



Washington Water Trails

The Importance of Water Trails

President's Note

Since I returned to WWTA in the summer I have heard from many members, donors and stakeholders how important our mission is:

Through advocacy, education, and stewardship, Washington Water Trails Association protects and promotes public access to Washington waterways, shorelines, and marine trails for human-powered watercraft.

With our efforts, we want to inspire current and future generations to enjoy and take a greater role in protecting our water ways, and ensuring public access.

Through bringing back events, it is clear that our members appreciate meeting each other and continuing their education in areas that benefit them when utilizing the trails and trail sites.



Each event asked for a suggested donation of \$30.00 and we were pleased to have most classes fill-up and bring in a few hundred dollars towards

operating expenses.

Here is a list of past events to date:

- **Luau**, courtesy of The Kayak Academy and Tomas Tabisola
- **Paddling in the Wind** - George Gronseth
- **Islands of Formosa** - Nigel Foster
- **Tides and Currents** - Andrée Hurley



Thanks to Melinda Moree, The Mountaineers and Justine Curgenvan of Cackle TV Productions, for presenting "Kayaking the World with Justine Curgenvan" which brought in a donation of \$1000.00.



We also joined the #GivingTuesday movement, and a donor who wishes to remain anonymous matched all incoming donations in the first two weeks of December.

We are sad to have lost Elen Ward, who was with us for many years, moved on to other opportunities.

Thankfully our board and many volunteers are working to fill her shoes (see the final page).

That said, WWTA saw many changes in 2017. Don Crook and Michael Silence again spent much of their summer either kayaking or driving to many of our sites checking on the signage and the campsite conditions. In the process they connected with many of the land managers to keep our relationships in good standing.

Andrée Hurley

President

Acting Executive Director



WWTA *Improving Access*

Work Parties

WORK PARTIES

Harry Oesterreicher

WWTA continues our partnership with the Washington State Parks Department to help maintain shoreline campsites on the Cascadia Marine Trail. Volunteers can join our work parties this spring:

- Blake Island State Park on April 21 (the day before Earth Day!) and at
- Blind Island State Park on May 12.



We will be clearing trails, footpaths and tent beds, removing invasive plants, and generally cleaning up the sites. You can paddle over or catch a boat ride with the Park Ranger.

Harry has volunteered to be our work party coordinator and you can contact him via mail@harryo.com for more details or to sign up.

He is the proprietor of a Seattle-based company that repairs computers and provides technical support. He is also a PSUPA certified Stand Up Paddleboard Instructor who will be encouraging more SUP enthusiasts to volunteer with WWTA.



We are always looking for ways to increase our exposure, membership and volunteers. Recently Adam Brandt and Andrée Hurley attended the Tableau volunteer fair to make contact with potential volunteers and members.



More Volunteerism

Don Crook has also been busy representing WWTA with:

Trails & Public Access Committee

Actions:

Public Access:

- Participating as member of Washington State Park's Boating Advisory Council.
- Participating as member of Washington State Parks Paddling Advisory Committee.
- Participating in Washington Boating Alliance (NW Marine Trade Association Hosted).
- Working with Washington State Parks, Department of Natural Resources, and the County Agencies of Mason, King, Whatcom, San Juan Islands, Snohomish, and Spokane on development of future public water access sites.

Trails:

- Visited 50 Cascadia Marine Trail camp sites to review their condition and meet with the local site manager about any issues/concerns. Replaced CMT signs at these sites with new laminated CMT and

site specific signs.

- Participated in planning and development meetings of the Skykomish-Snohomish Rivers Recreation Coalition's Sky To Sound Water Trail.
- Participated in the "Big Paddle" Inauguration of the Lewis River to Vancouver Lake Water Trail.
- Presented WWTA & CMT "Public Education" topics at events such as "NW Paddle-Fest", "Big Paddle", "Washington State Trails Coalition Conference", Olympia's "Big Tent", and paddle clubs.
- Visited 5 potential new CMT sites to meet with local land managers on planning "Next Steps".

Other:

- Advocating WWTA's mission in the development of the Skykomish and Snohomish Recreation Plan.
- Planning monthly classes and/or activities of interest to our membership.
- Ongoing updating of mapping water trail access points, rest areas and CMT sites.
- Improving and updating our website.
- Performing administrative tasks to keep the organization records updated

Plans for 2018

- Activities planned for 2018 are a combination of "Trail Maintenance" and "Trail Development/Expansion" along with some "get acquainted"

- Paddling events such as "Work Parties" and "New Trail Inaugurations".

- Central to the summer activity plans are the annual "Visit All Cascadia Marine Trail Sites" paddles and planned Work Parties on Blake, Blind, Shaw, and Pt. Doughty (and perhaps more depending on requests).

- Other Water Trail paddles on the table are Willapa Bay Trail, Lewis River Trail, Skykomish/Snoqualmie Sky to Sound Trail, Lower Spokane River Trail, Taptal River Trail, and part of the Greater Columbia River Trail along the Hanford Works.

- This year's paddlers will be able to blog their experiences and pictures on the WWTa Web Site for all interested parties to follow.



- In addition to all this outdoor "fun" stuff we are also working on the development of new CMT sites at Maury Island and other Puget Sound State Park and DNR sites through County and State agencies meetings.

- On the "Safety and Environmental Education" side WWTa is working with the State Parks Boating Advisory Council in planning a human-powered craft state-wide "Boating Safety Week".

We will see you on the water!

2017 Financial Results

Revenue	
Events	24,618.18
Contributions	19,553.84
Dues	11,961.00
Employer Match	2,579.61
	58,712.63
Expense	
Payroll	50,183.35
Rent	7,325.00
Events	5,910.46
Telephone/Internet	2,708.13
Insurance	2,503.98
Program/Outreach	2,040.00
Prof Fees	1,980.00
Merchant Fees/CC	1,353.29
Misc Admin	1,206.04
Membership	429.36
Technology	389.31
	76,028.92
Net Loss	(17,316.29)
ASSETS	
Cash	13,924.56
Unexpired Insurance	347.88
Equipment & Furniture	11,876.63
Less Depreciation	(11,071.68)
	15,077.39
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Liabilities	None
Net Assets	15,077.39
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	15,077.39

Current Bank Balance 02/21/18

\$16,058.56

Board of Directors

President and

Acting Executive Director

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Committee Chairs

Membership

Technology

Trails

At large:

Other

Work Party Coordinator

Office Volunteer

Marketing

Mapping

Honorary Members

Andrée Hurley

Don Crook

Phil Philbin

Adam Brandt

Karen Scharer

Mike Acker

Don Crook (with Michael Silence)

Tomas Tabisola

Harry Oesterreicher

Colin Lindsay

Dan Strauss

Rob Casey

Lara Crooke

Tom Steinburn

Fran Troje

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Supporters

Exped

REI

Kayak Academy

Northwest Outdoor Center

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SEA-Lect Designs

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The Mountaineers Recreation Access Committee

North Sound Sea Kayaking Association

WA Kayak Club

Whatcom Association of Kayak Enthusiasts



Karen Scharer and Don Crook