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Llama Group Joins CTA Work Parties

The spring work parties officially began April 9th at Beacon Rock State Park. There were 14 people from the Chinook Trail doing brushing and tread work on the trail out of the picnic area. The new re-route from the power lines back to the camp ground was completed by the Multnomah County work group last March, and we installed water bars. In addition, 27 people and 13 llamas from the Curious Companions 4-H group from Vancouver did work on the Hardy Creek Spur.

It was a successful and fun filled day, and a good time was had by all. May 7th we will work on Indian Creek Trail in Hood River. We will meet at Highway 14 Park and Ride (Chkalov) at 8:00AM.

May 21st, June 4th and June 25th we will work on Squaw Butte Connector, June 4th being National Trails Day. We will meet at 134th St. Park and Ride at 8:00AM.

The Dalles Mountain Ranch Dedication and Access

The dedication of the Dalles Mountain Ranch acquisition by the Washington Department of Natural Resources and Washington State Parks will be held on Tuesday, May 17th at Horsethief Lake at 10:15, 10:30 at the Blakney Ranch House. The Trust for Public Lands is coordinating this effort with the many groups having a hand in securing the preservation of this keystone purchase. Funds from the WWRC source were used in the acquisition. Dignitaries from many state agencies and the Governors in office will be in attendance.

There will be a series of special field trips conducted on this day to acquaint the public with the many attributes and plans for utilization of this Columbia Hills purchase. Barbara Aberle, conservation biologist, is soliciting public input relative to developing guidelines to the use of the area. She may be reached at WDNR, PO Box 47046, 1111 Washington Street, Olympia, WA 98504-7046 or by calling (206) 902-1669.

Barbara Aberle wrote to the Chinook Trail Association the following:

The Department of Natural Resources' Natural Area Preserve Program and Southeast Region are working together to manage the new preserve. Recent cooperative agreements with Washington State Parks will create efficient local management of needs such as fencing, weed control, and access.

The Columbia Hills Natural Area Preserve is located on the ridge top of the former ranch and supports high quality plant communities and several rare plant species. As part of the preserve system, this area is typically open only for educational and scientific use, which must be approved through the Natural Area Preserve program in Olympia. However, on this preserve only, pedestrian use will be allowed on the main road to the ridge top without special permission. This is due to a special pedestrian use reservation that was attached to the property deed. The deed reservation specifies that hikers **must stay on the road** while in the preserve, and continued hiker

Board of Directors

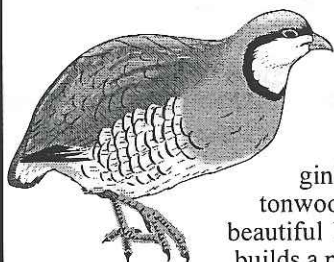
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Birding in the Columbia River Gorge

by Wilson Cady, Columbia River Gorge Resident

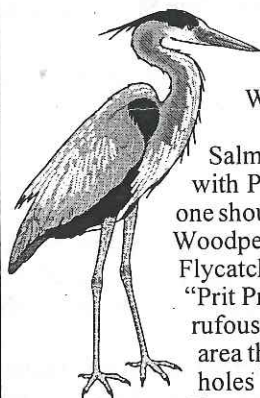
Spring and summer in the Columbia Gorge provide wonderfully varied birding opportunities. From the lush forests of the western end of the Gorge to the rocky steppes to the east, each change of habitat type has its own avian inhabitants.



The riparian areas and wetlands around the Sandy River Delta, in Oregon, and the Steigerwald Lake Refuge, near Washougal, in Washington, host such species as Wood Duck, American Bittern, Sora, Virginia Rail, and Marsh Wren. The cottonwood trees serve as nest sites for the beautiful Northern Oriole which builds a pendulant nest of woven grasses, hair, and discarded fishing line.

The Red-Eyed Vireo, a bird of limited distribution in the Northwest can be found in the deciduous forests around Mt. Pleasant and Crown Point. This small drab gray and green insect eater is best located by following its questioning calls. The almost Robin-like phrases seem to be asking "Where did you go? What did you see? Why?" over and over, earning this bird the nickname of Preacher Bird.

Other birds commonly found in the mixed Douglas fir, alder, and maple forests of the western Gorge include the Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Western Wood Peewee, Swainson's Thrush, and Wilson's and MacGillivray's Warblers.



As you approach the Hood River-White Salmon area you enter a forest of firs interspersed with Ponderosa pine and Oregon white oak. Here one should look for Turkey, California Quail, Lewis' Woodpecker and Lazuli Bunting. The Ash-Throated Flycatcher is easily found by listening for its loud "Prit Prit" call notes and watching for the flash of a rufous colored tail. This is the only flycatcher in our area that nests in cavities, competing for these nest holes in the trees are the lovely Western Bluebird. The ponds at the Tom McCall Reserve at Rowena usually have several pair of bluebirds in residence. Another

area where they are regularly found on the Washington side is in the vicinity of Catherine and Major Creeks above Rowland Lake.

The Bewick's and Winter Wrens that are common denizens of the damp forests to the west are replaced by Rock and Canyon Wrens. These two birds are well named for the habitats they are found in. The Rock Wren is found among the jumbled boulders on the rocky hillsides and at the base of cliffs. Canyon Wrens prefer the cliffs themselves and are usually heard before they are seen, their song is a cascade of loud clear descending whistles, slowing at the end.



Before moving on to the dry grasslands a special mention of the town of Lyle, at the mouth of the Klickitat River, is called for. Most of the species found in the oak/pine woodlands are found about the town and in the Klickitat River Canyon. By driving the side streets and watching for hummingbird feeders this time of year, you can find Black-chinned, Anna's, Rufous, and Calliope Hummingbirds. Occasionally a Lesser Goldfinch can be seen among the House Finches at bird feeders eating seeds. The most reliable spot in the state of Washington to find this bird is .08 miles up the Klickitat River at a small campground along the river. The oak forest between this campground and Lyle also has the only colony of Acorn Woodpeckers in Washington state. These noisy woodpeckers are unusual as the entire flock helps to feed and raise the young birds. Lewis' Woodpeckers, Turkeys, California Quail, and Ash-Throated Flycatchers are also regularly found along the river here.

As you enter the dry grasslands watch for birds of prey. Turkey Vultures, Red-Tailed Hawks, Prairie Falcons, and the reintroduced Peregrine Falcon are seen along the tops of cliffs. Grassland species that you are likely to find include Say's Phoebe, Chukar, Vesper Sparrow, Lark Sparrow and Western Meadowlark.

Of course, many species of birds are widespread and found in a variety of habitats. The Columbia River is a habitat of its own with Canadian Geese, Osprey, Great Blue Heron, California Gulls, Ring-billed Gulls and Caspian Terns, found in all sections of the Gorge.

If you wish to experience the diversity of birdlife in the Gorge, stop and explore each habitat type that you identify. Sometimes a small pocket of brush in a grassland or firs in a pine forest can hold surprises.

For detailed directions to birding sites on the Washington side of the river, I recommend "A Guide to Bird Finding in Washington" by Terence Wahl and Dennis Paulson. Unfortunately there are no sites in the Gorge mentioned in the Oregon bird guides, you will have to explore for these on your own.



Chinook Trail Association (CTA)

Membership Application

- ☐ Individual \$20 ☐ Family \$30 ☐ Student/Senior \$10 ☐ Institutional \$60
☐ Sustaining \$100 ☐ Life \$500 ☐ Corporate \$1,000 and above

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

- ☐ I wish to purchase a trail patch @ \$3.00 + .50 handling TOTAL: \$3.50
☐ I wish to purchase a tie tack or ☐ lapel pin @ \$5.00 + 50 handling TOTAL: \$5.50
☐ I wish to become a volunteer:

_____ Trail building _____ Assist with mailings _____ Membership

_____ Promotions (Photography, writing, newsletters) _____ Other

Members will receive CTA newsletter, "The Chinook Trek," and other mailings as appropriate to keep you informed of Chinook Trail progress.

Send application and remittance to:

Chinook Trail Association

P.O. Box 997, Vancouver, WA 98666-0997



Meyer Memorial Grant Assists Youth Program

The Chinook Trail Association has received an \$8,000 special purpose grant from the Meyer Memorial Trust. The funds will be used in conjunction with the Educational Service District 112 Summer Youth Employment Program.

Meyer Memorial funds will purchase trail building tools, participatory, career, documentary and environmental materials and assist in providing transportation to the work sites.

The SYEP participants will work constructing the Squaw Butte connector trail in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in the Silver Star Special Interest Scenic Area and do maintenance work on the Hamilton Mountain connector trail in Beacon Rock State Park and the Ellen Davis Trail in Vancouver.

Chinook Trail President Karyl Ramsey summed up CTA's response to the Meyer Memorial Grant funding, "We are overjoyed to not only assist with our primary goal of building and maintaining the Chinook Trail but to assist in the role of training a group of young people in developing all important work related skills." She went on to say, "something magical very often happens when young people work together to accomplish a task in the outdoors. We have seen this happen on our work parties."

Partnership with ESD 112 Provides Summer Work Crews

The Chinook Trail will be over a mile closer to completion at the end of the summer thanks to a Meyer Memorial Trust Grant of \$8,000 and a partnership with Educational Service District 112 and the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). This grant will assist with transportation costs, on site supervision, tools, trail building training, materials, documentation of the experience and design environmental awareness, personal and career development components.

The ESD 112 will provide the youth, ages 15-21, for two work crews of 10 each, conduct orientation and culminating sessions in unison with CTA volunteers. Youth from low income families will be the participants. The SYEP is funded by the Job Training Partnership Act through the US Dept. of Labor. The funds are distributed to the states who distribute them to the Private Industry Council. PIC in turn contracts with ESD 112 to select, train and pay the youth.

The SYEP Program is administered through ESD 112 by Connie Egeler, summer coordinator and Susan Gilson, Director of Youth Employment.

Chinook Trail Association board members Florence Wager, Don Cannard, Ted Klump and Paul Clare have coordinated CTA's efforts in this area.

If interested in assisting with this project contact coordinator Ted Klump, (206) 695-7149.

Memorial Contributions

The Chinook Trail Association wishes to acknowledge the generous donations made in the memory of John J. Cannard, father of cofounder Don Cannard and members Dave and Paul Cannard. John passed away on Thursday, April 7, 1994 at the age of 91.

These funds will be dedicated to the construction of the Chinook Trail. Though John was unable to participate in work parties he held a keen interest in this project. He attended many of our annual meeting, perhaps you met him there.

Forrest and Helen Horne
Margaret Cornelius
Carl and Donna Mason
Paul and Louise Clare
Dick and Mary Lou Johnson

May Arnott
Bill Lodge
Beverly Cobb
Jeannie Bvart
Richard and Donna Ellis

Jean Hamilton
Dolly Tesch
Nancy Elliot
Florence Wager

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access depends upon visitor cooperation with this requirement. If this arrangement works and the integrity of the plants and soils remains intact, visitors can enjoy outstanding views and have adequate access without prior approval, and sensitive areas of the preserve will be protected.

The support of visitors and conservation groups is essential to the success of Columbia Hills NAP. Preserves benefit from an active volunteer program and a large base of support from those interested in protecting biodiversity, native plant communities and wildlife habitat. Please share this information with members of your groups, and feel free to contact the Natural Area Preserve Program for more information.

Swift Grant Awarded

The Chinook Trail Association has been awarded a \$5,000 grant to be used in the construction of the trails in the Silver Star area. We were pleased when this was awarded late in 1993. There have been delays in moving forward on this project due to appeals of the USFS Silver Star Trails Project. You will recall CTA under the leadership of CTA cofounder Ed Robertson conducted the plant survey of the area on all proposed trails in the SS Special Interest Scenic Area.

As part of this grant it is hoped to have trails contractor Daryl Hoyt of White Salmon rough in the trail in time for National Trails Day, June 4th. See article on National Trails Day in this issue.

Our thanks to the SWIFT Board of Directors for their confidence in our ability to construct this trail segment of the Chinook Trail.

Hiking Book Available

by Don Cannard

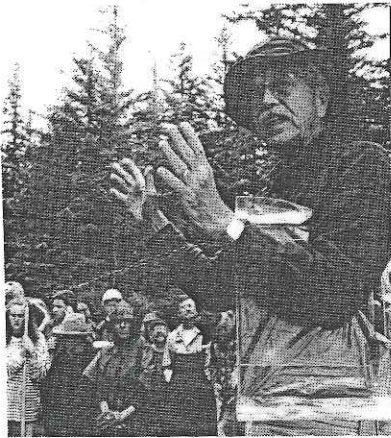
"Hiking in SW Washington" is the title of the latest volume available to guide the avid hiker in her/his wanderings in SW Washington.

This 56 page softback booklet collection of information, color photos and information is written by Allen Thomas, the Columbian's outdoor editor. Al has over 25 years hiking experience in an area where he grew up as a Camas native. This is a must for any hiker who enjoys this part of Washington State.

This 8"/10" booklet sells for \$4.95. Reserve your copy now. Include with payment form found below. Mail your order to Columbia Printing Co., PO Box 180, Vancouver, WA 98666. At this price buy two and give one to your favorite hiking partner as a surprise on your next hike.

Send me _____	Hiking Books at \$4.95 each. Total _____
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Special National Trails Day Celebration Set for June 4



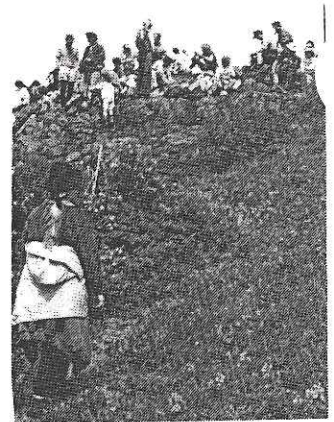
'93 National Trails Day Work Party
Chairman, Ed Robertson

CTA is putting out the call: The Squaw Butte Connector needs you! Come celebrate National Trails Day, Saturday, June 4th, from 8AM to 4PM, and help build the continuation of the trail started last June in east Clark County. All ages are welcome. Last year the volunteers ranged in age from 6 to 76.

Underwritten by a grant from Cellular One, the day's special features will include trail snacks and a commemorative T-shirt for all participants. Cellular One employees will also be helping out that day.

Volunteers are urged to reserve a shirt and a place on this work crew by calling Ted (206) 695-7149 or Florence (206) 694-2364, or in Oregon, Larry Devroy (503) 652-2241/223-6663.

Bring work gloves, lunch and water. Meet at 8AM at I-5/205 junction in north Vancouver Park-N-Ride. Fred Rogers will chair a group from the WTA Gifford Pinchot Regional Parks Committee who will handle the registration. There will be car



Lunch time, National Trails
Day 1993

National Trails Day June 4, 1994

I pledge 1-cent, 2-cents, up to 10-cents per trail foot to a maximum of 1,000 feet of trail to be constructed by volunteer trail builders on June 4, 1994, National Trails Day. I understand my donation will be used to build and maintain trails by the Chinook Trail Association.

AND/OR

I am _____ or am not _____ able to help along with others to build a section of trail on Saturday, June 4.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone no. _____

Enclosed: Trail Donation _____ cents per foot
for _____ feet: \$ _____

Mail to CTA, PO Box 997

Vancouver, WA 98666-0997

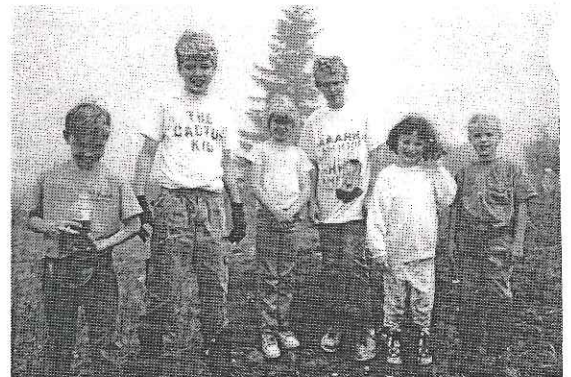
For more info: Call Florence (206)694-2364 or

Bruce (206) 693-7976

pooling to the site, approximately 35 miles distant.

WA Dept. of Natural Resources and U.S. Forest Service personnel will provide work tools and instruction. The CTA National Trails Day steering committee is headed by Ted Klump. Committee members include Paul Clare, Bruce Davis, Fred Rogers and Florence Wager.

Supporters of the trail are encouraged to pledge 1 cent to 10 cents per trail foot (maximum 1,000 feet). The pledge form is available on this page.



Our next generation of trail builders

Chinook Trail Association

P.O. Box 997, Vancouver, WA 98666-0997



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