattlesnake, Tiger, Squak, and Cougar Mountains, and ending with a celebration on Seattle's waterfront. Meals, entertainment, and campsites will be provided for March participants with camping gear shuttled by truck daily between evening campsites.

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Carl O

GREENWAY NOW 20

(This article is reprinted from the Mountains to Sound Greenway Newsletter.)

"Twenty years ago, a visionary group came together to create a Greenway along I-90," remarks Doug Schindler, Deputy Director of the Greenway Trust. "Through the hard work of many people, huge swaths of forests and parks have been permanently protected. New environmental education centers teach tens of thousands of school kids each year. The 1,600-mile trail network is being expanded and improved regularly. Tree planting and salmon restoration projects are underway annually in communities across the Greenway. This effort is truly inspirational."

After nearly 20 years of collaborative efforts toward balancing built and natural environments, it is time to step back and come up with a plan for the next 20 years. The Greenway Heritage Study is underway to discover what matters to the many Greenway communities, to look at threats and needs, and to develop a plan for how to care for the Greenway.

The Greenway Trust is bringing together over 500 people to look at the future of the Greenway, according to Schindler. "Through 14 different working groups, they're looking from the perspective of recreationists, history buffs, ecologists, land managers, and educators. Their input about what's important in the Greenway and their ideas about how it should be cared for is essential."

The plan to sustain the Greenway into the future may turn out to be even more challenging than its creation, says Schindler. A critical part of this will be getting the Greenway officially recognized at the federal, state and local levels. The Greenway coalition is completing a National Heritage Area Feasibility study; involving communities across the Greenway; and figuring out a plan for how to best steward this landscape. "There is a lot of exciting work ahead of us as we march into our second twenty years," says Schindler.

Funding comes from the State of Washington, King County, the Bullitt Foundation, the Brainerd Foundation, and Heartland.

Bike Problem continued from page 4

At the IATC board meeting October 28, Jarrett showed pictures of the construction of the new 35-foot bridge on the Tiger Mountain Trail. It is constructed with steel I-beams rather than wood, Jarrett explained, and will last much longer and be able to handle heavier loads.

20th Anniversary continued from page 7

If interested in participating in the March, either for the full route or for individual days, please look for more information in the future on the Greenway website at www.mtsgreenway.org. It is anticipated that 200 available spots on the March will fill up rapidly on a first come, first-served basis. While not finalized, the estimated cost to participate in the full March will likely be about \$300 to cover all meals, transport, entertainment, and other logistical needs.



NO PARK POINTE

IATC President-elect Dave Kappler has reported that the proposed Park Pointe development on Tiger Mountain's west side is dead.

Long on-again, off-again negotiations between the City of Issaquah and Issaquah Highlands have guaranteed a swap of development interests, leaving the 101-acre Park Pointe site undeveloped and transferring development rights to 35 acres in the Highlands, totaling 78 acres there.

The Park Pointe issue at this time is keeping the bikers from building trails and jumps there.

Hiking Information

Hike Leaders

Hike leaders are volunteers who donate 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 unless severe conditions pose a safety hazard. Minimum attendance is three, 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—or all the above. Some are not much more than animal trails. As volunteers, neither hike leaders, the Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC), or Club directors are in any way responsible or liable for a hiker's comfort, transportation, property, safety, or general well-being while traveling to and from the trailhead or hiking or working on 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 hike leaders and others who want to hike these trails. Children under 18 should be accompanied by an adult. Please, no dogs on hikes.

Hike Classifications

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

Hiking Time

Class 1: 2 hours Class 3: 6 hours
Class 2: 4 hours Class 4: 8 hours

These are approximate hiking times. They do not include travel time to and from the trailhead (20 to 40 minutes depending on the location of the hike) or meal times (lunch will add another 20 to 40 minutes depending on the mood of the group).

Times are based on an assumption of a two-mile-per-hour pace with one-half hour added for each 1000 feet of elevation gain. Trail conditions, weather, and unexpected hazards could 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 of elevation gain.

Hike Description Modifiers

Leader's choice: The leader had not decided where to hike before publication of the hikes 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 while having a good time hiking where others seldom tread.



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Hike Information *continued from page 9*

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

NOTE: Group hikes do not lend themselves to dogs. Please leave your dogs at home when going on a Trails Club hike.

Meeting Place

Trails Club hikes meet in the parking lot at the corner of First and Bush streets next to the IATC clubhouse (the little yellow 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, then go two blocks past the light at Sunset Way, and then turn left on Bush Street. Go two blocks to Rainier and turn into the lot on the left.

Clothing

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

Trail Maintenance

Volunteers periodically organize and schedule trail maintenance parties as listed in the hikes schedule. Work parties meet at the same place as hikes (see 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 is

✓ Checklist:

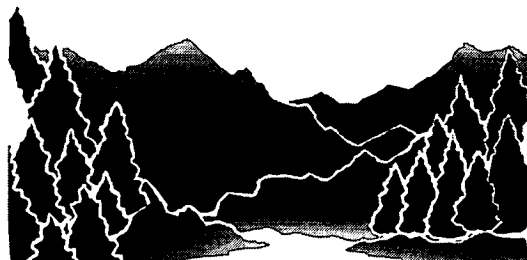
- Food
- Water
- Daypack
- Raingear
- Warm clothes
- Hiking Shoes

Each item is required in order to participate in an Issaquah Alps Trails Club hike!

Don't leave the trailhead without them!

an integral part of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) management plan for Tiger Mountain.

Work parties must limit their activity to trails listed by the DNR as scheduled for maintenance. Construction of new trails is not allowed. Work parties are a great way to meet people! Individuals and groups are encouraged to adopt a trail—or section of trail—and take the responsibility of maintaining it.



Issaquah Alps Trails Club Publications Order Form

Return this completed form along with your check to:

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Publications, P.O. Box 466, Issaquah, WA 98027

Name: _____ Address: _____

ITEM	PRICE*	QTY.	TOTAL
Book: The Flowering of the Issaquah Alps--Revised!	\$ 9.00		
Book: The Authoritative Guide to the Trails of Cougar Mountain Wildland Park and Surrounds	15.00**		
Book: Guide to Trails of Tiger Mountain	15.00		
Book: The Coals of Newcastle: A Hundred Years of Hidden History	15.00		
Book: Eastside Family Hikes	3.00		
Book: Squak Mountain: An Island in the Sky	15.00		
Book: 55 Hikes Around Snoqualmie Pass	10.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Cougar Mountain, 2001 revision	2.00		
Map: Issaquah Alps Squak Mountain (2005)	6.00		
Green Trails Map: Tiger & Taylor Mountains, Map 204S	(List 9.50) 8.00		
Green Trails Map: Cougar & Squak Mountains, Map 203S	(List 9.50) 8.00		
Green Trails Map: Rattlesnake Mountain & Upper Snoqualmie Valley Map 205S	(List 9.50) 8.00		
Green Trails Map: Mount Si NRCA & Snoqualmie Corridor, Map 206S	(List 9.50) 8.00		
*All prices include shipping and handling.			

**One (1) IATC Cougar Mountain Map included.

***One (1) IATC Tiger Mountain Map included.

Total: _____

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Foundation and Membership Request Form



Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

All donations are tax deductible. Your donations fund The Alpiner publication costs and the club's minimal operating costs first, with 100% of remaining funds being directed where they can best address the trail design, construction, maintenance and advocacy needs throughout the Issaquah Alps. **Note:** Membership does not require a donation; however, donations help us preserve and enhance your Issaquah Alps.

Suggested donation levels:

- ☐ The basic hiker.....\$15 ☐ The project supporter.....\$25
☐ The IATC sponsor.....\$50 ☐ The visionary.....\$100 and above

IMPORTANT: This form and your donation and/or membership request form should be mailed to:
IATC Foundation, P.O. Box 351, Issaquah, WA 98027

Issaquah Alps Trail Club
P.O. Box 351
Issaquah, WA 98027

Address Service Requested

Non Profit
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Last Contribution / 8/8/2010

McCrone Charles & Malena
PO Box 593
Issaquah WA 98027-0022

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Issaquah Alps Trails Club

Issaquah Alps Trails Club Publications

See page 11 for the publications order form.

Note: All of the following prices
include shipping & handling.

o *Flowering of the Issaquah Alps*—Revised! By Fred and Ann Weinmann and Harvey Manning. 1996 updated edition. This new edition lists trees, shrubs, ferns, and flowers found in the Issaquah Alps. Flowers are listed by color, season when flowering, and where many of the plants can be found. \$9.

o *Guide to the Trails of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park and Surrounds*—By Charles McCrone. 2000 edition. Completely updated version gives historical background and descriptions for every park trail, plus 30 other trails in the surrounding area including Bellevue, Newcastle, Renton, and the Precipice. \$15 (includes map listed in next column).

o *Guide to Trails of Tiger Mountain*—By Bill Longwell. 2003 revised edition. Updated trail information, two new trails and numerous photographs. \$15 (includes map listed in next column).

o *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 of Cougar Mountain now hidden from all but hikers. 100+ photographs, 4 maps, and Tim O'Brian's account of the incredible Seattle and Walla Walla Railroad. \$15.

o *Eastside Family Hikes*—By Peggy Barchi. 2001 revised and updated edition. Descriptions of family hikes (annotated for stroller use and picnicking) on the Eastside. \$3.

o *Squak Mountain: An Island in the Sky* By Doug Simpson with trail descriptions by David Langrock. Provides a history of Squak Mountain and its gestation as a park. Includes 4 loop hikes covering most of the mountain trails. Includes many earlier writings by Bill Longwell and vignettes by others. \$15.

o *Green Trails Tiger & Taylor Mountain*. Map 204S. (List \$9.50) \$8.

o *Green Trails Cougar & Squak Mountains*. Map 203S. (List \$9.50) \$8.

o *Green Trails Rattlesnake Mountain & Upper Snoqualmie Valley*. Map 205S. (List \$9.50) \$8.

o *Green Trails Mount Si NRCA & Snoqualmie Corridor*. Map 206S. \$8.

o *Green Trails Quality Squak Mountain Map*. By IATC member Harry Morgan. \$6.

o *IATC Cougar Mountain map*. 2001 revised.

o *55 Hikes Around Snoqualmie Pass* By Harvey Manning. \$10.